

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, August 17, 2015, beginning at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL	Trustee Batista	- Present
	Trustee Bueno	- Present
	Trustee Watson	- Present
	Trustee Dominguez	- Present
	Mayor Kohut	- Present

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor opened the meeting with the first Public Participation inviting the public to ask questions or make comments.

Noel Rappaport, 31 New Main Street: Mr. Rappaport read a letter he received with regard to the new garbage collection format. He inquired if he would receive a reduction in his Village taxes for the amount of money he will now have to spend to have garbage and recyclables pickup at his business establishment.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded "NO" and then explained that garbage collection is not a part of the Village Tax, but is part of the Town & County Tax issued in January of each year. He stated that if the residents review that tax bill they will see a line on it for garbage collection. He also mentioned that the contract the county has for garbage pickup is for residential areas only. He stated that for the past 18 years Miele Sanitation has been picking up garbage and recyclables in the business district and they may have had contracts with individual businesses. He explained that when the new operator started that according to their contract they were only to pick up residential garbage in the Village, which is when the Village started to contact the businesses advising them that if they wanted the new company to pick up their garbage and recyclables that they would have to contract with them individually or choose a company of their own.

Noel Rappaport: Moving on, Mr. Rappaport feels that the "Quality of Life" in the Village is going downhill very quickly. He gave an example of a fist fight taking place on New Main Street during the week with people standing around watching instead of calling the Police. He also brought up vehicles that are being driven recklessly as well as bicycle riders who have no respect for the vehicles in the roadways. He sees garbage being thrown all over the Village and just feels something needs to be done about these issues.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor believes there is a general lack of regard for all sorts of authority everywhere in the Metropolitan area. He knows that the kids riding their bikes have no regard for the vehicles on the roadway and the unfortunate thing is someone is going to be killed or injured because of this.

Juana Garcia, Bodega Store at 35 New Main Street: Ms. Garcia spoke Spanish, which was interpreted by Trustee Batista. Basically, Ms. Garcia was upset with the way the Village informed the businesses about the new garbage pickup. The merchants were not aware that the Village was considering switching garbage companies and that they would have to find and pay their own company to pick up their garbage and recyclables, which they would have done if the Village had given them enough notice. She felt this whole situation could have been handled in a different manner so the

merchants could have made arrangements before Meile's contract ended. She feels because they were not given enough warning or time to contact another company that the Village should pay the fees until the merchants can obtain a company to pick up their garbage. Ms. Garcia was very upset about the way the whole issue was handled by the Village and feels it was unfair to the merchants because if they had been given prior warning about the move to switch company's they could have made arrangements with a new company and not been threatened with not having their garbage and recyclables picked up until they signed a contract. Ms. Garcia feels it was simply unfair to all the Village merchants and that the Board needs to consider everyone in the Village when making decisions.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor explained that on the previous Monday afternoon (8/10) the Village was informed that Miele Sanitation was abandoning their contract with the Village. On Tuesday, Rockland County Solid Waste Agency (RCSWA) who handles all garbage pickup contracts, not the Village, had contracted with another company to pick up the garbage and recyclables for the Village of Haverstraw; less than 12 hours later the new company, Hiep Sanitation, started garbage pickup in the Village, including picking up what was not picked up on Monday. On Thursday, that carter informed the Mayor that there was a problem. He explained that according to the contract set up by RCSWA, there are no commercial pickups in the Village. On that Thursday (8/13) the Mayor drafted a letter for the carter to take with him when he spoke with the merchants on Friday. The Mayor explained that the Village Board did not have a lot of notice about this either, however, on Friday (8/14) when the lack of pick-up for the commercial garbage became a big problem they acted on it immediately and had all the garbage and recyclables for those properties, in the entire Village, picked up. He further informed everyone that Hiep Sanitation has been going to the merchants of the Village trying to explain the situation and informing them that it was their choice which company they wanted to sign with, but it had to be done immediately. He explained that the contract the Village has had for the past 18 years did not include commercial pickup, which the Mayor and the Board were unaware of.

Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez tried to explain to everyone that it wasn't until Thursday that the Mayor found out that commercial properties were not included in the pickup contract.

Juana Garcia: Ms. Garcia does not understand if the Village knew about the change on Monday why the merchants were not informed until Friday.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor explained that the new carter did not know until Thursday about no commercial pickup, which is when the Mayor was informed.

Juana Garcia: Ms. Garcia continued to express her annoyance of the way the Village handled the whole issue. She was insistent that the Village has an obligation to take care of the problem and that the Board doesn't take the merchants into consideration and she feels that's not right. She stated that because she pays taxes she has a right to protest and that she votes and votes for the Board to represent the community.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor agreed the Village should have had better communication with the merchants and he took the responsibility for that. He explained, however, that the reality is for 18 years all the commercial businesses have been getting away with the residents picking up the cost of

garbage collection. The Mayor agreed he may not have been as communicative as he could have been and he offered his apologies to all the merchants of the Village. He also explained had it not been for Rockland County Solid Waste Authority nobody in the Village would have had garbage picked up the previous week. He feels the Village did a good job getting this problem taken care of in 1 days' time, which again no one was aware of the commercial pickup issue until Thursday and now under the new contract the Village merchants will have to start paying for garbage pickup, which they have not done for the past 18 years.

Thomas Watson, Jr.: Trustee Watson explained that the garbage pickup contract has always been done through the County, not the Village. He also mentioned that Spring Valley and Sloatsburg are currently in the same situation also because they were not aware of the conditions of the pickup contract.

Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez explained to Ms. Garcia in Spanish that both Spring Valley and Sloatsburg are experiencing the same problem with commercial garbage pickup.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor explained if the Board had known about this earlier they would have been handled differently but circumstances being what they were prevented that.

Stewart Suchotliff, no address given except Harbors: To clarify the situation, it is his understanding that the Board had no knowledge of the non-commercial pickup until Thursday. He feels then that the Board could not have done anything better than they did. He then stated that the Mayor's apology is appreciated, but there was no need for it because the Board had no time to react to the situation any differently than they did. He then mentioned that all the property owners in the Harbors have private sanitation.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor explained to the gentleman that he should not have a line item on his taxes for garbage collection.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport forgot to mention that the Village garbage cans on New Main Street in the area of his shop were loaded with household garbage, which he has never seen before.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor reported that all garbage will be picked up for residential properties, including residential units located on top of commercial properties. He is hopeful that everything will be back to normal this week and that all the merchants have contracts for their garbage to be picked up. He also reported that with the next contract all street garbage cans will be picked up by the contractor.

Gil Muesinger, 1416 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Muesinger feels that the sidewalk on Maple Avenue, which he believes was installed about 5 years ago, needs to be better maintained by the DPW, because it now has trees and weeds growing through the cracks which eventually will cause the sidewalks to start lifting and breaking apart.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that maintenance of sidewalks is the responsibility of the property owners. He informed Mr. Meusinger that the Village can inform the property owner, which in this instance is GDC.

Gil Muesinger: Mr. Muesinger then reported that there was another accident in the vicinity of the overpass and Short Clove Road. He feels the street lines for the individual lanes need to be repainted at this time because the big trucks traveling on the roadway continue to drop debris causing the lines to slowly fade away. He is very concerned about that area because of the heavy traffic flow and would appreciate anything the Board can do to have the street lines repainted.

Mel Post, 1422 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Post inquired if there is anybody who negotiates a fee for the merchants for their garbage and recyclable pickup.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that it is done on an individual basis between the business owner and the garbage company because the prices vary according to how many cans an individual business will have every week and how many pickups per week a business has.

Mel Post: Mr. Post was thinking that perhaps the Village or someone else could negotiate a better rate for the business owners.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor appreciated the suggestion of Mr. Post, but explained that it cannot work that way because it is not up to the Village to negotiate terms for each individual business as they all have different needs. He feels that the carting company has been fair negotiating the needs of each merchant.

Mel Post: Mr. Post inquired if anyone has been looking into reasons why so many large trucks have been turning over trying to maneuver in this area, especially now with no snow or ice on the roadways.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that when a trucker sees that there is no one in a lane coming down the hill, he feels that he is OK to start up the hill faster because he can go into the other lane, but then his cargo shifts and the truck turns over. He explained that the Village is being proactive and the following day there is going to be a "STOP" sign installed coming out of the plant, forcing the trucks to come to a complete stop before heading up the hill. He mentioned also that there is also going to be a "CAUTION, TRUCKS APPROACHING ROADWAY" sign replacing the "YIELD" sign. With the cooperation of Tilcon they will be supplying materials for a speed hump to be installed prior to the curve in the roadway so the trucks will have to come to nearly a full stop in that location before continuing up the hill.

Mel Post: Mr. Post then requested an update on the GDC negotiations.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor reported that there is basically nothing new to report on the negotiations, however, Mr. Ginsburg has requested to meet with the entire Board, who are in the process of accommodating him with a date.

Mel Post: Mr. Post requested an update on the Streetscape Project.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that bids are expected back the following Wednesday and following reviews they are hopeful to be able to award the contracts at a September 8th board meeting. At that point the Village would be required to hire a Construction Management Team to oversee all work.

Mel Post: Mr. Post then inquired if the Board has heard anything further from John Cooney of Tilcon because the piles just continue to grow causing more dust to flow through the area.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor has spoken with Mr. Cooney who indicated that Tilcon has still not come up with their ultimate plan to the point where it will actually be put into effect. They have been spraying the pile with calcium chloride, which they have found largely effective for the size of the pile to keep down some of the dust. They have a wide array of things to do to comply with DEC. The representative from DEC has been there over the past few weeks and she is diligently working to gather all her facts to right the wrongs of Tilcon.

Mel Post: Mr. Post stated that new additions to the piles are higher up and are not treated. With the higher winds they can be blown more easily. Mr. Post was under the impression that Mr. Cooney was supposed to have a plan to the Village by the end of last year.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor reported that DEC is the controlling authority and the Village cannot do anything until they complete their findings.

Larry Levine, 1414 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Levine mentioned that Route 9W was paved approximately 3 months back and street lines have still not been painted on the roadway. He requested the Mayor speak to someone about having lines drawn on the roadway. He reiterated what other people have said about the large trucks not driving in the proper lanes. He feels if the Police would install a camera or put a patrol car in that area it would bring more money into the Village.

Mayor Kohut: Unfortunately, the Mayor reported that NYS DOT will not allow the installation of cameras and he also has no control over the Town Police Department.

Larry Levine: Mr. Levine then reported that several street lights on Short Clove Road are not working. He informed the Board that there is a dead tree in the area of the overpass that he feels should be removed.

Stu Suchotliff, 1313 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Suchotliff also spoke about the large trucks not using the proper lanes. He suggested that a sign be installed stating "Trucks MUST use left lane".

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor stated if drivers don't obey the "STOP" signs, etc. they are not going to adhere to a "must use left lane" sign.

Mike Sansonetti, 4 Coolidge Street & Mary Coretjieur of Thiells: Mr. Sansonetti and Ms. Coretjieur asked to do a short presentation regarding the Manny Lopez Ball Field on Warren Court. They had been attempting to make the field accessible with bathroom facilities, concession stand, etc. to be able to hold the Girls Senior Softball Championship Games. They managed to get this done through donations, private equities, help from the Village, volunteers, etc. The championship games were held in July with 10 teams from around New York State competing, including the local team who succeeded in winning the championship. They presented the Board with a few T-shirts to distribute as well as a framed picture of the winning team.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor thanked both Mr. Sansonetti and Ms. Coretjeur for their efforts in making the playoff games possible. The Mayor informed the public that this effort began over 3 years ago to make this ball field one that can be used to host events such as this one. He mentioned that it took a lot of donated labor from a lot of different people who put in their time and energy, along with staff from the DPW, to make this happen. He invited the public to visit the field to see the improvements that have taken place to make this field worthy of holding high end events in the future. He has been told it is one of the best softball fields in the area.

Elmogenes Mendez, 47 Railroad Avenue, Garnerville: Mr. Mendez speaking in Spanish, which was translated by Trustee Batista, wanted to know why the taxes keep increasing every year because he does not see that money being used for the community, mentioning the streets that are deteriorating. He explained that he has been lived in the community for 38 years and has worked hard to become a homeowner, but now he is struggling trying to make ends meet paying his bills and putting food on the table. He does not know how much longer he will be able to continue this way and may even have to sell his home if the taxes continue to go up. He feels every member of the community deserves the opportunity to live the American dream.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded, with Trustee Batista translating, explaining that currently the Village is out to bid for the repaving of Main Street, New Main Street and Broadway, also including installation of new sidewalks as well. He reported that in the past 8 years that this particular Board has served the Village, every street east of Broadway with the exception of South Street has been repaved. He also stated that the Village has repaved almost all the streets west of Broadway to Conklin and Maple Avenues, also paving numerous streets in the outer sections of the Village and replacing sidewalks as well.

Elmogenes Mendez: Besides the street issues the main reason for Mr. Mendez's attendance at this meeting is to see if the Board can do anything to help the Spanish community by stopping the increase in taxes, which is causing distress to so many families who are having a difficult time making ends meet. He stated that he is working only to pay his bills and that they should be given every opportunity just like the Americans.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor stated that it is the same for every homeowner in the Village and that they are not the only ones having difficulty making ends meet. He affirmed that it is no different for him, the other Board members or any other residents of the Village who are also struggling to pay their mortgages every month and make ends meet.

Elmogenes Mendez: Mr. Mendez just feels there must be a better way to help his people and they should be given the same opportunities as the Americans.

Mayor Kohut: With no further input from the public, the Mayor moved forward with that night's agenda reporting that there was a Public Hearing scheduled for that night with regard to amending the Village Law §84, Amusement Devices.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to reschedule the Public Hearing stated above to the September 8th meeting.

RESOLUTION #145-2015

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terrance Watson, Jr.
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut:

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

VILLAGE ATTORNEY, Jay Hood, Jr.: Counselor Hood had nothing to report.

VILLAGE TREASURER, Judith Curcio: Ms. Curcio had nothing to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT, Mayor Kohut: The Mayor received a request from Julio Ortiz, Superintendent of the 9 Fairmount Avenue Apartments to hold a block/backyard party for the tenants on Saturday, September 5th from 3:00 PM to 12:00 midnight. He is also requesting the use of barricades from the DPW to block off the entrance to the side alley of the building and the rear entrance behind the building.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to provide barricades and approve the block/backyard party request as stated above.

RESOLUTION #146-2015

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Rafael Bueno
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor reported that the Village is investigating changing the cobra head streetlights and convert them to LED lighting, which is projected to save the Village money on the utility bill for street lighting after the conversion. Wifi, street cameras, etc. can also be added to the new lights. At the present time, and subject to the Village Attorney's review, an audit has to be done on the street lighting in the Village. ESCO has submitted a proposal to complete this audit to determine what lighting would be best for the Village.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to have ESCO prepare a Street Light audit, pending the Village Attorney's review.

RESOLUTION # 147 - 2015

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion Carries: All

Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez suggested they start with the downtown business district first.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that the Village can request that when they start the actual installation of the new lighting.

The Mayor received a letter from the Principal and Ass't. Principal of the Haverstraw Elementary School to have a Crossing Guard placed at the

intersection of Lincoln Street and Maple Avenue during the hours of 8:15 to 8:30 AM and 3:15 to 3:30 PM in order to provide a safer environment for the children attending the school. The Mayor then mentioned that anyone interested in applying for this Crossing Guard position or the one at Maple Avenue, which has been vacated, should contact the Village Hall.

The Mayor reported that a position has to be created for a “Data Entry Operator I (Spanish Speaking)” at a contractual salary of \$34,545.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to request the Rockland County Personnel Office to create a new position as stated above.

RESOLUTION # 148 - 2015

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Emily Dominguez
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor requested authorization to sign the following 2015 County Contracts:

- 1) Environmental Corp (formerly Americorp): Authorization to sign the agreement with them for payment of \$4,800.00 for the 3 students from the Environmental Corp who worked for the Village this past summer.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement as stated above.

RESOLUTION # 149 - 2015

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

- 2) OASAS – One of the funding sources that takes care of the Reachout portion of the Community Center in the amount of \$212,151.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement as stated above.

RESOLUTION # 150 - 2015

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion Carries: All

- 3) DMI Grant (Drug Market Initiative) in the amount of \$15,000.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement as stated above.

RESOLUTION # 151 – 2015

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

4) SNUG Grant in the amount of \$42,000.00

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement as stated above.

RESOLUTION # 152 - 2015

Motion by: Francisco Batista
Seconded by: Emily Dominguez
Motion Carries: All

5) PROJECT SHIFT Grant in the amount of \$22,000.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement as stated above.

RESOLUTION # 153 - 2015

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor then announced the following appointments:

1) Joel Santana – from the Zoning Board to the Planning Board.
Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION # 154 - 2015

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Emily Dominguez
Motion Carries: All

2) Gil Carlevaro from the Planning Board to the Zoning Board.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION # 155 - 2015

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Emily Dominguez
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor appointed Mariely Urena a current office worker to the position of Clerk Typist (Part Time).

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION # 156 - 2015

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor then mentioned that the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting would normally be on Monday, September 7th, but due to the Labor Day Holiday, the meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 8th at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION # 157 - 2015

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor had nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut:
REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FIRE & ORDINANCES – Trustee Rafael Bueno: Trustee Bueno submitted the following applications for admittance to the Haverstraw Fire Department:

Sean McSharar	-	Lady Warren Hose Co., #5 – non resident
Ryan Eshback	-	Lady Warren Hose Co., #5 – non resident & Junior Firefighter
Erik Silverio	-	General Warren Emergency Co., #2

All applications are complete and duly notarized.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept all 3 applicants into the Haverstraw Fire Department and the company of their choice.

RESOLUTION # 158 - 2015

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Emily Dominguez
Motion Carries: All

Trustee Bueno then read the following report of fire activity for the month of July, 2015, submitted by Fire Chief Robert Drexler:

Total Alarms	-	24
General Alarms	-	18
Special Calls	-	6
Mutual Aid Calls	-	0
Structure Fires	-	1
Brush/Rubbish Fires	-	3
Vehicle Accident Fires	-	2
Electrical Emergencies	-	4
Gas Leaks	-	3
CO Alarms	-	1
Landing Zone Set-up	-	1
Good Intent/Misc.	-	8
False Alarms	-	1

Total Manpower Responding - 590 members

Trustee Bueno had nothing further to report.

PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Trustee Terence Watson: Trustee Watson read the following report submitted by George White, Superintendent of Public Works, as of August 14th, 2015:

1) Cut grass at Short Clove overpass.

- 2) Blacktopped and patched various potholes in the Village.
- 3) Build foundations for generators to be installed at Lady Warren Co., #5 on Broadway and Relief Hose Co., #3 on Conklin Avenue.
- 4) Continued working at the African American Memorial Park.
- 5) Conservation Core members completed their seasonal work duties.
- 6) Cleared sewer blockages behind shopping center of Planet Wings and Clove Avenue alley between Tor & Fairmount Avenues.

Trustee Watson had nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor reported that the day of the truck rollover, both the DPW and the Haverstraw Fire Department were at the scene for approximately 3½ hours and did an exceptional job keeping contamination from the diesel fuel from getting into the storm water system and also with the cleanup that followed. He commended everyone for their quick response and attention to detail at the scene. He also commended people from Tilcon for responding to the scene and staying to help with the cleanup and to right the truck.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - Trustee Francisco Batista: Trustee Batista read the following report of activities at the Community Center for the period of July 13th to August 17th, 2015:

- 1) The Village of Haverstraw Day Camp Program ended on Friday, August 14th. This was a 6 week camp with a total of 180 children registered.
- 2) The summer teen program for grades 9 through 12 also came to an end on August 14th.
- 3) The Haverstraw Collaborative met on Wednesday, August 4th from 12:00 to 2:00 PM. A presentation was given with regard to fishing in the Hudson River.
- 4) Individual Family Counseling had a total of 25 participants.
- 5) Butts Out/Smokers Aftercare has a total of 28 participants.
- 6) Boys Life Skills ages 11 to 14 had a total of 12 participants.
- 7) Project Shift, a call to action, had 9 people attending.
- 8) Anger Management had a total of 6 participants.

Trustee Batista had nothing further to report.

BUILDINGS & CODE ENFORCEMENT - Trustee Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez read the following report submitted by the Building Inspector, Ruben Berrios, for the period of July 13th through August 14th, 2015:

Rental registrations	-	103
Municipal searches	-	25
Miscellaneous inspections	-	250
Construction inspections	-	98
Complaints	-	12
Building Permits & C.O.'s	-	66
Violations & tickets	-	30

Trustee Dominguez had nothing further to report.

MINUTES: The Mayor presented the minutes of the Regular Meetings of June 15th and July 17th, 2015 for approval by the Board. Trustee Batista, Trustee Watson and Deputy Mayor Batista have reviewed these minutes, which they approved with the exception of changes by Trustee Dominguez to the minutes of the July meeting.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION # 159 - 2015

Motion by: Francisco Batista
Seconded by: Terence Watson
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut:

OLD BUSINESS

Trustee Dominguez reminded everyone that the Farmers Market will continue to be open every Sunday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM through October 11th. She reported that the market has been getting great reviews from the public. She then thanked the volunteers for their help.

Mayor Kohut:

NEW BUSINESS

The Mayor made the following announcements:

- 1) Dancing Under the Stars will be held on Friday, August 21st at 7:30 PM. The music featured will be Latin Jazz. He also mentioned that Ginny Norfleet will DJ between music sessions. He invited everyone to attend.
- 2) Sunday, September 20th - The Flavors of Haverstraw Food Crawl from 2:00 to 6:00 PM. There will be 10 village restaurants participating, who will be serving small plates of various authentic ethnic foods at a varying cost of \$3.00 to \$10.00 per plate. He invited everyone to come and savor the diverse cuisine of downtown Haverstraw.

Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez informed everyone that this year's "BACKPACK" event is scheduled for Sunday, August 30th. The children will be transported to the Provident Bank Baseball Stadium where the Boulders have supplied tickets for them to attend a game.

Mayor Kohut:

2nd PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Gil Muesinger, 1416 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Muesinger first thanked the Village Board for their service to the community. He then requested the Board require anyone from the public who wishes to discuss an issue with the Board to speak loud enough so everyone attending a meeting can clearly hear and understand the issues that are being discussed.

Noel Rappaport, 31 New Main Street: Mr. Rappaport questioned the Board as to how the new garbage handlers would be able to distinguish commercial garbage from residential garbage.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor had no real guideline for how they will distinguish the garbage.

Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez informed Mr. Rappaport that she herself witnessed the garbage collectors going through the cans in the business areas to make a distinction between what would be considered commercial and what they would consider residential for their future pickups.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport mentioned that in the Town of Clarkstown the businesses receive a sticker to attach to their garbage cans to distinguish businesses from residential.

Mel Post: Mr. Post had questions with regard to the expenses that the Board authorized, mentioning that the Mayor used initials instead of full names of items being approved.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor explained that those items were not expenses, but were contracts for reimbursements to the Village from different grants, with the exception of the Environmental Corp youth, who the Village does pay for the hours of work provided during the summer.

Angel Santana, 21 Broadway, Danny's Grocery: Speaking Spanish, Trustee Batista translated for Mr. Santana, who was invited to attend this meeting by both Trustee Batista and Trustee Dominguez. He is attending this meeting to talk about the garbage situation and there has been no interest in the garbage at this meeting. He does not feel that the Board is taking the businesses into consideration and that the Village Board has to be just.

Francisco Batista: Trustee Batista requested permission from the Mayor to explain the situation to Mr. Santana in his own language, explaining that the Public Participation part of these meetings is when the public gets to talk about their issues and problems and that during the first Public Participation it had been addressed.

Angel Santana: Mr. Santana responded through Trustee Batista, explaining that the previous Sunday when he was working at the Bodega the owner of the establishment was not present when someone came in asked Mr. Santana to give him \$75.00 or else the garbage would not be picked up and the owner would get a ticket. Mr. Santana believes that he was pushed into a corner over something he was not clear about. He also believes that they should be treated differently with a little more respect shown to the Hispanic business owners instead of the Board turning their heads the other way.

Mayor Kohut: Trustee Batista translated the Mayor's response to Mr. Santana, stating that the Mayor once again apologized for the lack of communication to the Hispanic business owners and mentioned that the Board had actually met that evening with the owner of the garbage company, Hiep Sanitation, who offered his sincere apology for the manner in which the Hispanic businesses were approached, which was by going into Spanish speaking establishments without having someone to translate what was happening, which was not the right way to approach the situation.

Stewart Suchotliff: Mr. Suchotliff stated that one of the gentlemen was talking about taxes and it is a hardship for him because the taxes keep going up every year. He believes what the gentleman was trying to say is that taxes keep increasing every year and yet he doesn't see anything being done for the residents of the Village. He mentioned to the Mayor that he never answered the gentleman's question as to why the taxes continue to go up every year.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor explained that taxes continue to go up every year because the cost for running and maintaining the Village continues to go up each year. Just the same as residential properties, Village rates for such items as utilities, insurance, fuel, salaries, maintenance agreements, State mandated items, etc. also continue to rise for the Village government.

Ramon Soto, 13 Broadway: Mr. Soto believes that what the people want is for the Trustees to give them more information and complete answers to the public when they ask questions in order for them to understand what is happening. He also spoke about the way they were approached with regard to the garbage situation as well as the fact that everything always has to be locked up because he does not feel secure any more. He feels we need more police protection in the Village all the time, not just when they are called.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that Trustee Batista and Trustee Dominguez have been going to all the stores listening to people's complaints and trying to help alleviate the situation. As far as being secure, there is nothing that the Board can do about that. That is now controlled by the Town Police.

Mayor Kohut: With no further business to be conducted by the Board, the Mayor entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

RESOLUTION # 160 – 2015

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Francisco Batista
Motion Carries: All

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift, Senior Steno Clerk