

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, June 12, 2017, beginning at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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ROLL CALL	Trustee Bueno	- Present
	Trustee Watson	- Present
	Trustee Dominguez	- Present
	Trustee Santana	- 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.

Stuart Suchotliff, 1413 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Suchotliff inquired if the Board will be addressing the issues with the fountain in Harbors.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that the issues with the fountain are being addressed and they are waiting for the pool person to make the repairs, which the Village will be paying for.

Stuart Suchotliff: Mr. Suchotliff inquired if the promenade is also going to be repaired.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Suchotliff that the Board is hoping the promenade will be taken care of before the 4th of July holiday.

Stuart Suchotliff: Mr. Suchotliff then inquired about the repair shop adjacent to the Harbors, which he thought was supposed to be gone, but is still there.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor thought the date for the repair shop to leave the site was June 8th, and he is aware that they are still there, however, the Village does not have the authority to take any action on this. He will check with GDC to see where that action stands or if the shop was given an extension.

Emily Dominguez: Deputy Mayor Dominguez mentioned that she saw something on social media that they were trying to sell off merchandise.

Jay Hood, Jr., Esq., Village Counsel: Counselor Hood informed the public that there could potentially be different dates set by the Courts or the Sheriff's Department for eviction.

Stuart Suchotliff: Mr. Suchotliff inquired if there will be a Public Hearing with regard to the Chair Factory site.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that there is not going to be a Public Hearing, but more of a Public Workshop on July 25th, 7:00 PM at the Haverstraw Center, with the consultant and the Village Steering Committee.

Claudia Perry, 19 Warren Avenue: Ms. Perry mentioned that she has spoken with the Mayor regarding the parking situation on Warren Avenue, where there is very limited space for everyday parking, but even worse every year on the night of the fireworks, which this year is July 2nd the night of her son's graduation party. Due to the limited parking situation she requested permission from the Board to utilize the Manny Lopez Ball Field

parking lot that night, for additional parking and she would take care of locking the gate and do any cleanup necessary.

The Board agreed to allow her to open the ball field parking lot for that night only to create additional parking in the area. Deputy Mayor Dominguez would let Ms. Perry borrow her key for the night.

Gil Musinger, 1416 Route Pointe Drive: Mr. Musinger took this opportunity to thank the Board for their move forward with the Streetscape Project. Returning from vacation he was very happy to see the immense improvement to our downtown area, which he feels is a huge enhancement to our village overall.

With no further input from the public, the Mayor continued with the agenda for that night's meeting, which was a Public Hearing to amend §245-15 of the Haverstraw Village Codes.

Judith Curcio, Village Clerk/Treasurer: Ms. Curcio announced the following:

“This Public Hearing is pursuant to hearing all interested parties and citizens regarding the proposed Local Law #3-2017, amending §245-15 of the Haverstraw Village Code, titled “LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL PERMIT USE CRITERIA IN THE VILLAGE OF HAVERSTRAW FOR SCHOOLS OF GENERAL INSTRUCTION, SCHOOLS OF SPECIAL INSTRUCTION, PLACES OF WORSHIP, PLACES OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SCHOOLS WITH ACCESSORY HOUSING, AND TO ADD SPECIFIC DEFINITIONS TO THE HAVERSTRAW LOCAL ZONING CODE.”

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to open the Public Hearing.

RESOLUTION #112-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Rafael Bueno

Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor invited Counselors Zachary Mintz and Michael Zarin to present the proposed Local Law.

Michael Zarin, Esq.: Counselor Zarin explained that this is a proposal to amend the Zoning Law, stating that currently there is little special permit criteria for schools, places of worship and places of general assembly. The purpose of these amendments is to establish consistent criteria among all the different uses that are for the protection, safety and general welfare of everyone involved. He mentioned that an extensive amount of time is spent on trying to create regulations and special permit criteria that will be consistent and uniform for many of these uses, i.e. schools, schools with accessory housing, places of worship, places of worship with accessory housing, places of general assembly, residential places of worship, and the like. Any of the aforementioned will require a “Special Permit” from the Village Board, with recommendations from the Planning Board. There will also be clear guidelines spelled out to mitigate the impacts, for example, buffers between uses in neighborhoods, more extensive landscaping programs, detailed usable open space required for all of the particular uses, traffic management plans required for cars and buses, shuttle bus registrations, parking plans, parking ratios, hours of operation, various design criteria like lighting & signage, limits on accessory housing based on

districts, and that any accessory housing be in density commensurate with existing zoning, as well as having the appearance of housing similar to the residential neighborhood, extensive changes to definitions, the zoning tables and the like. Counselor Zarin mentioned that a tremendous amount of work was put into amending these needs in collaboration with the Board to be in complete compliance with modern zoning principals and the law. He thanked the Board for its collaboration and cooperation.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor mentioned that the Board took a proactive stance to bring about this discussion to be sure they have guidance in the future with any discussions regarding private or public schools and any housing that may go with them, therefore, if these items come up the Board would have full guidance as to how to proceed. The Mayor then opened the floor to the public for questions or comments.

Stuart Suchotliff: Mr. Suchotliff assumes other municipalities have the same type of laws on their books and inquired if New York State (NYS) has any basic laws that could have been copied in order to avoid such an arduous task. He inquired if this would affect Martin Ginsburg's new developing at Admiral's Cove in any way as far as conforming to new rules and regulations.

Michael Zarin, Esq.: Counselor Zarin responded that there are no uniform statutory laws that govern these issues. He explained that these are zoning laws which are at the discretion of the individual municipalities in order to reflect their own principals and values of life, however, in many municipalities, there has been a proliferation of lawsuits, pretentiousness and acrimony about how to govern places of worship, places of worship with private schools in comparison to public schools, and general assembly. There have also been challenges by the Religious Land Use Practices Program on fair housing acts, especially in this area of NYS. They have tried taking the best from all different municipalities; however, many issues are still cutting edge. He also mentioned that there have been a number of recent lawsuits between the Justice Department and municipalities which cost those municipalities hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees and federal lawsuits. With this in mind, together with the Board, they have written something proactively that regulates these uses that can sometimes be highly impactful in communities and at the same time not violate any of those various principals and federal and state protections. Many of the municipalities they have been involved with have come to them after issues arise and they've spent millions in legal fees only to find out their Zoning Laws have to be rewritten.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responding to Mr. Suchotliff's point regarding GDC specifically, it does not in any way improve or diminish what Mr. Ginsburg could ask for on his property, unless he is going to ask for student housing, a place of worship, or the like. Anything strictly for residential development would not impact him at all.

Stuart Suchotliff: Mr. Suchotliff thought Counselor Zarin mentioned residential development.

Michael Zarin, Esq.: Counselor Zarin clarified that it would be a residential accessory where a part of a school is attached to residential housing.

Mel Post, 1422 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Post inquired if the law would specify the number of people that can congregate in these specific areas.

Michael Zarin, Esq.: Counselor Zarin responded it has nothing to do with loitering, if that was the intent of the question. He explained that if a person gets a permit for a building to house a general place of assembly they must follow the rules for how that is regulated, including hours of operation, parking, traffic management, etc. It does not go to the issue of general loitering, which would be a completely separate issue requiring police involvement.

Claudia Perry: Ms. Perry inquired if there is a number requirement to qualify for a school status, figuring 5 students would not make up a school.

Michael Zarin, Esq.: Counselor Zarin responded that there is no threshold to the amount of space or a number requirement.

Claudia Perry: Ms. Perry then inquired how many students would have to be in a home to require a permit for educational uses.

Zachary Mintz, Esq.: Counselor Mintz explained that educational uses are not defined by the number of people, but by the way the building would be used; being open 5 days a week, 7 hours per day and the type of curriculum. He mentioned that the actual number of students could be regulated with some walk-in area requirements, where they are only allowed a certain number of students at any given time, evaluated by square footage.

Claudia Perry: Ms. Perry then inquired if there is a number requirement of people to worship in someone's home that would require a permit and not just someone having a church meeting at their home.

Zachary Mintz, Esq.: Counselor Mintz responded that there are 2 different types of religious uses. One would be residential places of worship which would be smaller homes and the other is the larger places of worship. He stated there is not a defining number, however, there are certain requirements that each must meet, for example sufficient parking requirements.

Michael Zarin, Esq.: Counselor Zarin stated that there is not a number requirement, which is something that the Board may address because there have been issues in many places. He explained that a residential place of worship means that there is a dedicated building where a group of people assemble as a congregation to perform acts of religious praise, honor and devotion. There is minimum square footage, minimum square feet per person, no parking requirements. For example, if 2 people were holding a ceremony, there is no definition stating that that number would not qualify and would not trigger this provision. He was glad the question was raised and believes it is something that they should look into and actually set some definitive numbers because 2 people are not going to have the impact that 10 people would have.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor asked for clarification to Page 31, inquiring if §5 is included or not included in the residential inclusionary zone.

Michael Zarin, Esq.: Counselor Zarin responded that section can be removed for the time being.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to temporarily remove §5 on Page 31 from the Code.

RESOLUTION #113-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Joel I. A. Santana
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to close the Public Hearing.

RESOLUTION #114-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Joel I. A. Santana
Motion Carries: All

Mel Post: Mr. Post inquired if this will also address what would qualify as a legal religious institution or school with respect to taxation issues that may arise; like tax exemptions.

Michael Zarin, Esq.: Counselor Zarin stated “NO” that would be illegal. A municipality cannot define it by whether it is a non-profit or if it is generating ratables. He explained that it is not done by taxing status, but by what covers the whole gamut, for example, a private institution of special instruction, that could be private vocational schools, trade schools, etc. He mentioned that it also regulates religious institutions which are not-for-profit. It is meant to regulate impacts on the zoning and not whether it is producing a ratable.

Mayor Kohut: To answer the question Mr. Post posed, tax exempt status is not controlled by zoning and would be a determination of the Village Assessor as to whether or not it is a tax exempt entity, i.e. a “for-profit” cooking school would not qualify for an exempt status and would remain on the tax rolls as opposed to a “not-for-profit” seminary.

Michael Zarin, Esq.: Counselor Zarin pointed out that from a zoning perspective “you zone the use, not the user”.

Mel Post: Mr. Post was actually trying to find out what would qualify as a “religious institution” because if it qualifies it would be a tax free establishment.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor again stated that would be a determination made by the Village Tax Assessor, based upon guidance that he/she gets from New York State as to what defines “not for profit” or “for profit”.

Stuart Suchotliff: Mr. Suchotliff suggested that in the future when laws are being read as a part of a hearing that copies of that law be available for the public, to which the Mayor responded that this particular law was 30 pages long.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor mentioned that there was a motion and approval to close the Public Hearing and that the Board will review the proposed changes that were discussed and make a final decision at the July meeting. At this time, the Mayor moved forward with the agenda for that night’s meeting.

Mayor Kohut:

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

VILLAGE ATTORNEY, Jay Hood, Jr.: Counselor Hood reported that the draft notification for the Mi Tierra Restaurant issue should be out within the next few days, at which time he will forward copies to the Board for their review.

Deputy Mayor Dominguez mentioned that she saw a “For Rent” sign in the window of the Restaurant.

Counselor Hood had nothing further to report.

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

MAYOR’S REPORT, Mayor Kohut: The Mayor received a request from Centro de Amigos (an adult day care facility) for a designated loading zone in front of their building at 91 Broadway, to ensure the safety of their clients getting on and off the buses.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to install a sign in front of 91 Broadway as part of the current street and sidewalk project.

RESOLUTION #115-2017

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

The Mayor received a request from the United Latin Festival of Haverstraw Committee for permission to host the 7th Annual Combined Parade & Festival on Sunday, August 6th with a parade to begin at 12:00 PM followed by a festival at the Haverstraw Elementary School, which is scheduled to end at 8:00 PM. They also requested some assistance from the Village DPW throughout the festivities.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the request of the Committee as stated above, as well as contributing \$1,500.00 to the festival journal, as the Village has done in the past.

RESOLUTION #116-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Joel I. A. Santana
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received a request from the Quisqueya Sports Club to use the Village Parking Lot located on Broad Street and Broadway on July 23rd from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM for a gathering that they will host for the community. They will be serving hamburgers, hot dogs and non-alcoholic beverages.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve a community gathering as stated above, with a change in the hours from 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

RESOLUTION #117-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Joel I. A. Santana
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received a request from Ginny Norfleet for the Village to supply 1 Port-A-Potty for the Juneteenth celebration at the African/American Park, as well as 2 Port-A-Potty's on July 2nd for the annual July 4th Firework Celebration.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to supply Port-A-Potty's as stated above.

RESOLUTION #118-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Joel I. A. Santana
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received a request from Trustee Terence Watson to attend the NYCOM Training Session to be held in September at Saratoga Springs. Details to follow.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve attendance at a NYCOM Training Session for Trustee Watson as stated above.

RESOLUTION #119-2017

Motion by: Rafael Bueno
Seconded by: Joel I. A. Santana
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor advised the public that Senator Larkin has obtained a Member Item Grant in the amount of \$90,000.00 for the Village Fire Department to replace the whistle system at the Conklin Avenue Fire House. He advised the public that this system will have audio capabilities so that in the event of emergencies a voice will come over the audio system with warnings, such as a need for evacuation. He then mentioned that this grant will also allow the Village to install an exhaust system in each of the 3 fire department buildings which will exhaust the diesel fuel and keep the Village in compliance with OSHA requirements. He thanked Senator Larkin for his efforts on behalf of the Village.

The Mayor then informed the public that the new Village website will be going live at the end of June, with some minor changes still to take place.

The Mayor reported that Thomas Watson, Sr. has tendered his resignation from the Planning Board. He remarked that Mr. Watson has been a long time member of this board who also served as its Chairman for many years. His resignation leaves a vacancy on the Board and the Mayor suggested appointing Danny Scaffidi to sit as a new member on the Board, with Joe Natale to take on the role of Chairman.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept the resignation of Thomas Watson, Sr. from the Planning Board, to appoint Danny Scaffidi to the Board and to appoint Joe Natale as the new Planning Board Chairman.

RESOLUTION #120-2017

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

The Mayor advised the public that the Town of Haverstraw will be holding a Public Hearing similar to the one held at this meeting on Monday, June 26th at 8:05 PM for anyone interested in attending.

The Mayor then requested authorization of the Board for the Mayor to sign the 2017 SHIFT Contract with the County in the amount of \$22,000.00.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion authorizing the Mayor to sign a contract with the County as stated above.

RESOLUTION #121-2017

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

The Mayor then announced that Shannon Modafferi, the Village Accountant, has submitted a proposed contract for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, in the amount of \$7,725.00 for services outlined in the Contract.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the Contract with the Village Accountant as stated above.

RESOLUTION #122-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Joel I. A. Santana
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor received a proposed 3 year contract from Berard & Associates for auditing services to be provided to the Village. Their fee for the services they provide will be \$16,250.00 for the year ending May 31st, 2017, \$16,750.00 for the year ending May 31st, 2018 and \$17,250.00 for the year ending May 31st, 2019.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept the above stated proposal.

RESOLUTION #123-2017

Motion by: Terence Watson
Seconded by: Joel I. A. Santana
Abstain: Emily Dominguez
Motion Carries

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize Village Treasurer, Judith Curcio to request proposals for the GASB 45 – OPEB Audit (Other Post-Employment Benefits). The audit is a requirement to be in compliance with New York State Comptroller regulations.

RESOLUTION #124-2017

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

Mayor Kohut then entertained a motion authorizing the Mayor to sign the CDBG Consortium Participation Agreement, allowing the Village to remain a member of the Consortium. The Board feels this membership is vital to the success of the Village.

RESOLUTION #125-2017

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

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept the transportation bid of \$14,225.00 received from Haverstraw Transit for the 2017 Village of Haverstraw Day Camp. They were the only company to respond.

RESOLUTION #126-2017

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

The Mayor requested authorization from the Board to sign the NYS Department of Transportation Authorization of Extra Work Contract. He explained that the original contract plans called for a retaining wall by the corner of Broadway and Warren Avenue. Due to existing utility pole conflicts the retaining wall has been eliminated from the contract (\$13,475.00) and replaced with a box beam guide railing in the amount of \$11,306.96. He also reported that the project plans required 12 solid tree grates, however, the tree grates will be placed without a tree in order to meet environmental regulations, therefore, the cost of \$1,180.80 is only for the additional charge for tree grates, bringing the estimated increase total to \$12,487.76.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion authorizing the Mayor to sign the NYSDOT Authorization of Extra Work as stated above.

RESOLUTION #127-2017

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

The Mayor read the following adjustments to the 2016-2017 budget year submitted by Joseph Modafferi, Village Accountant:

2016-2017 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS				
Acct. #	Account Name	Increase	Decrease	Increase
		Appropriations	Appropriations	Revenue
A1440.0410	Engineering Ferry	\$ 13,500.00		
A7110.0410	Dock Repair	1,000.00		
A1660.0400	Central Stockroom	1,000.00		
A1620.0420	Building Dept. Repair	2,000.00		
A5110.0400	Street Maintenance	3,000.00		
A7110.0420	Ball Park	2,200.00		
A3620.0400	Safety Inspector Contingency	500.00		
A1325.0420	Payroll Processing	50.00		
A1990.0410	Contingent Overtime		\$ 23,250.00	

	TOTAL	\$ 23,250.00	\$ 23,250.00	
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Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the above budget adjustments.

RESOLUTION #128-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
 Seconded by: Joel I. A. Santana
 Motion Carries: All

The Mayor then read the following Overtime Report for the 4th quarter of fiscal year 2016/2017, consisting of March, April and May:

2016-2017 Overtime Report				
Acct. #	Account Name	Increase	Decrease	Increase
		Appropriations	Appropriations	Revenue
A1110.11	Justice Court	\$ 3,336.58		
A1410.11	Clerk/Treasurer Office	\$ 1,221.28		
A1420.01	Law: 4 th Quarter	\$ 5,350.00		
A9961.9	Reach Out	\$ 4,424.08		
A7140.1	Recreation	\$ 4,424.08		
A3620.1	Building Department	\$ 1,721.13		
A5110.1	DPW: Laborers, etc.	\$ 11,140.74		
A5010.1	DPW: Admin.	\$ 7,384.77		
A1010.1	Trustee salary adjustment	\$ 3,265.00		
A1990.41	OT Contingency		\$ 42,267.66	
	TOTAL	\$42,267.66	\$ 42,267.66	

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the Overtime adjustment as stated above.

RESOLUTION #129-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
 Seconded by: Joel I. A. Santana
 Motion Carries: All

The Mayor then made the following announcements of upcoming events:

- Friday, June 16th - Dancing Under the Stars
- Saturday, June 17th - Juneteenth Celebration
- Sunday's thru October - Village Farmer's Market (open from 9

The Mayor had nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut:
REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

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

Daniel Patrick Colleluore, Stony Point - Lady Warren Hose Co. #5

His application is complete and has been duly notarized.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to accept Mr. Colleluore into the Haverstraw Fire Department, assigned to Lady Warren Hose Co. #5.

RESOLUTION #130-2017

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 May, 2017, submitted by Fire Chief Thomas Price:

Total Alarms	-	26
General Alarms	-	15
Special Calls	-	7
Mutual Aid Calls	-	4
Structure Fires	-	1
Vehicle Fires	-	1
Electrical Fires	-	4
Gas Leaks	-	5
CO Alarms	-	2
Good Intent/Misc.	-	5
Assist Police Dept.	-	1
False Alarms	-	3

Total Manpower Responding - 525 members

Trustee Bueno had nothing further to report.

PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Trustee Terence Watson:

Trustee Watson read the following report submitted by Robert Drexler, Jr., Superintendent of Public Works, as of June 9th, 2017:

- 1) Replaced fence at 9-11 Memorial Park on Main Street.
- 2) Finished tile project at Village Hall.
- 3) Placed mulch at Community Center playground and Jefferson Street Park.
- 4) Cleaned up Graziosi property and 7 Van Houton Street property.
- 5) Cleaned out sewer stations at Harbors, Catch on the Hudson and other troubled sewer spots.
- 6) Filled in potholes in alleyways throughout the Village.
- 7) Blacktopped different locations throughout the Village.
- 8) Installed guardrail at Jefferson Street Park.
- 9) Fixed see-saw at Community Center.

Trustee Watson had nothing further to report.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - Trustee Joel I. A. Santana: Trustee Santana read the following report of activities at the Haverstraw Center for the period of May 16, 2017 through June 05, 2017:

- 1) **Spanish Speaking Parents Group**: The Spanish Speaking Parents Group met on Wednesday June 7th, 6:00PM at the Haverstraw Elementary School.
- 2) **End of the Year Celebration**: This celebration was held on Friday, June 9th at the Center and included volunteer recognition and the Monthly Youth Celebration. Food was provided along with plenty of activities for all the children.
- 3) **Village of Haverstraw Summer Day Camp Program**: Camp begins on Thursday, July 6th and ends on Friday, August 18th. Camp is open to the first 175 children, between the ages of 6 to 14, who apply. Returning Camp Director Esteban Diaz and Assistant Director Frank Vazquez look forward to another exciting summer with the kids.

Trustee Santana had nothing further to report.

BUILDINGS & CODE ENFORCEMENT – Deputy Mayor Emily Dominguez: The Deputy Mayor read the following report submitted by the Building Inspector, Ruben Berrios, for the period of May 13th thru June 9th, 2017:

Rental registrations	-	1
Miscellaneous inspections	-	80
Complaints	-	10
Municipal searches	-	10
Construction inspections	-	7
Violations/Tickets	-	36
Building Permits & C.O.'s	-	2

Fines collected at court - \$4,850.00

Deputy Mayor Dominguez announced that “WEEKEND YOGA” sessions have begun at Emeline Park. This activity will take place on Saturday and Sunday mornings and Monday evenings. She mentioned that the previous weekends classes were sold out. She will be putting up a flyer with details.

She then reported that she received a “Thank-You Note” from the Town of Haverstraw Parks Department for use of the Manny Lopez Ball Field for a baseball game they had with the Town of Haverstraw Police Department.

Deputy Mayor Dominguez had nothing further to report.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor mentioned that 2 weeks prior the 4th Annual Food Crawl was held in the Village and despite the rain was a very successful event. He spoke to a family from Ossining who saw the advertisement on Facebook and the father pointed out that he had not been to the Village since he was a young boy and that he and his family had a wonderful time, which many other people that he talked with that day also remarked. The Mayor thanked Haverstraw RiverArts for organizing the Food Crawl which attracted crowds of people to the Village to enjoy the great cuisine the Village has to offer.

The Mayor then announced that the Solid Waste Authority will be holding its next shredding day some time in October at the Town Hall. Details will follow.

The Mayor reported that the house at 28 Westside Avenue, which was donated by the owner, is in the process of getting an \$80,000.00 renovation by Habitat for Humanity. Upon completion of the project the home will hopefully be sold to a resident of the Village. He then mentioned that the house on Partition Street has been completed and the family is awaiting a closing date.

MINUTES: The Mayor presented the minutes of the Regular Meetings of April 3rd, April 17th, May 1st and May 15th for approval by the Board.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the above stated minutes as written.

RESOLUTION #131-2017

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

Mayor Kohut:

OLD BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

NEW BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Kohut:

2nd PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mel Post: Mr. Post cannot understand why the Town of Haverstraw and the Village of Haverstraw, who both have 1 meeting per month for the 3 summer months, have to hold their meetings on the same night. He feels with all the available days both municipalities should be able to find different nights to schedule these meetings so the public can attend both the Town and the Village Board meetings.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor and Board felt that this would work for people who want to attend both the Village and the Town Board meetings. Since the Village meeting starts at 7:00 PM and normally only last approximately a half hour during the summer months, people could attend the Village meeting and leave in time to attend the Town Board meeting which begins at 8:00 PM. He stated that the time frame for the Village Board meetings was decided based on vacations, etc.

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

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Post that there has been no change since the previous meeting but discussions are still ongoing regarding tax incentives. The Mayor and the Board feel that at some point Mr. Ginsburg

will just relinquish additional projects or the Board can push for litigation; however, the Village is not at that stage yet.

Mel Post: Mr. Post requested an update on the Chair Factory property and the public meeting coming up.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Post that when the Chair Factory property is being discussed those discussions will also include the Damiani property, which is just south of the Chair Factory property. He mentioned that there will be overheads and visuals for people to better understand what will be proposed for those properties at an upcoming meeting. He then informed the public that all the undeveloped land to the left of Emeline Park is what encompasses the Damiani and Chair Factory property.

Stuart Suchotliff: Mr. Suchotliff requested an explanation of the Budget Amendment referring to the Ferry, which he feels is an ongoing problem that the Village continues to pour money into.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor explained that the grant money the Village received for the design and planning to relocate the ferry from its current location to Main Street at some point became undoable because there was never going to be enough funding to cover the cost of a \$20M project, which was to include a parking garage, etc. In order to close out the grant and redirect the remaining funds to rehabilitating the current ferry landing, the Village had to update the reports and studies, with the realities of the situation, to the Federal Highway Administration and the NYSDOT who issued the grant. The Mayor reported that the Board has changed the report 3 times in order to meet the requirements of the Federal Highway Administration to allow the Village to close out this grant and not have to pay back funds that have been spent. The Village has been told that this should be sufficient, therefore, rather than the Village having to pay back \$800,000.00 to the State and Federal government, the remaining funds will hopefully be able to be applied to installing a new ferry dock, etc. by Metro North at the existing site. The money currently being spent on the project was reimbursed to the Village from the Grant.

Stuard Suchotliff: Mr. Suchotliff questioned why the Village would accept an applicant to the Fire Department from outside the Village. He feels it presents a safety issue for someone who will be responding to emergency situations.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded simply that the reality of the situation is that there are not enough people from the Village volunteering. He also informed Mr. Suchotliff that a lot of the Village's most active firefighters do not live within the Village limits.

Stuart Suchotliff: Mr. Suchotliff felt that spending money for an outside auditing firm is unreasonable since the Village has an Accountant on payroll.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor responded that the Village has no choice about bringing in outside auditors to audit the books yearly, mentioning that there are only 2 Village Accountants, Shannon Modafferi, who does the monthly General Ledger entries, etc. and Joseph Modafferi, who is an employee under a different line and they both do different task for the Village. He mentioned that the Village does go out to bid for proposals to have the yearly audit completed and the firms hired are always local businesses.

Most importantly, the Village Accountants cannot perform an audit on their own books.

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

RESOLUTION #132-2017

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Joel I. A. Santana

Motion Carries: All

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift, Senior Steno Clerk