

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018, beginning at 7:00 PM.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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 people to ask questions or make comments.

Larry Levine, 1414 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Levine requested an update on fencing for the area where construction has been halted at Harbors.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Levine that the Village is still in hoping that Mr. Ginsburg will be starting construction again within the next few weeks. If for some reason construction does not resume by mid December, the Board will request GDC put up fencing around the site.

Larry Levine: Mr. Levine informed the Board that the lights along the pathway in the Lagoon area have been on 24 hours a day for several weeks. He also mentioned that the light post in front of 10 Lagoon Lane has been flashing for several days.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor was under the impression that HUSH Electric had already looked into the problem in the Lagoon area but he will have the electrician look into the problem with the light post.

Robert Drexler, DPW Superintendent: Mr. Drexler informed the Board that HUSH has inspected the Lagoon area and found that the sensors in the system are bad, which they will be replacing.

Mel Post, 1422 Round Pointe Drive: Mr. Post requested an update on the Ginsburg issue.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Post that it is ongoing and he is hopeful that they are closer to a resolution than they have been in a while. If something happens with the other jurisdictions, however, it will then be back in the Village's control. He explained that Mr. Ginsburg is looking for a universal settlement with all entities involved.

Mel Post: Mr. Post then was interested in what is happening at the Maple Avenue remediation site with the big tent that was installed and what the plan is upon completion of the excavation process.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor explained that O&R has a company there to excavate the contaminated soil on the site. The tent was put up to prevent the carcinogens from blowing anywhere else while the excavation process is in progress. To date O&R has made no decision on what will be done with the property upon completion of this project, but the Mayor and the Board are hoping that they will turn the property over to the Village.

With no further input from the public, the Mayor continued with the agenda for that nights meeting.

Mayor Kohut:

**REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS**

**VILLAGE ATTORNEY, Jay Hood, Jr.:** Counselor Hood was absent from that night's meeting, therefore. The Mayor mentioned that the Village has been talking with an affordable housing for-profit company with regard to working on some projects in the Village, which would include building over 2 of the existing Village parking lots. The Village has received a "Letter of Intent" from this company that would allow them a due diligence period to further pursue the aspects of the project. This company would pay the Village \$50,000.00 for the due diligence period and if it comes to fruition after that, they would be paying the Village a \$500,000.00 signing fee for a long term lease on the properties, as well as annual rental of \$85,000.00 plus 35% of the net income on the properties upon building completion. There would be approximately 80 apartments between both properties, with a small commercial section at each site. The Mayor mentioned, however, that this project cannot happen unless the company receives affordable housing tax credits, which they would have to apply for. In order for them to apply for these tax credits they require a resolution of support from the Village for this project to move forward. He mentioned also that they would be paying full taxes on the commercial spaces.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve a "Resolution of Support" for the Walison Affordable Housing Project as stated above.

**RESOLUTION #218-2018**

Motion by: Terence Watson

Seconded by: Rafael Bueno

Motion Carries: All

Mel Post: Mr. Post inquired about the location of this project.

The Mayor informed Mr. Post that one of the sites would be the parking lot adjacent to Village Hall and the other would be the Maple Avenue/West Street Parking Lot adjacent to the firehouse. The apartments would be built above the parking lots and the Village would retain approximately the same number of parking spaces, plus whatever parking is required for the apartments.

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

**MAYOR'S REPORT, Mayor Kohut:**

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to pay \$1,650.00 to "All Phase Electric" for the fountain repair done at the Harbors.

**RESOLUTION #219-2018**

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

The Mayor reported that while the Village was working on the recent milling and paving project that a resident on Harrigan Lane incurred damage to her vehicle. Three estimates were received to repair the damages with the lowest bid being \$790.97 by B&B Auto Body.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to authorize B&B Auto Body to make the necessary repairs to the damaged vehicle as stated above.

**RESOLUTION #220-2018**

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

Mayor Kohut then entertained a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the State and Municipal Facilities Program Grant #12872 in the amount of \$125,000.00 to be used for the purchase of the "Jaws of Life" and personal firefighter protective gear, as well as playground equipment for Emeline Park.

**RESOLUTION #221-2018**

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

The Mayor then made the following announcements:

- 1) Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup> – Holidays in Haverstraw featuring events starting at 2:00 PM with the annual holiday concert at the Central Presbyterian Church, making chocolate at Lucas's Candy Shop, restaurant offerings throughout the day, tree lighting at the Village Clock, followed by Supper w/Santa at the Community Center.
- 2) The Farmer's Market will continue to be open for 2 more Sundays.

The Mayor had nothing further to report.

**Mayor Kohut:**

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

**FIRE & ORDINANCES** – Trustee Rafael Bueno: Trustee Bueno received the following application for membership into the Haverstraw Fire Department:

Michael Salva - Relief Hose Company #3

Mr. Salva's application has been completed and duly notarized for approval by the Board.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor entertained a motion to accept Mr. Salva into the Haverstraw Fire Department, assigned to Relief Hose Company #3.

RESOLUTION #222-2018

Motion by: Rafael Bueno

Seconded by: Emily Dominguez

Motion Carries: All

Trustee Bueno had nothing further to report.

**PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Trustee Terence Watson:**

Trustee Watson read the following report submitted by Robert Drexler, Superintendent of Public Works, as of November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018:

- 1) Repaired damaged catch basin at Picariello Drive and Samsondale Avenue as well as catch basin at Grant Street lot.
- 2) Installed new traffic light at Gurnee Avenue & Westside Avenue.
- 3) Cleaned and salted all village properties due to winter storm on November 15<sup>th</sup>.
- 4) Tilcon blacktopped Broadway, Van Houten Street, Fairmount Avenue, Picariello Drive, Robbins Court, Harrigan Drive, Rhoda Avenue and Riverside Avenue.

Trustee Watson had nothing further to report.

**YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - Trustee Joel Santana:**

Trustee Santana read the following report of activities at the Haverstraw Center for the period of November 6<sup>th</sup> thru November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018:

- 1) The Center will host its Thanksgiving Dinner on Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> from 2:00 to 4:00 PM at Don Coqui.
- 2) The Annual Holiday Party will be held at the Center on December 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM.
- 3) The Haverstraw Collaborative continues to meet monthly at the Center.
- 4) The Spanish Speaking Parents Group will meet on Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at the Haverstraw Elementary School at 6:00 PM.
- 5) The Jump Program which began on October 16<sup>th</sup> is in need of Spanish speaking mentors.
- 6) Celebrating Families – The Center staff in conjunction with the Department of Social Services will be starting in February, 2019.
- 7) Positive Alternatives – Staff member Tim Sanders will be taking youth from the Center to help decorate the Haverstraw Place Senior Complex on December 6<sup>th</sup>.
- 8) November 27<sup>th</sup>: The Center will hold a “Thankful Event” along with “Caught Being Good”.
- 9) Other programs ongoing at the Center include, Individual Family Counseling, Managing Emotions, Smokers Aftercare, Project Shift, Girls & Boys Life Skills, In the Bag, Late Night Fridays, etc. Anyone interested in obtaining information for any programs at the Center can check out the Village Website or call the Haverstraw Center.

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 November 5<sup>th</sup> thru November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018:

Rental registrations	-	21
Miscellaneous inspections	-	55
Complaints	-	13
Municipal searches	-	4
Construction inspections	-	3
Violations/Tickets	-	10
Building Permits & C.O.'s	-	5

Deputy Mayor Dominguez reminded everyone that overnight parking regulations are now in effect and the Village Parking Enforcers will be ticketing any cars without a Village Parking Permit, which can be purchased at the Village Hall.

Deputy Mayor Dominguez had nothing further to report.

**MINUTES:** The Mayor presented the minutes of the Regular Board Meetings of September 17<sup>th</sup>, October 1<sup>st</sup>, October 15 and the Special Meeting Minutes of October 29<sup>th</sup>, for approval by the Board.

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

**RESOLUTION #223-2018**

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

Mayor Kohut:

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

Mayor Kohut:

**NEW BUSINESS**

With the holidays in full swing, Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to set the schedule for free holiday parking in the downtown area from Monday, December 17, 2018 to and including Tuesday, January 1, 2019. Regular parking regulations will resume on Wednesday, January 2, 2019.

**RESOLUTION #224-2018**

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

Emily Dominguez: Deputy Mayor Dominguez congratulated the Mayor and the Village Board for receiving an award from Rockland Economic Development. She then presented the Mayor with a picture of him accepting the award.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed the public that this is a new award given by the County to any municipality that has been doing things to promote business and tourism. He mentioned that both the Village of Haverstraw and the Village of Sloatsburg received this award because things are happening in both communities that are leading towards a better Rockland County for all County residents.

**Mayor Kohut:**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mel Post: Mr. Post mentioned that the newly elected State Senator, James Skoufis, has indicated that in conjunction with Assemblyman Zebrowski, they are looking to obtain millions of dollars for New York State to offset the Mirant situation and also funding for full time kindergartens in North Rockland. He inquired if the Mayor knew anything about this funding.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor informed Mr. Post that the funding for kindergartens has already been approved and they have committed to getting that project fully funded. Also, Senator Skoufis has committed to putting something into the State Budget this coming year that would forgive 2/3 of the Mirant debt from the shoulders of the North Rockland School District, which was passed last year in the Assembly, but not the Senate, and he will be pursuing this year. The Mayor feels that if this should pass some of that savings would go to benefit full day kindergartens.

No name given: He stated that Senator Skoufis indicated that the company working on this 9W project is going pick up 100% the first year, 1/3 the 2<sup>nd</sup> year and 2/3 the 3<sup>rd</sup> year for the kindergartens, therefore, the kindergartens should be fully paid for.

Mel Post: Mr. Post responded that Senator Skoufis never indicated that it was a done deal, but that he was looking to get it done, however, if there is a gap in the funding, it will once again be on the shoulders of the North Rockland residents.

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor mentioned that Senator Skoufis has assured the Board that he will not vote for the State Budget if it does not include language regarding Mirant and a relief for the North Rockland residents. If this passes, the Mayor feels that some of that savings would go toward full day kindergartens. The Mayor reported that the Route 9W project should take approximately 3 years to complete, but upon completion, it will mean large tax dollars for the municipalities involved.

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

**RESOLUTION #225-2018**

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

Respectfully submitted by,

Beverly A. Swift, Senior Steno Clerk