

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Haverstraw Board of Trustees on Tuesday September 8, beginning at 7:00 PM.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL	Trustee Bueno	- Present
	Trustee Carlevaro	- Present
	Trustee Dominguez	- Present
	Trustee Santana	- Present
	Mayor Kohut	- Present

Mayor Kohut: The Mayor opened the meeting with the first Public Hearing of the night inviting the public to bring up any comments or concerns.

With no comments from the public the Mayor continued with the meeting.

Mayor Kohut:

#### **REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS**

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

**VILLAGE TREASURER, Judith Curcio:** Ms. Curcio gave a Treasurer's Report for the months of June through August 2020:

Total Disbursements of \$2,060,382  
Total Revenue of \$8,152,406

Ms. Curcio had nothing further to report.

**MAYOR'S REPORT, Mayor Kohut:** The Mayor reported on an initiative coming from the White House regarding payroll taxes and deferring the collection of payroll taxes from employees however, they would be responsible for the payment of the full payroll tax at a later date. The feeling from the Board is that this would not benefit our employees and we will be opting out of the program.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to opt out of the payroll tax deferral program.

#### RESOLUTION # 176 - 2020

Motion by: Emily Dominguez  
Seconded by: Joel Santana  
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut: Open Arms Inc has sent a request to the Village Board to use the Knights of Columbus parking lot for a fundraiser on September 20<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 3 pm. They will be complying with all social distancing regulations with approximately 20 riders participating and there will be music, speakers and food and they will be fully responsible for all clean up after the event.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve Open Arms request.

RESOLUTION # 177 - 2020

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

Mayor Kohut: During a recent conversation with Virginia Norfleet of the Haverstraw African American Connection she requested the use of Clinton Street and the African American Park on October 3<sup>rd</sup> for the installation of an historical marker.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the request

RESOLUTION # 178 - 2020

Motion by: Emily Dominguez  
Seconded by: Joel Santana  
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut: The Rotary Club of North Rockland has sent a notification of Corporate Membership availability at a cost of \$500.00. For anyone not already aware, the North Rockland Rotary is a very philanthropic organization that has always supported the Village as well as other organizations within the Village.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to become Corporate Members of the NR Rotary.

RESOLUTION # 179 - 2020

Motion by: Emily Dominguez  
Seconded by: Gil Carlevaro  
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut: The County of Rockland has recently distributed money to various organizations for the promotion of the 2020 Census. United Way of Rockland has been a recipient of some of the funding and has offered to grant the Village a portion of the funding. We would like to retain the services of Mirna Franco at a salary of \$25 per hour – 14 hours per week to promote the Census particularly in the harder to reach areas of the Village.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to retain Mirna Franco at \$25 per hour for a maximum of 14 hours per week.

RESOLUTION # 180 - 2020

Motion by: Emily Dominguez  
Seconded by: Joel Santana  
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut: United Way has also requested that we put up lawn signs through the Village to promote the census.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION # 181 - 2020

Motion by: Emily Dominguez  
Seconded by: Gil Carlevaro  
Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut: The Village Building Inspector who is also our property maintenance manager has informed me that the front door of Village Hall is beyond repair and needs to be replaced. He has reached out to several companies and is currently waiting on a third estimate but rather than wait an additional 2 weeks for Board approval I'd like the Board to approve the replacement using the lowest bidder so we can get the parts ordered as soon as the last estimate is received.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to hire the vendor with the lowest estimate to replace the front glass door entrance in Village Hall.

**RESOLUTION # 182 - 2020**

Motion by: Rafael Bueno  
 Seconded by: Gil Carlevaro  
 Motion Carries: All

Mayor Kohut: We've also received an estimate from Tri-State Partitions which is the vendor that installed the folding doors in the Youth & Family Services Center multipurpose room. The estimate is for \$675.00 for repair of the existing doors.

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to that effect.

**RESOLUTION # 183 - 2020**

Motion by: Emily Dominguez  
 Seconded by: Gil Carlevaro  
 Motion Carries: All

The Mayor read the following budget adjustments to the 2020-2021 budget year submitted by Joseph Modafferi, Village Accountant:

2020-2021 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS				
Acct. #	Account Name	Increase	Decrease	Increase
		Appropriations	Appropriations	Revenue
A7140.1	Community Center Personal	\$ 11,946.70		
A.9030.8	Social Security	813.92		
A.9060.8	Hospital Medical	5,968.95		
A.9061.8	Optical	12.64		
A.9062.8	Dental	88.81		
A.9045.8	Life Insurance	10.55		
A.9961.9	Contribution to Reach Out		18,841.57	
A.1440.42	Engineering Escrow	8,000		
A.1289	Escrow			8,000
A.1110.42	Justice Court Audit	16,000		
A.1990.4	Contingent		16,000	

Mayor Kohut entertained a motion to approve the above budget adjustments.

**RESOLUTION # 184 – 2020**

Motion by: Emily Dominguez  
Seconded by: Gil Carlevaro  
Motion Carries: All

The Mayor had nothing further to report.

**Mayor Kohut:**  
**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

**FIRE & ORDINANCES** – Trustee Rafael Bueno: Trustee Bueno read the following report of fire activity for the month of August 2020 submitted by Fire Chief John “Bart” Gordon.:

Total Alarms	-	46
General Alarms	-	32
Special Calls	-	10
Mutual Aid Calls	-	4
Structural Fires	-	3
Cooking Fires	-	5
Electrical Fires	-	8
Brush Fires	-	2
Stuck/Occupied Elevator	-	2
Gas alarms	-	7
CO alarms	-	3
Good Intent/Misc.	-	2
Assist Police Dept.	-	2
Carry Downs	-	1
False Alarms	-	5

Total Manpower Responding - 976 members

I also have an application from Joel Vega, Haverstraw resident who would like to join General Warren #2 as a junior firefighter and I'd like to make a motion that we accept his application.

**RESOLUTION # 185 - 2020**

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

Trustee Bueno had nothing further to report.

**PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS** – Deputy Mayor Emily Dominguez: Deputy Mayor Dominguez read the following report submitted by Robert Drexler, Jr., Commissioner of Public Works, as of September 4<sup>th</sup>:

**Landscaping:**

- Removed a dead tree on Short Clove Road.

**Blacktop:**

- Blacktopping All Alleys- filling potholes.
- Went in all alleyways that had millings, checked for potholes, and filled what was necessary- completed this job.
- Blacktopped upper end of State Street

**Other:**

- Painted stripes for traffic speed hump on State Street.
- Painted Spring St., Rela Ave., & Fairmount Ave, shortly after blacktopping was done by Tilcon.
- Rockland County- painted all the main roads- double yellow lines throughout the Village.
- Picked up 2 loads of food (donations) for the Haverstraw Community Center Food Pantry.
- Repaired lights on Short Clove Road & Lopez Field.
- Worked Dancing Under The Stars (Ferry Lot) Helped Set up and clean up for this event.
- Currently trying to correct a water problem – location: Lopez Field, arranging a meeting with Suez to discuss.

Deputy Mayor Dominguez had nothing further to report.

**YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - Trustee Gil Carlevaro:** Trustee Carlevaro read the following report of activities at the Community Center for the period of August 17<sup>th</sup> through Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>:

The staff is working closely with the school district to plan the fall program for the Community Center. The program will be for youth between ages 8 and up. As of now the program is scheduled to start on September 14<sup>th</sup> and run between 10 am and 5 PM Monday through Friday. The program will be following all COVID prevention guidelines and will be on a first come first serve basis.

Trustee Carlevaro had nothing further to report.

**BUILDINGS & CODE ENFORCEMENT – Trustee Joel Santana:** Trustee Santana had nothing to report.

Mayor Kohut:

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

Mayor Kohut:

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**Mayor Kohut:**

**2<sup>nd</sup> PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mayor Kohut invited the public to make any comments or ask any questions.

Nelson Aviles, 25 Broad Street: First he informed the Board that there are 2 street lights out, 1 on Division and 1 on Broad Street and it's very dark in these areas.

Mayor Kohut: Asked for the pole numbers and Mr. Aviles gave them. Mayor Kohut explained how the process works with reporting street light outages and that we had reported at least one of these to Orange & Rockland.

Nelson Aviles: Asked if the Board intended to make a statement or holds a press conference regarding the recent murder in the Village of a young man that happens to be affiliated with a young woman they know since her birth.

Mayor Kohut assured Mr. Aviles that the Town police department was working diligently on solving this crime and that there were many factors involved that the public was not necessarily aware of but that have an affect on the investigation. The incident is being taken very seriously and was a terrible and unfortunate event in the Village.

Nelson Aviles: Mr. Aviles feels that there is not enough police presence in the Village and that can be a dangerous thing.

Mayor Kohut informed Mr. Aviles and the general public that there had been a big improvement in the coverage of the Village since Chief Murphy took over the police department. He was originally a Village police officer and understands the complexities of policing our downtown. Along with several other measures, he's instituted foot patrols again and they are working out very well.

John Scully, Open Arms: Mr. Scully asked if the Board had any questions regarding their request to hold the event in the Knights of Columbus parking lot.

Mayor Kohut responded that Open Arms has held this event before and there was never any issue with it so the Board expects that it would be the same this year.

John Scully: Are there any streets the group should avoid when the motorcycles are coming in to the Village.

Mayor Kohut: No.

Mayor Kohut: With no further comments from the public I'll take a motion to close the meeting.

RESOLUTION # 186 - 2020

Motion by: Emily Dominguez  
Seconded by: Joel Santana  
Motion Carries: All

Respectfully submitted by,  
Judith Curcio, Clerk/Treasurer