

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Haverstraw on July 12th, 2010, beginning at 8:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL	Trustee Batista	-	Present
	Trustee Bueno	-	Present
	Trustee Watson	-	Present
	Trustee Dominguez	-	Present
	Mayor Kohut	-	Absent due to illness

Deputy Mayor Batista: In the absence of Mayor Michael Kohut, Deputy Mayor Batista opened the meeting with the first segment of Public Participation.

Noel Rappaport, 31 New Main Street: Mr. Rappaport commended the DPW on the nice job they did on the waterfall at the Gurnee Avenue Tunnel. He then commented about the ball field and Ginsberg still owing the village about half a million dollars. He inquired how the funds would be collected.

Jay Hood, Sr., Village Attorney: Counselor Hood informed Mr. Rappaport that the ball field funding is still being negotiated.

Noel Rappaport: Mr. Rappaport feels that one section of the village is going downhill because of Section 8 in Spring Valley. It seems they are cleaning out Spring Valley by sending all their Section 8 people to Haverstraw, according to the Police Officers he speaks with. Apparently, Spring Valley Section 8 does not check the apartments to see if they are livable. He feels it is time to initiate a lawsuit against Spring Valley-Section 8, because one section of our village is now like a ghetto; South Street, Middle Street, etc. The village either has to bring suit against Section 8, start impounding buildings, or do whatever it takes to clean up the area.

Gil Musinger, 1416 Round Point Drive: When Mr. Musinger was reviewing the minutes of the Board Meeting of May 3rd he was happy to see that Trustee Batista did include information concerning the work done by the Building Inspector, however, he requested that the information be much more specific, when referring to the cleanliness of this community. While walking down Main Street, as he does several times a week, he sees no appreciable improvements on the cleanliness of the sidewalks from the building to the curb. He requested that not only the number of inspections be listed in the report, but also how many letters were sent out to property owners, relative to cleanliness. The Building Inspector's report also list how many violations and tickets were given out, but he requested here also that the report be very specific, specifying names, as it is when the Rockland County Board of Health reports on violations in the Journal News. Also, when word gets out it will start to raise a flag as far as the other property owners that some sort of action is being taken by our community to see that things get cleaned up. He thanked the Board.

Madeline Zivian, 1413 Round Point Drive: Mrs. Zivian requested an update on where things stand with the streetscape project, stating that months have passed since the Mayor met with the Harbors residents and she sees nothing done to date. In conjunction with what Mr. Rappaport discussed regarding Section 8, she would like a report from the Building Inspector on what homes are being checked out and if there is an increase in Section 8 housing that the village be informed. She thanked the Board.

Deputy Mayor Batista: With regard to the streetscape, the Deputy Mayor informed Mrs. Zivian that the village continues to work on the project and that; again, the grant money has been reallocated to emergency projects across the state.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood informed the public that the village recently met with the state and that it was a very productive meeting. The village was reassured that they still have the funding previously awarded; however, our project has been pushed back. He believes the "90% plans" are with the Department of Transportation (DOT) and are currently being reviewed, which is never a quick process due to the lack of staff and the number of

projects they have to review. The village is pushing ahead to get the final plans approved in order to be in a position to move forward as soon as the funds are available. The village is working with DOT and more recently with Scott Vanderhoef, who has been named the chairman of the committee that selects the projects that go on TIP. The village is hoping that he can move our project up rather than having to wait until 2013. Counselor Hood also stated that the state take turns with projects on each side of the river; one year it is the Westchester side and the next it is the Rockland side. The village wants to be completely ready to move forward in the event the funding becomes available sooner. The village is hoping our project can be pushed up closer than 2013.

Trustee Emily Dominguez: With regard to the Section 8 discussion, Trustee Dominguez mentioned that Joe Abate's office at the County was looking to take over Section 8 from Nyack and Spring Valley. She suggested a phone call be made to Mr. Abate's office to complain about what is happening in the village, which might make a difference if enough people call.

Deputy Mayor Batista: The Deputy Mayor also mentioned that there are different programs involved in Section 8, stating that there is a great deal of confidentiality, especially in a shelter type of situation. It is his understanding that there is nothing regarding Section 8 that a municipality gets information about. There has not been any information given to the Building Inspector regarding new Section 8 families moving into the village. He then stated that the Board would look into it.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood feels that the village should look into this whole situation. You can not take a program like this and just say we do not want people on Section 8 in our village, because there are all types of people in Section 8 and there are all types of people not on Section 8. What was disturbing about the program distributing Section 8 was they allow people to move in without checking the facilities adequately. Usually when the County of Rockland does an inspection, they take the Building Inspector with them. He also stated that in the Rockland County Section 8 program, if a tenant is not a good tenant they have methods to discontinue them in the program and some of the other programs may not be running their programs as tightly. He suggested to the Board that they contact Spring Valley, Nyack and Rockland County to find out what their procedures are and how we can tighten them here. As far as stopping a landlord from renting to Section 8, the village has no authority.

Mel Post, Round Point Drive: Mr. Post stated that at a previous board meeting Counselor Hood spoke about a NYS law, which prohibited certain dangerous species of dogs in the village and that the village was going to incorporate it into a village law. He requested Counselor Hood to once again go over that law and also requested a copy of the law.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood responded that he would give him a copy of the village law and also informed him that the village law was "breed" specific. It stated if you have, for example a pit bull or rottweiler, which may not even be a definitive breed, that they were dangerous and certain procedures had to be followed. NYS law preempts that. They say a dangerous dog is a dog who has been dangerous. Neither of the above mentioned necessarily has to be dangerous. They may be more dangerous than other dogs because of how they are treated, however, you have to establish the dangerousness of the dog before you can put any penalties or requirements on it. The village law was recently modified to remove that requirement. Again, the village attempted to crack down on the problem, but NYS law preempts that. There are restrictions placed on municipalities as to how far they can go.

Mel Post: He questioned Counselor Hood with regard to the amendment to the special taxation district, stating at a previous meeting Counselor Hood had confirmed there would be no more special taxation to the residents of Harbors. He requested a copy of the law for himself and the various boards at Harbors.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood would get them copies and stated that the amendment made it extremely clear that the only portion of the special assessment law that will be used for Harbors was acquisition of the land in the first place, not in its maintenance thereafter.

Mel Post: In the absence of Mayor Kohut Mr. Post hoped that someone else could answer his question about a response from DOT on the Gurnee Avenue/202 section that he and the Mayor had been working on. He was informed it was on the agenda and would be discussed later in the meeting.

Judith Curcio, Village Clerk/Treasurer: Mrs. Curcio informed Mr. Post that if he was going to ask about M&T Bank, his contact was sent an e-mail, but the village never received a response back.

Mel Post: Mr. Post questioned the Board about the "No Parking" signs on Maple Avenue. He has never heard whether or not the board has looked into the situation.

Trustee Terence Watson: Trustee Watson informed Mr. Post that they have looked into the situation, however, no decision has been made. His feeling on the subject, since he lives on Maple Avenue, is that there is no problem with cars parking on either side.

Mel Post: Mr. Post asked to meet with Trustee Watson, to measure out the area and talk about the problem vehicles have maneuvering through that particular area with cars parked on both sides.

Trustee Terence Watson: Trustee Watson feels it is fine, however, he did agree to meet with Mr. Post to take another look at the parking situation on Maple Avenue.

Catherine LoBuono, 40 Hillside Avenue: To clarify her interpretation of the streetscape project, Mrs. LoBuono inquired if the design is ready for state inspection.

Deputy Mayor Batista: The Deputy Mayor informed Mrs. LoBuono that the part that the state has required is already there for review and that there are four stages to the project.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood informed Mrs. LoBuono that there would be further hearings on the subject. The state is slow, however, they are very cooperative and will work with the village to modify the plans so there are no further problems.

Catherine LoBuono: Mrs. LoBuono asked if that would be dependent upon what the state says about the plans.

Trustee Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez informed Mrs. LoBuono that after the state reviews the plan they either make recommendations to the village for changes or how to proceed forward.

Catherine LoBuono: Mrs. LoBuono wanted to know if the transfer of funds would come with the 2013 date that the state has planned.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood informed Mrs. LoBuono that 2013 would be the next time the funds are available to the village. Everyone is hoping that it will be earlier than that and not later than that depending on completion of their emergency projects. The village is awaiting approval of the project by the state so as soon as the funds become available the village can move forward quickly.

Catherine LoBuono: Mrs. LoBuono asked if the funds are assured for the village and if the firm that the village hired will be able to meet our deadline.

Deputy Mayor Batista: The Deputy Mayor informed Mrs. LoBuono that the money is there and that the process is going forward as stipulated. The village has completed all parts that are required at this time.

Catherine LoBuono: Mrs. LoBuono backtracked to the time the village was supposed to receive the funding, wanting to know if the village was where they were supposed to be at that time with the plan.

Deputy Mayor Batista: He informed Mrs. LoBuono that the village was at the 60% point that the state required at that time. When the state pulled the funding from the village it had

nothing to do with documentation not being to the state on time. Many people feel that the state pulled the funds because the village was not prepared, which is absolutely not the case. The village was told that the state pulled the funds for use on an emergency project across the river.

Fulvio Ortega, 19 New Main Street: Mr. Ortega requested a speed bump be installed at the corner of Pratt Street by the school. He then spoke about the dog law, informing the board that he owns a bit bull and that the owner has to know the history of the dog and they have to train the dog properly. He believes the village law states that a bit bull must have a muzzle, not because they are vicious but because they are intimidating. The problem in this area is some of the owners of the pit bulls do not have them neutered or properly trained and they allow them to walk around with no muzzles. They are not as vicious as people think. He understands the public's frustration, but stated it is the owner at fault not the animal. The police have to do their jobs and go after the owners who are not obeying the law.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood again explained a dangerous dog is a dog that is "dangerous" according to NYS law. We have to wait until the animal does something before you can do something back at them.

Deputy Mayor Batista: The Deputy Mayor announced that the board would accept one more question and then proceed with the meeting.

Larry Levine, 1414 Round Point Drive: Mr. Levine wanted to know the dates that the various roads within the Harbors community would be dedicated.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood informed Mr. Levine that the village does not have a date, but gave him the process that has to be followed to dedicate a street. The process is underway to have a final survey done of everything that is going to be dedicated in the village. There is a list of repairs that have to be effectuated, i.e. catch basins and various other aspects, that are for the safety of the residents of the Harbors, making sure that when they transfer to the village that they are in proper condition. There will probably be some transfers without all the public improvements completed, which will be indicated on a special agreement list to make sure that they are all completed properly and there will be a final determination done transferring to the village, hopefully within the next several months.

Deputy Mayor Batista: He also wanted to make sure that the Harbors residents understand that where there is construction going on it could do damage to the streets, therefore, the transfer will be made when the streets are ready for the village to receive them.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood believes there will be a transfer of the land under the roads prior to the final coating being put on. The final dedication of streets, as public streets, will not be done until the final coating is on.

Deputy Mayor Batista:

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

VILLAGE ATTORNEY, Jay Hood, Sr.: At the previous meeting the Village Board approved the formation of the "Quality of Life Advisory Board" and Counselor Hood asked, on behalf of his son, that a special workshop meeting be scheduled for the purpose of selecting the people to be on the board so it can start its work.

Deputy Mayor Batista: Before talking about the Quality of Life Advisory Board, the Deputy Mayor asked that the Public Hearing on the agenda be discussed.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood announced the Public Hearing regarding the Municipal Storm Water Consortium Model Law to prohibit illicit discharges and activities in connections to separate storm water sewer systems. He explained that there is a state law in place, which models that law locally and it is a state requirement. In order to be in compliance with state law, he is asking the Board to pass this law. Basically, what the law implies is what can and cannot be put into the storm sewer systems. The one thing the state does not do

when it mandates these things is to provide the municipality with the funds to pay for it. Therefore, the goal of this law is to assist storm water consortium members, which would be the village, in adopting a local law to meet the new federal and state guidelines for prohibiting illicit discharges to municipal separate storm sewer systems; the MS4 Program. Counselor Hood submitted the law for passage at this meeting.

Deputy Mayor Batista: The Deputy Mayor asked if there were any comments from the public regarding the storm water sewer systems.

With no comments from the public Deputy Mayor Batista entertained a motion to close the Public Hearing.

RESOLUTION #138-2010

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

Deputy Mayor Batista: The Deputy Mayor then requested a motion to pass the Municipal Storm Water Consortium Model Law.

RESOLUTION #139-2010

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

ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustee Batista:	Yes
Trustee Bueno:	Yes
Trustee Dominguez:	Yes
Trustee Watson:	Yes

Judith Curcio: Mrs. Curcio announced that the law passed with a 4-0 vote.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood announced that there are two state offered retirement incentive programs in effect. The first involves being of a certain age with a certain amount of time; over 55 with 10 years of service. Part B of the program mandates that the village could allow a person to take early retirement now, providing the village pay for the benefits that are currently being received by the employee; the difference between 57 and 62 years old. Part A being if you can find an employee who is ready to retire and can identify that individual as somebody who, if they retire, will get an additional month for every year they are in the system, provided you can show that the village can save 50% of their base salary by doing so. He explained that if the village wants to induce someone who makes \$50,000.00 per year by giving them several hundred dollars extra in their pension per month, the village can buy that from the pension system, providing that the person who takes that employees place will earn a salary of \$25,000.00 per year, or that person will not be replaced at all. Needless to say, in a small village it is very difficult to identify a person who the village can get rid of and not replace them and it is very difficult to get rid of somebody who is being paid "XX" amount of dollars and bring someone else in for half the salary. However, the village wants to explore every possibility and to do so they need to pass a local law to authorize this type of incentive. Counselor Hood also cautioned the board that they do not necessarily have to grant it. There is a deadline of August 31st to pass this law, after which there is a 90 day timeframe for someone to opt into this situation. He asked that the local law be advertised in time for the August 9th meeting. The law states that the Village of Haverstraw elects to provide eligible employees with a "Retirement Incentive Program". Commencement date of the Retirement Incentive Program shall be August 31st to comply with the law. The open period that people may retire is a window of anywhere between 30 and 90 days, however, Counselor Hood recommended the village use the 90 day window. The differential will be paid in one lump sum or in five equal payments with some interest. Finally, the program will take effect immediately. He would like this published to be acted upon for a Public Hearing on August 9th, 2010.

RESOLUTION #140-2010

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

Counselor Hood then spoke about the streetscape system. He mentioned that one of the things that constantly make the DOT programs very difficult is that there are so many regulations which must be followed and completed. One of the requirements is that there is a very specific way that the village interacts with private property owners when working on a streetscape. Here in the village many of the sidewalks extend from the road to the buildings and unfortunately the private boundary lines do not always start at the building; they could also start in the middle of the sidewalk. There is a special law that states if a sidewalk is a public sidewalk for so many years it has a right to continue as an easement, not a taking. The village has succeeded in getting the DOT to suspend the difficult easement process for the extension of the sidewalk to the building where it has always been. They will not ask the village to go through a formal easement proceeding. The village has been told that the cumbersome procedure is what normally holds up project completions. Therefore, as soon as the village gets approval of the design they can immediately get started on the project.

Counselor Hood then mentioned that the date for the workshop to initiate the members of the Quality of Life Advisory Board will be July 19th at 6:00 PM.

Deputy Mayor Batista: He informed the public that anyone wishing to be a part of the committee should please notify the board before leaving.

Counselor Hood then discussed the agreement for a gang prevention program, between the village and the County of Rockland. The program would be run through the Community Center and Reachout. It gives the village up to \$10,000.00 in funding to run the program. He requested approval to sign the agreement and accept the funding from the county.

RESOLUTION 141-2010

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Motion carries: All

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

Mayor's Report: From Deputy Mayor Batista as follows:

The Chamber of Commerce has decided to take over the Farmers' Market. The Board met before this meeting with Michelle Natale and Mia Aden who presented the board with their plans to continue a successful market. The feedback from the opening day was positive, with all vendors selling out their goods. The Board agreed to give the market \$1,700.00 to help the market move forward, which will come out of the Contingency Fund.

Deputy Mayor Batista entertained a motion for The Chamber of Commerce to take over the Farmers' Market.

RESOLUTION #142-2010

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Motion carries: All

Deputy Mayor Batista: He announced that an agreement has been received for the young men & women of Americorp to work with the village DPW. The village has to match their salary and approve \$4,000.00, which will be taken from contingency overtime. Deputy Mayor Batista entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #143-2010

Motion by: Emily Batista
Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Motion carries: All

Deputy Mayor Batista: He then announced that money has been allocated from Community Development funds for sidewalk repair/replacement for a variety of streets, including West Broad Street, First Street and Fourth Street. The engineer has confirmed the plans, which now need to go out for bid.

Deputy Mayor Batista entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #144-2010

Motion by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Seconded by: Emily Dominguez
Motion carries: All

Deputy Mayor Batista: The Deputy Mayor announced that there would be a bike event for MS, which will travel through the village from 9W to Maple Ave, New Main Street, Broadway and on to Samsondale Avenue.

Trustee Emily Dominguez: Trustee Dominguez informed everyone it would take place on Sunday, September 26th, with approximately 700 riders participating in a 60 mile bike ride.

Deputy Mayor Batista: The village received a letter from Dawn Wood of NYS DOT regarding the Route 202 and Gurnee Avenue lighting, safety issues at this location and Mayor Kohut's request for a traffic signal study in August 2009. As a result of their study, a traffic signal will be installed at this intersection. The lighting will be installed on a future signal requirement contract and will likely be installed during the 2013 construction season.

Mel Post: He asked if there is a way to speed up the light installation, possibly by a political entity from the county or Howard Phillips who stated he would be happy to help with this in any way he could.

Deputy Mayor Batista: He informed the gentleman that we would once again contact Dawn Wood.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood also informed the gentleman that the village would reach out to Supervisor Phillips and also to Scott Vanderhoef, who is the chairman of the committee that determines who gets what and when.

Deputy Mayor Batista: The Deputy Mayor read memos from Joseph Modafferi, Village Accountant, regarding budget amendments needing approval, as follows:

Provide funding for the emergency drainage repair at 23 Coolidge -		
Decrease Expense Acct. A1990.41	Contingent Overtime	\$44,600.00
Increase Expense Acct. A5110.42	Emergency Road Repair	\$44,600.00

Deputy Mayor Batista entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION 145-2010

Motion by: Emily Dominguez
Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.
Motion carries: All

Provide funding for the third quarter's overtime and compensation time pay out -		
Decrease Expense Acct. A1990.41	Contingency Overtime	\$47,715.00
Increase Expense Acct. A1110.11	Personal Justice Court	\$ 2,775.00

Increase Expense Acct. A33620.1	Personal Bldg. Dept.	\$ 3,160.00
Increase Expense Acct. A5110.1	Personal DPW	\$25,800.00
Increase Expense Acct. A5010.1	Personal DPW Adm.	\$ 6,740.00
Increase Expense Acct. A1325.1	Treasurer	\$ 350.00
Increase Expense Acct. A7140.1	Recreation	\$ 515.00
Increase Expense Acct. A1325.11	Treasurer	\$ 1,760.00
Increase Expense Acct. A9960.9	Reachout	\$ 6,615.00

Deputy Mayor Batista entertained a motion to that effect.

RESOLUTION #146-2010

Motion by: Terence Watson, Jr.
 Seconded by: Emily Dominguez
 Motion carries: All

Deputy Mayor Batista: The Deputy Mayor requested Village Treasurer Judith Curcio read the Year End Budget Amendments.

Judith Curcio: Mrs. Curcio read the following amendments for the 2009-2010 budget year:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
A1110.4	Justice Contractual	\$ 3,000.00	
A1410.4	Clerk Contractual	\$ 500.00	
A1620.43	Building Supplies	\$ 550.00	
A1620.45	Building Water	\$ 200.00	
A1680.4	Data Processing Contractual	\$ 2,300.00	
A1920.4	Municipal Dues	\$ 150.00	
A1980.4	MCT Tax	\$ 100.00	
A3120.4	Police Contractual	\$ 3,000.00	
A3310.4	Traffic Control	\$ 250.00	
A5110.4	Street Maintenance	\$ 1,000.00	
A5682.4	Street Lighting	\$ 8,750.00	
A8140.4	Storm Sewers	\$ 9,400.00	
A9045.8	Life Insurance	\$ 900.00	
A1930.4	Judgements & claims		\$30,100.00
A1325.41	Treasurer Contractual Escrow	\$ 9,500.00	
A1420.42	Law Escrow	\$122,600.00	
<u>REVENUE</u>			
A1289	Escrow	\$132,100.00	
A1325.11	Treasurer Personal	\$ 400.00	
A1420.1	Law Personal	\$ 6,200.00	
A3620.1	Safety Inspector Personal	\$ 1,315.00	
A8020.4	Planning & Zoning Personal	\$ 1,200.00	
A1930.4	Judgements & Claims		\$ 9,115.00
A3410.2	Fire Equipment	\$172,900.00	
<u>REVENUE</u>			
A4389	Federal Grant	\$172,900.00	
A3410.4	Fire Contractual	\$ 8,000.00	
A3410.2	Fire Equipment		\$ 8,000.00
A8510.4	Beautification	\$ 25,000.00	
<u>REVENUE</u>			

A2770

HOGAR

\$ 25,000.00

Deputy Mayor Batista entertained a motion to accept the amendments.

RESOLUTION #147-2010

Motion by: Emily Dominguez

Seconded by: Terence Watson, Jr.

Motion carries: All

No Name Given: He inquired how the public would know a motion got carried if he never hears a yes or no when asked if the motion carries. He wanted to know the village procedure.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood informed the public that the procedure is called "past practice" whereas if nobody objects at that point then the motion passes.

No Name Given: He wanted to know if that was a legal procedure.

Deputy Mayor Batista: The Deputy Mayor informed the public that upon calling for a motion, and after the second, to pass the vote responses should be "Aye".

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood suggested having everyone respond "Aye" to the question whenever it is asked, to clarify to the public that a motion has been passed and all were in agreement.

Deputy Mayor Batista:

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FIRE & ORDINANCES – **Trustee Rafael Bueno:** Trustee Bueno presented the following application for approval:

Resident - Augusto Alexander DeLeon	Rescue Hook & Ladder Co. #1
Non-Resident – Delvin Fernandez	Rescue Hook & Ladder Co. #1

Both applications have been completed and are in order.

Deputy Mayor Batista entertained a motion to accept both into the department.

RESOLUTION #148-2010

Motion by: Rafael Bueno

Seconded by: Emily Dominguez

Motion carries: All

PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – **Trustee Terence Watson:** Trustee Watson received a letter for a speed bump to be installed on Clove Avenue, which he will look in to. He then read the following report from Foreman Robert Drexler, as of July 12, 2010. The department finished installing benches and exercise equipment on the Greenway Trail, as well as the fence extensions at the Community Garden and Riverside Avenue Park. The drainage project at 23 Coolidge Street has been completed. The men completed installation of the ball park signs, bleachers and bike rack. McKenzie Avenue leading to the ball park has been black topped. A new bike rack has been installed at Jefferson Street Park. The Brick Museum has been painted. A sewer line project has been started on New Main Street. The problems at the Community Center with the doors and windows have been repaired. The fountain at the Gurnee Avenue Tunnel has been repaired and the area has been cleaned up and mulched. Nothing further to report.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES - **Trustee Emily Dominguez:** Trustee Dominguez reported on the summer camp which began this past week and she thanked the DPW for all their help and for the installation of the new fan which has been keeping the gym cool. There are

over 140 children in camp this year who all enjoyed their first week. Nothing further to report.

Deputy Mayor Batista: As a part of the Mayor's report, the Deputy Mayor thanked all the people who were involved with the preparations for the opening of the Cpl. Manny Lopez Ball Field. It was a beautiful ceremony on the Fourth of July and everyone enjoyed the first game. The field is currently being booked up, which is a great thing for our community.

BUILDINGS & CODE ENFORCEMENT - Trustee Francisco Batista: Trustee Batista read the Building Department Report for the period of June 28th thru July 9th, 2010 as follows: rental property inspections 1, municipal searches 3, miscellaneous inspections 40, construction inspections 2, complaints 6, violations and tickets 23. In terms of parking enforcement, all the broken parking meters throughout the village have been repaired and for the month of June 200 parking tickets were issued. Nothing further to report.

Deputy Mayor Batista:

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

Deputy Mayor Batista:

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of minutes. Deputy Mayor Batista entertained a motion to approve the minutes of May 17th and June 7th.

RESOLUTION #149-2010

Motion by: Terence Watson, Jr.

Seconded by: Emily Dominguez

Motion carries: All

Deputy Mayor Batista:

2nd PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Arthur Taub, 3304 Leeward Drive: Mr. Taub wanted to know how much revenue was brought in from the 23 violations and tickets that were issued by the Building Department.

Judith Curcio: Mrs. Curcio explained to Mr. Taub that all violations and tickets issued by the Building Department go through the court system and then, through the court, gets filed through the state and then reconciled with the village. There is no immediate calculation of our portion of the fines and fees.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood explained to Mr. Taub that everything gets sent to the state first. Some portion of the parking tickets come back to us, some of the vehicle and traffic violations go to the state, however, we do receive an administrative fee for processing the tickets. A monthly report is sent with the money to Albany containing all those amounts.

Joyce Griggs, 19 Hudson Avenue: Mrs. Griggs requested speed bumps be placed on the northern end of Hudson Avenue. She is aware that speed bumps were put on the southern end, and even though a stop sign was installed on the northern end, there is still excess speeding in the area. She then asked about the village noise ordinance as it relates to exceedingly loud music during the day. There are times when you can knock on a neighbor's door and ask to have the music turned down, which works sometimes, but not all the time.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood informed Mrs. Griggs that there is a noise ordinance in effect, however, in order for the law to confirm what is considered loud there would have to be a decibel reading. He did mention that there is currently a Quality of Life Advisory Board Committee being formed and this is one of the things that they will be tackling. They are going to try to pinpoint these things and correct them. They will try to find the hot spots and

focus on solving the quality of life issues. The other reason for the advisory board is that it is awkward for a neighbor to deal with another neighbor.

Steve Moetzing, 24 Harbor Point Drive: Mr. Moetzing asked to revisit the issue associated with the streetscape. He spoke with the Mayor on Friday, who informed him that Munz & Associates from South Salem, New York did complete the 30% necessary to submit to the DOT, but that there is an associated DEC issue that has now arisen that is sidetracking the progress of the project. In regard to storm water, a DEC mandate dictates that if more than an acre of property is disrupted that an alternative acre of property must be dedicated in order to move ahead and handle storm water during this process. The Mayor stated that he had been meeting with DEC and they are investigating further how villages like Congers have handled their streetscape projects and have overcome this issue. He asked that the village investigate what the engineering firm Brooker & Brooker is doing on this particular topic and how they could appropriately handle the situation. Mr. Moetzing then questioned the board on whether this information was informative to them.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood responded that the village is not sure they agree with their conclusion, however, it is required. There are rules and regulations and it is better to go with them than against them. One of the possibilities is that the water detention pond is going to be used for the overpass may be able to count for this and there may be some surplus there that can be used. The village is working on it, as well as the engineers, and all are hoping for a solution in the near future.

Steve Moetzing: Mr. Moetzing feels it is very frustrating for the residents that this was not a foreseen item, although he does understand the difficulties of working with DEC and DOT agencies with this project. He then spoke about issues with Tilcon stating that he called for a pickup and cleanup of the south side of Harbors. There were 16 tires cleaned up from the estuary and deposited 27 tires on the service road for Tilcon. There is an outer route that rides the berm that separates Tilcon from the estuary and those tires have been there for over a month despite the residents efforts to have someone from Tilcon remove them. With regard to the dedication of Harbors, he noted that there are continued negotiations with GDC and delays persist. One of the issues is that of streetlights, which cease to work. American Leisure has tried to maintain them, but for a private agency to bring in an independent electrician with their bucket truck, charges are starting to compound. The residents are hoping that the village will consider an anticipated dedication during this fiscal year, and that there could be an agreement reached where the Harbors could pay the village as a third party electrician, which would be significantly less than paying the going rate. He asked that the board take that into consideration and he would put the village in touch with American Leisure. Mr. Moetzing then brought up the bonding contract for the sidewalks.

Deputy Mayor Batista: The Deputy Mayor informed Mr. Moetzing that it was not a bond, but a grant the village received from the county and it is going out to bid. This is a project that has been ongoing for 5 years. Every year certain areas of the village are worked on to continue the street improvements.

Steve Moetzing: Mr. Moetzing inquired if the grant was for the design or the construction and if the final design is available. He went on to talk about the numerous amounts of illegal driveways that have been installed over the decades. He was wondering if, during the design process, actual street by street, parcel by parcel designs were reviewed to go ahead and take into consideration those people that did not appropriately follow the law to establish a fully functional, legal driveway or if the design was conducted in a manner stating if it is there we have to take it into consideration. He also inquired what company conducted the design.

Judith Curcio: Mrs. Curcio informed Mr. Moetzing that the sidewalk bid specs would be out on Monday, July 19th, and were prepared by Brooker Engineering.

Steve Moetzing: Mr. Moetzing inquired if instructions were given to Brooker Engineering to ensure that the parcels were reviewed.

Judith Curcio: Mrs. Curcio assured Mr. Moetzingler that the engineers would be following standard procedure on this project.

Steve Moetzingler: Mr. Moetzingler then questioned the board about the Route 202 and Gurnee Avenue traffic light which is scheduled for 2013. They are ecstatic and are hoping that it is just the beginning of continued progress from Gurnee Avenue to the stretch of 202 to 9W. He then expressed that Renew Haverstraw would like to see DOT reminded that a one-way would be the most effective way of handling the design of Gurnee Avenue and 202, as well as the way it extends down. He would like to see sidewalks in that area. He then requested an update on the new Haverstraw sign for the top of New Main and 9W.

Mr. McGuire: He stated he would have a plan to the board by the end of the week.

Sherry Copeland, 16 Main Street, 1A: She spoke about housing in the village, specifically Murphy Manor which is almost completed. She feels that Haverstraw is a leader in affordable rental housing and a leader in rental housing in general. Over the winter she researched the cost of housing in different parts of the country. She compared rental prices in Haverstraw, looking for the lowest prices, for a one bedroom apartment in Orange County, Boston and Atlanta. In Haverstraw prices were approximately \$900.00 to \$1,000.00. In Orange County prices were approximately \$700.00 to \$875.00. In Murphy Manor a studio is going for \$550.00 up to a two bedroom for \$850.00. In Boston she found that a one bedroom apartment was at least \$1,000.00, but there are the amenities of a great city. She did find a good deal on a second floor with harbor transportation for \$900.00 a month, including heat and hot water. In Atlanta she found a decent one bedroom for as low as \$685.00. When comparing Haverstraw with Orange County, there is a \$100.00 to \$200.00 difference. She does not think we live close enough to Manhattan to justify the rents in the Haverstraw area. One would expect to pay 30% of their income for housing and in Haverstraw someone making \$10.00 an hour is paying 50% of their income for housing. A young person out of high school or college would find it hard to find housing in this area if it were not for affordable housing. She feels it is really great that Murphy Manor will be offering affordable and that Haverstraw is a leader in affordable rental housing. She went on to speak about the quality of life in Haverstraw, stating that no matter where a person lives there are bound to be issues or conflicts, however, she feels she has been extremely satisfied with her quality of life. It has been very happy here. When she hears derogatory chatter about the village she does not completely get it. She considered moving to Nyack, however, is happy she did not do that.

Maggie Truchan, 1215 Round Point Drive: Ms. Truchan has an issue with the littering and the way some houses are kept throughout the village. She inquired if it is possible for the people who issue parking tickets to also issue tickets to homeowners who leave their houses in disrepair; tall grass, garbage, etc. She stated in Middletown, they put a law on the books to take care of situations where the grass is too high or garbage is strewn all over the lawn, etc.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood informed Ms. Truchan that there is a law on the books directed at those issues and it is taken care of on a regular basis. He mentioned a complaint at the previous meeting about tall grass, etc., on First Street, which was taken care of, informing her that the DPW is regularly sent out to take care of such situations, which are then charged to the landowner on their tax bills. The difficulty is if it is in foreclosure and owned by a bank they are almost immune to tickets, etc., however, the law is on the books. It is frustrating for the Building Department, who sends out letters, and then another letter and then a ticket to appear in court. These items are being taken care of, however, it is a long process. The village has passed ordinances, which expands on who can give tickets in the village. The parking personnel can give tickets, however, they are concentrating mostly on parking violations and the board received reports every two weeks.

Maggie Truchan: Ms. Truchan feels that the employees involved are not doing their jobs to the fullest. She inquired if there was a number where she could call and complain.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood explained that for all the tickets that are issued there are many, many more letters sent out for compliance and if the violations are complied with, no tickets are issued. He feels they are doing their job and that she can call the Building

Department with any complaints that she may have. He also mentioned that the Quality of Life Advisory Board may be able to handle some of the issues mentioned.

Madeline Zivian, 1413 Round Point Drive: Mrs. Zivian inquired if there was a way to publish and identify the people like the Health Department does. She feels there would be a major change by doing that and that the village does not hold people accountable. The Health Department identifies the violators and when it is in writing for everyone to see, people will make the changes. She suggested a newsletter go out with this information and wanted to know if anything like that could be done.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood responded that the violators that are published by the Health Department are convicted people, not accused people.

Madeline Zivian: Mrs. Zivian is not so sure about that, stating that what is published in the Record is people that are fined and not that they paid the fine. She feels the only way the village can make these changes is to hold people accountable.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood explained that if a person is fined they have been convicted. You cannot fine a person unless they have been convicted in the court with a fine attached. He feels that may be something that the village can post.

Mel Post, 1422 Round Point Drive: Mr. Post spoke about an incident which was brought up at a prior meeting involving a DPW garbage truck that hit a car that was parked illegally. At the time, he challenged that. The gentlemen's car was repaired at a cost of \$3,700.00. His question was about it being parked illegally and was a summons issued. He mentioned that the board all thought it was a good question, but did not know the answer. He is still wondering if there was ever a summons issued.

Judy Curcio: Ms. Curcio informed Mr. Post that there was no summons issued, however, there was a Police Officer at the scene.

Mel Post: Mr. Post inquired if there was anything that could be done about issuing some kind of summons.

Judy Curcio: Ms. Curcio informed everyone that the accident took place in an alley behind Hudson Avenue.

Jay Hood, Sr.: Counselor Hood mentioned that the village does not own the alleyways and whether or not people parking in those alleyways are legally parked and to the best of his knowledge the people that own or have rights to the alleyways are the adjacent homeowners. The village is always asked to take care of the alleyways and they do go out of their way to do that, because that is where garbage collection takes place. In fact, it is usually required on private roads that the adjacent homeowners actually maintain those roads.

Pete McGuire, 19 Main Street: Mr. McGuire sat in the back listening to comments throughout the meeting and wanted to follow-up on the dogs, specifically the bit bulls. He feels it is how the dogs are perceived in the neighborhood. I do not feel a new law has to be put on the books for the pit bulls, as long as people do stay within the law as far as licenses, tags, shots, etc. Usually people who have a dog take care of them. He had a situation with a man hanging around with three pit bulls with no tags. He called the police. They transferred him to the Town Dog Warden. He left a message and never got a call back. He saw the Dog Warden weeks later and spoke with him about the situation. The Dog Warden told him pit bulls are a constant battle. Mr. McGuire stated that some people that are in these positions are very lax in performing their duties. Sometimes these people have quotas to meet in their jobs. If there are no quotas they may not write as many summonses as the public would expect, which might be an option for the Dog Warden position. He is hopeful that the new advisory board can help with the violations committed in the village with garbage, etc. In the City of New York the Sanitation Police follow behind the sanitation trucks and if your sidewalk is not swept you are issued a summons. He feels we should not have to pay the DPW to clean sidewalks and streets when the owner should be sweeping in front of their buildings just as they do in the city. He believes the village should start issuing

summons' to people who do not clean in front of their buildings, which would generate revenue and keep the streets clean.

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

RESOLUTION #150-2010

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

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly A. Swift
Senior Steno Clerk