

TOWN BOARD

The Town Board, Town of Highlands, held a meeting on April 8, 2013 at Town Hall, 254 Main St, Highland Falls, NY at 7:00pm.

PRESENT:	Mervin R. Livsey	----	Supervisor
	William Edsall	----	Council Member
	James Stradley	----	Council Member
	June Gunza	----	Council Member
	Holly Gokey	----	Council Member
	Justin Rider	----	Counsel
	June Patterson	----	Town Clerk

Supervisor Livsey opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

MINUTES

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to approve the minutes from the March 25, 2013 meeting.

MOTION CARRIED: 4-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Stradley, Gunza)
0-nays
1-abstain (Gokey)

FORT MONTGOMERY MARINA/SCENIC HUDSON

Supervisor Livsey has the contract that is between the Town of Highlands, Scenic Hudson and PIPC for the old Fort Montgomery Marina. The Supervisor said it has been a struggle getting it to the end.

Justin Rider said the issue in the previous contract has been resolved and another draft has been provided. Mr. Rider said Scenic Hudson responded to demolishing the buildings on that site.

Council Member Edsall said the delay was also caused by the uncertainty of what the County was going to do.

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Mr. Rider said there was also a concern about environmental issues and Scenic Hudson said they have been addressed. Mr. Rider said he is trying to put language in the contract that would address any further environmental issues that may come up. Mr. Rider said a new draft improves on the language and there is also an indemnity provision for the Board's consideration.

Supervisor Livsey asked Mr. Shipkey, from Scenic Hudson, if he had a problem with this.

Mr. Shipkey said he would need to bring it to his Board. Mr. Shipkey thanked the Board for working with them on this. Mr. Shipkey informed the Board that the cleanup is complete except for a sign-off from DEC. Mr. Shipkey gave the Board information on grant finding sites.

Supervisor Livsey met with Assemblyman Skoufis and he will look for State help. The Supervisor also said he might look to connect the Battlesite with this site in the future.

Supervisor Livsey said he is ready to move ahead with a clean contract and to begin looking for grants.

Council Member Edsall asked if the Board could move to authorize the Supervisor to move forward when the contract is revised.

Mr. Rider said the Board needs to decide how much authority to give the Supervisor.

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gokey to authorize Supervisor Livsey to accept the Cooperative Agreement between the PIPC, Scenic Hudson and Town of Highlands after it has been revised.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Stradley, Gunza, Gokey)
0-nays**

Supervisor Livsey has a letter from the US Rowing Association asking permission to use Long Pond on May 2 for a Fair Leadership School. The Supervisor said he has their certificate of liability insurance.

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Stradley to approve the US Rowing Association request to use Long Pond on May 2.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Stradley, Gunza, Gokey)
0-nays**

Supervisor Livsey received a check from Time Warner Cable in the amount of \$16,331.29 for the payment of franchise fees from July 1 through December 31, 2013.

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Supervisor Livsey received an email from Matt Smith, who has been involved since 1995 in building a park in Highland. The Supervisor said Mr. Smith informed him that the old marina property is perfect for what is intended.

FINANCIAL

Supervisor Livsey stated that the voucher payments since the last report were \$40,823.13 and the Water District #2 Project payments were \$1,070.56.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Livsey explained that the front door on the Town Hall was broke and the Town Clerk called the original contractor who installed the door for a quote. The Supervisor said the contractor wanted to replace the whole door, but a Highway employee was able to repair the door at very minimal cost to the Town.

BOARD REPORTS

Council Member Edsall:

Council Member Edsall reported that there is a personnel issue on the ZBA, but it doesn't fall under the Town.

Council Member Edsall said the Sewer Plant is running good.

Council Member Edsall said Assemblyman Skoufis and Chief of Staff Tautel helped the Battlesite with the cleanup on 9W for about an hour before going to another area.

Council Member Gunza said that approximately 50 bags were picked up between the Bear Mountain Circle and the Car Wash.

Council Member Stradley:

Council Member Stradley reported that Highway Department has been working on their trucks and he thanked the Sanitation Department for their hard work.

Council Member Stradley said the Recreation Department is beginning the process to get ready for summer programs.

Council Member Stradley said he will talk to Ms. Solan about the Dial-A-Bus and he would like to set up a meeting with the Ethics Committee.

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Council Member Gunza:

Council Member Gunza said the Ambulance Corps has been busy and she thanked Capt. Stropfel for all the work he does.

Council Member Gunza said the Police Department has a resignation and hire for later in the meeting.

Council Member Gunza thanked the Police Department for their help with the cleanup on 9W and she thanked the Fire Departments for their assistance to each other during the recent fires.

Supervisor Livsey stressed that if you call 911 from your cell phone you must immediately tell them you are in Orange County.

Council Member Gokey:

Council Member Gokey said the Assessor's Office is getting ready to put out the Final Roll.

Council Member Gokey said the Building Department is starting to get busy now that the nice weather is here.

Supervisor Livsey said he thinks they are starting on the signs in Fort Montgomery. The Supervisor said the Town needs to enforce the Sign Ordinance firmly, but slowly.

Council Member Gokey said they are also beginning to address the drop boxes.

Council Member Gokey said there were some major problems with IT, but it is mostly back up and running with some small issues. Ms. Gokey said she doesn't believe any data was lost.

Supervisor Livsey said there will be an executive session, which will be a conference call with John McDonald, IT, to answer any questions and explain what is going on.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Livsey said the Water District #2 project is finally there. The Supervisor explained that the project went out to bid and the Town received a favorable bid from a reputable company. The Supervisor continued to say that there will be enough money to go under 9W by Peter Lam's property and the Fire House and if there is enough money the Town may go up Brooks Lane and get the school involved. Supervisor Livsey said there are private contractors working on Drew Road installing pipes that go from the road to the houses.

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Supervisor Livsey said he would like to have a special meeting on Monday, April 15 to award the bid for this project.

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Gokey to have a special meeting on April 15 at 6:00pm to award the bid for the Water District #2 Project.

MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Stradley, Gunza, Gokey)
0-nays

Mr. Rider said the Town will send notification to the contractor that won the bid and that contractor will sign the contract in approximately 7-10 days.

Supervisor Livsey said the Engineer informed him that Drew Road should have water by June.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Police Officer Resignation/Hire:

Supervisor Livsey has a resignation from Police Officer Steven Bailey. The Supervisor said Officer Bailey states in his letter that he is dealing with medical issues and cannot work for the Town at this point.

Council Member Stradley made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to accept the resignation of Police Officer Steven Bailey with the understanding that he be allowed to return when he is medically cleared.

MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Stradley, Gunza, Gokey)
0-nays

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Gokey to hire William Sherwood as a part-time police officer at the base salary and maximum probation period.

MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Stradley, Gunza, Gokey)
0-nays

Collective Bargaining Agreement:

Supervisor Livsey said that he has been meeting with the Highway Department regarding the Collective Bargaining Agreement. The Supervisor said the Association met and has agreed to the contract.

Council Member Stradley made a motion seconded by Council Member Gokey to accept the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of Highlands and the Town of Highlands Employee's Association.

MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Stradley, Gunza, Gokey)
0-nays

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Service Agreement between IWS and Town of Highlands:

Supervisor Livsey has an agreement from Interstate Waste for garbage. The Supervisor said the agreement is for one (1) year and the prices are the same as last year. The Supervisor would like permission from the Board to sign this agreement.

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Stradley to authorize the Supervisor to sign the agreement between IWS and the Town which will expire on 03/31/14.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Stradley, Gunza, Gokey)
0-nays**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Capt. Stroppel thanked the Battlesite and Town Police for their help with the cleanup. Capt. Stroppel informed the Board that on April 23, West Point will have a disaster drill and the Town of Highlands Ambulance will be there and he will have another crew to take any calls in the Town.

Capt. Stroppel announced that there will be an EMS class at the 911 Center and the cost is \$20.

Capt. Stroppel said that there are many problems with 911 and he stressed the importance of the Town Board getting involved before something else bad happens.

Supervisor Livsey stated that the Board is behind Capt. Stroppel.

Council Member Gunza told Capt. Stroppel the Board would get involved and asked him to set up a meeting with Orange County to include herself, him, the Chief and Supervisor Livsey, if he wants to attend.

Capt. Stroppel said he is very pleased with the mutual aid between the local fire departments.

Council Member Edsall announced that on May 4 the Rotary will be doing a cleanup on 9W from the car wash to Stony Lonesome and also Old State Road.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council Member Stradley made a motion seconded by Council Member Gokey to go into executive session to discuss internet security. The Board asked Ms. Blauvelt to attend the executive session. Board went into executive session at 8:00pm.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Stradley, Gunza, Gokey)
0-nays**

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Council Member Gokey made a motion seconded by Council Member Stradley to close the executive session. Executive session closed at 8:51pm.

MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Stradley, Gunza, Gokey)
0-nays

ADJOURN

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:52pm.

MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Stradley, Gunza, Gokey)
0-nays