

TOWN BOARD

The Town Board, Town of Highlands, held a meeting on Monday, July 28, 2014 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 (arrived 8:10pm)
	June Gunza	----	Council Member
	Adrienne T. Voltaire	----	Council Member
	Justin Rider	----	Counsel
	June Patterson	----	Town Clerk

Supervisor Livsey opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

Supervisor Livsey announced the passing of Joe Cyr a longtime member of the Town of Highlands Ambulance Corps and a great man.

Supervisor Livsey also announced that there will be no discussion on Homeland Towers tonight.

MINUTES

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to approve the minutes from the July 14, Town Board meeting.

MOTION CARRIED: 4-ayes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza, Voltaire)
0-nays
1-absent (Stradley)

COMMUNICATIONS

Supervisor Livsey said there was a problem last week with the Dial-A-Bus going to Bear Mountain. The Supervisor said the issue has been resolved by the Dial-A-Bus getting a permit, which will have to be purchased yearly.

Supervisor Livsey informed everyone about the Dial-A-Bus and how it works.

CHURCH OF GOD BILINGUAL REVIVAL

Supervisor Livsey received a letter from the Church of God asking for permission to hold their annual bilingual revival at Memorial Park from August 14 to 16 from 6pm to 9pm. The Supervisor said insurance has been provided. The Supervisor said that there were complaints last year about the noise and the Pastor will be asked to control the volume of the music.

TOWN BOARD

JULY 28, 2014

Council Member Gunza said the Town needs to be listed as "Additional Insured" on the certificate.

Supervisor Livsey said Pastor Matos also asked to hang posters, but this Board can only allow that in the Town.

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to permit the Church of God to hold their Bi-lingual Revival at Memorial Park from August 14-16 as long as a new insurance certificate is received and they limit the volume of the music. Permission is also given to hang posters outside the Village limits.

**MOTION CARRIED: 4-ayes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza, Voltaire)
0-nays
1-absent (Stradley)**

Supervisor Livsey received a request from Jim Willis to fix a window in his office. The Supervisor stated that quotes have been received.

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to authorize the expenditure of up to \$500 to fix the window in the Recreation office.

**MOTION CARRIED: 4-ayes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza, Voltaire)
0-nays
1-absent (Stradley)**

Supervisor Livsey asked the Comptroller to send a memo out to all Department Heads stating that anything that needs to be put on the agenda must be received by him no later than 12pm the Thursday before the meeting. The Supervisor said anything not received by the deadline will not be put on the agenda.

FINANCIAL REPORTS, REQUESTS & RESOLUTIONS

Budget Transfers:

Council Member Voltaire made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to authorize the transfer of \$500 from Town Hall Planning & Renovations to Town Clerk Other Expenses.

**MOTION CARRIED: 4-ayes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza, Voltaire)
0-nays
1-absent (Stradley)**

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to authorize the transfer of \$15,000 from Salary-Recreation Director to Appropriated Reserve Fund-Accrued Employee Benefits.

**MOTION CARRIED: 4-ayes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza, Voltaire)
0-nays
1-absent (Stradley)**

TOWN BOARD

JULY 28, 2014

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to authorize the transfer of \$400 from Water District #2 Personal Services to Water District #2 Contractual.

**MOTION CARRIED: 4-ayes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza, Voltaire)
0-nays
1-absent (Stradley)**

Accounts Payable:

Supervisor Livsey reported that the Accounts Payable amount was \$102,434.53; the Water District #2 payments were \$2,404.38; the Consolidated Account for Water District #2 amount was \$22,445; and the Trust & Agency payments totaled \$1,251.60.

HOMELAND TOWERS

Supervisor Livsey said that, even though there is nothing on the agenda for Homeland Towers, he will allow the public to comment on that issue.

Brian Suchanyc stated that he has been working to fix up Fort Montgomery and he suggested doing something else with the lot on Firefighter's Memorial Drive. Mr. Suchanyc said he might even be interested in purchasing the lot.

Council Member Edsall asked what the lowest amount the Town could expect from the tower.

Mr. Rider said it would depend on how many carriers are on the tower.

Council Member Gunza said Mr. Suchanyc's offer is interesting and she would like to think about it.

Wayne Kocher stated he wanted more transparency from the Board and he doesn't like cell phones.

Greg Madigan said he is not in favor of the cell towers and he would like the Town to keep the options open for those pieces of property.

Deborah Kopald stressed her position against the cell towers.

BOARD REPORTS

Council Member Edsall:

Council Member Edsall reported that he was hiking under the Popolopen Bridge and it looks brand new.

Council Member Edsall said he is going to email Mr. Patterson to ask him about moving forward on the telephone poles since the work has stalled.

Council Member Voltaire:

Council Member Voltaire said she met with the Assessor to learn more about the re-valuation. Ms. Voltaire said she will be meeting with the Assessor and Comptroller to go over the budget.

TOWN BOARD

JULY 28, 2014

Council Member Voltaire stated that the new School Board President has some interesting ideas.

Council Member Voltaire said she appreciates everyone's comments on the cell phone tower issue.

Council Member Gunza:

Council Member Gunza reported that she was at the Sewer Plant and it has been cleaned up and looks good. Ms. Gunza said she received an email from EFC informing her they will be putting out the application for 2015 for the Sewer Plant.

Supervisor Livsey said he spoke to the engineer and the Town is on the list. The Supervisor said full engineering will need to be done before anything is submitted.

Mr. Rider advised the Board to get the information before spending any more money.

Supervisor Livsey said he will set up a meeting between himself, Council Member Gunza and Mr. Fusco.

Council Member Gunza stated that the generator at the EMS building has been replaced, but it cannot be hooked up to the propane until the tank is relocated.

Council Member Gunza said the air conditioning at the Police Station has been repaired and a determination will be made about the air conditioning in the server room after the new server is in.

Council Member Gunza said the Board is aware of the issues with the ambulance. Ms. Gunza said the Town has two options: the ambulance can be fixed locally or it can go back to the factory.

Council Member Gunza reported that she attended Fort Montgomery Fire Department's wetdown and it was great.

Supervisor Livsey informed everyone that the discoloration in the water was due to the use of the hydrant at the wetdown.

Chief Quinn:

Chief Quinn said that after the air conditioner broke, he purchased two different units and neither one was strong enough. The Chief would like to have the room assessed to see what is needed. The Chief would also like to budget for service contracts for the equipment.

Chief Quinn said Indian Point will be testing their sirens on Wednesday at 10:30am.

Chief Quinn said the generator is in, but not hooked up. The Chief said the gas company informed him that the tank needs to be moved and they might even recommend two tanks.

Chief Quinn reported that the Orange County District Attorney is taking an interest in truancy and an announcement will be made before the start of the school year.

ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS

Mr. Rider reported that the Planning Board is applying the Cell Tower Ordinance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ambulance Repairs:

Supervisor Livsey said there is a recall on the 2001 ambulance and Mr. Patterson will be taking it to the Ford dealer for repair. The Supervisor stated that it would be out of service for approximately 2 hours.

Capt. Stroppel said he has an ambulance company coming to stand by for those hours.

Supervisor Livsey said the old ambulance needs to be replaced and Capt. Stroppel is looking into two different options. The Supervisor said the old box can be put on a new chassis or a total new ambulance can be purchased. The Supervisor stated that because there is not enough money to cover the purchase it will be put in the bid that the Town will pay 1/3 down, 1/3 at delivery and the last 1/3 will be paid after January.

Capt. Stroppel said that PL Customs has guaranteed the wiring in the box for life. Mr. Stroppel said a new ambulance would need to be special made to fit in the building, but if the old box was re-mounted on a new chassis there would be no problem and there is enough money to do this. Mr. Stroppel said the estimated time for the production is 90 days.

Council Member Stradley arrived – 8:10pm.

Supervisor Livsey stated that by doing this, the Town will save approximately \$40,000.

Mr. Rider stressed that the Town will need to go out to bid.

Capt. Stroppel said he would have the specifications to the Board by the end of the week.

Council Member Gunza said she would like the Board to look at the specifications before anything is done.

Supervisor Livsey said he would put it on the next agenda. The Supervisor asked Capt. Stroppel to put together the specifications and get them to Council Member Gunza.

Council Member Edsall said he would like the engineer to evaluate raising the ceiling or lowering the floor in the Ambulance Building.

Capt. Stroppel brought up the new ambulance going in for repairs.

Supervisor Livsey said the company will pick it up with a flatbed and return it repaired at no cost to the Town.

TOWN BOARD

JULY 28, 2014

Capt. Stroppe said he looked into a loaner ambulance, but the State told him the Town will need to letter and insure it.

Council Member Gunza asked if the other issues with this ambulance should be fixed by the company or fixed locally.

Mr. Rider said the Town should pursue the company so the warranty is not put in jeopardy.

Capt. Stroppe asked if the company was only fixing the door or were they going to fix the other issues also.

Supervisor Livsey said he would talk to them about the door, rust and manifold.

Council Member Gunza said the Town needs to make sure they fix everything and ask if they pay for a loaner. Ms. Gunza asked Capt. Stroppe to meet with her in the morning.

Supervisor Livsey said the Board needs to decide if they want to send the ambulance to the company in Florida.

Mr. Rider stressed that everything should be in writing when dealing with the company.

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to send the ambulance to American Ambulance in Florida for repairs.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5-ayes (Livsey, Edsall, Stradley, Gunza, Voltaire)
0-nays**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Elaine Radenberg asked how long the Town would be without ambulance service.

Supervisor Livsey said the Town will not be without ambulance service.

Annie Scott stated she was not a fan of cell towers, but they have to go somewhere. Ms. Scott pointed out that there are a lot of desolate areas in the Town. Ms. Scott asked if the Town will benefit from the towers and if the Town would face litigation if they allow the towers.

Sandy Capriglioni asked for a status on the Recreation Agreement.

Supervisor Livsey said he sent it back to the Village about a month ago and no action has been taken.

Ms. Capriglioni asked about the status of the consolidation of the DPW.

TOWN BOARD

JULY 28, 2014

Supervisor Livsey said he has not heard from the Village on this matter.

There was a large discussion on the consolidation of Planning Boards.

Council Member Gunza said the Town has made overtures in reference to consolidating Planning Boards, but there have been no answers yet.

Wayne Kocher said he is unhappy about the way he is received at the Town Board meetings.

Council Member Edsall said the public is able to speak before and after the meeting.

Deborah Kopald asked the Board for the information on the water meters in Fort Montgomery.

Supervisor Livsey said he will have the Town Clerk contact the Supt. of Highways for that information.

Mr. Rider said Ms. Kopald would need to FOIL that information.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to go into executive session to discuss the PBA Contract. Board went into executive session at 9:05pm.

MOTION CARRIED: 5-ayes (Livsey, Edsall, Stradley, Gunza, Voltaire)
0-nays

Council Member Stradley made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to close the executive session. Executive session closed at 10:04pm.

MOTION CARRIED: 5-ayes (Livsey, Edsall, Stradley, Gunza, Voltaire)
0-nays

ADJOURN

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 10:05pm.

MOTION CARRIED: 5-ayes (Livsey, Edsall, Stradley, Gunza, Voltaire)
0-nays

Attest,