

TOWN BOARD

The Town Board, Town of Highlands, held a meeting and budget workshop on Monday, August 14, 2017 at Town Hall, 254 Main St, Highland Falls, at 6:00pm.

PRESENT: Mervin R. Livsey ---- Supervisor
William Edsall ---- Council Member
Tyrone King ---- Council Member
June Gunza ---- Council Member
Adrienne T. Voltaire ---- Council Member
Justin Rider ---- Counsel
June Patterson ---- Town Clerk

Supervisor Livsey opened the meeting at 6:00pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

MINUTES

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member King to accept the minutes from the July 24, 2017 Town Board meeting as prepared by the Town Clerk.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, King, Gunza, Voltaire)
0-nays**

COMMUNICATIONS

Supervisor Livsey received an invitation to the Orange County Municipal Planning Federation dinner on September 28. The Supervisor said the cost is \$75 per person.

Supervisor Livsey received an invitation to attend the Orange County Planning breakfast and program at the Falkirk Estates. The Supervisor said the event is free, but anyone attending must RSVP by August 28.

Supervisor Livsey asked Council Member Gunza if she was planning on attending the next Shared Services meeting. The Supervisor gave Ms. Gunza the information.

Supervisor Livsey received an invitation to attend a site meeting at Camp Smith on August 28 at 10am. The Supervisor said a tour will also be given and anyone planning on attending must RSVP.

Supervisor Livsey stated that there will be an environmental assessment review for the proposed new Town in Monroe, at the Central Valley school.

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Orange County Legislature DiSalvo said there will be two public hearings on the proposed annexation of 56 + acres, by Kiryas Joel, in Monroe. Mr. DiSalvo stated that the first one will be held tomorrow at the Central Valley Elementary School and the second one will be held in Kiryas Joel on August 16. Mr. DiSalvo said this annexation will affect the Town of Highlands indirectly.

Supervisor Livsey asked Mr. DiSalvo if he would be attending this meeting.

Legislature DiSalvo said he would be attending both because there is a lot to look at before a decision is made.

FINANCIAL

Accounts Payable

Supervisor Livsey said the Town paid out \$25,347 on August 4.

Budget Transfers

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to transfer \$200 from Zoning-Seminars to Zoning-Legal.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, King, Gunza, Voltaire)
0-nays**

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to transfer \$800 from Zoning fees-Revenue acct. to Zoning-Legal.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, King, Gunza, Voltaire)
0-nays**

FUSCO REPORT - PROJECTS

Sewer Treatment Plant

Mr. Fusco reported that things are going well and that the amended engineer report has been approved. Mr. Fusco said hopes to have completed plans in 3-4 weeks and he is working on the specifications and bid documents. Mr. Fusco stated that he hopes to have everything to the EFC by Fall and the project should be on schedule to start construction.

Supervisor Livsey asked if there was a certain time that the grant money will run out.

Mr. Rider stated that, usually, if progress is being made, the Town can ask for an extension. Mr. Rider said, he believes, this money is good through the end of 2018.

Supervisor Livsey asked Mr. Fusco to do his best to keep this project on schedule.

Brooks Park

Mr. Fusco said he is waiting for a date from Orange County.

Supervisor Livsey said he received the date from Mr. Fusco's secretary. The Supervisor said the meeting will be held September 12 at 10:30am at the Town Hall.

BOARD REPORTS

Council Member Voltaire

Council Member Voltaire said she spoke to Highway Supt. Patterson about trash/recycling pick up. Ms. Voltaire informed the public that information on recycling can be found on the Town's website and cans can be purchased at the Town Hall. Ms. Voltaire stated that recycling is cheaper for the Town and good for the environment.

Council Member Voltaire said she provided the Board with information on a new light for the flag at Patriot Garden. Ms. Voltaire said the Town has a \$2,500 from the Unified Solar Permit and she would like to use some of that money to purchase the light.

Council Member Voltaire stated that she is dissatisfied with the outcome with NYS DOT about the School Zone.

Council Member Gunza

Council Member reported that she attended the recent Shared Services meeting and will go to the next one.

Council Member Gunza said she attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting on August 4.

Council Member Gunza stated that the next Emergency Management meeting will be held on September 13.

Council Member King

Council Member King stated that the Senior Citizens Program is holding a trip to Monticello casino on August 23 and all seniors are welcome.

Council Member King reported that the Senior Center is open Tuesday-Friday from 11:30-3:00.

Council Member King said Dr. Matthews is still working to get other senior groups together with ours.

Council Member Edsall

Council Member Edsall said he had a discussion with Vision about Patriot Garden and he is okay with the new light for the flag. Mr. Edsall said they are looking for help with the walkways at Patriot Garden.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Ambulance

Supervisor Livsey said the Ambulance Corps was busy in July.

Mine Dock Park

Supervisor Livsey said he attended the Mine Dock Park Committee meeting and he promised to bring an issue to the public's attention. The Supervisor stated that the Committee would like to erect a flag pole at the park and would gladly accept donations to cover the \$3,000 cost.

NYS DOT

Supervisor Livsey stated that he had a teleconference with NYS DOT in reference to the School Zone in Fort Montgomery. The Supervisor said NYS DOT will not be putting in a School Zone, but would be making some safety improvements. The Supervisor said he intends to take this matter further.

Council Member Voltaire stated that she is very unhappy with the outcome.

Equalization

Supervisor Livsey said the Town's equalization rate is 106%.

Mr. Rider explained that the Town did the revaluation a couple of years ago to get to 100% and, although, the assessments are a little high, it's not a bad position to be in.

POLICE

Chief Pierri reported that every shift is spending time on 9W and documenting speed. The Chief also stated that the patrols are showing a presence on 293.

Chief Pierri thanked Highway Supt. Patterson for installing the speed sign on Bridge Terrace.

Chief Pierri thanked Officer Farrel for the invite to National Night Out.

Supervisor Livsey asked about the paving of Rte 218.

Chief Pierri said he would get the information to the Town and press.

Supervisor Livsey asked Chief Pierri to make sure Ms. Blauvelt received this information so she could put it on the website.

Council Member Gunza

Council Member Gunza said Assemblyman Skoufis will be at Andy's Diner on Tuesday, August 15 from 11:30am to 1pm.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Resignation – PO Lori Bailey

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to accept the resignation of Police Officer Lori Bailey effective July 31, 2017.

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

911 Ceremony

Supervisor Livsey said he has received a request from Vision to host their annual 911 Ceremony at Patriot Garden.

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to permit Vision to hold their annual 911 Ceremony on September 11 at Patriot Garden.

MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, King, Gunza, Voltaire)
0-nays

PBA Contract

Supervisor Livsey said the three year PBA contract is almost up and he would like to appoint Council Member Gunza and Council Member King to negotiate the new contract.

Council Member Gunza said she would get the current contract to everyone.

Resolution – High Point Utility Engineer

Mr. Rider stated that the Board had previously passed a resolution in support of High Point Utility and Council Member Edsall sits on the Board. Mr. Rider explained that this resolution is to appoint John Dodson as their engineer and Council Member Edsall will be the project liaison.

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to adopt the resolution making John Dodson the engineer for High Point Utility and Council Member Edsall the liaison.

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

*****RESOLUTION ATTACHED*****

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Supervisor Livsey said this is the first of many budget workshops that will be held. The Supervisor said the Board will work on the budget every Monday until the end of September (unless there is a holiday). The Supervisor stated that, when the Village has their meeting, the Town's budget workshop will not be televised, but still open to the public.

Supervisor

The Supervisor put \$800 in his equipment budget for chairs, he is leaving \$300 in his other expenses and putting \$800 in his training budget.

Treasurer

That budget was left the same.

Economic Assist & Veterans

Supervisor Livsey planned on leaving that the same, but Council Member Edsall asked him to think about helping with Juneteenth next year.

Ms. Blauvelt said she would make a note.

Seniors

The misc. services and postage are going up a little.

Supervisor Livsey stated that Agnes Souffory explained that she uses her own money to buy things for special occasions at the Senior Center and has asked if money can be put in the budget for these things.

Council Member Voltaire said the Misc. line in the budget says \$1,315.

Ms. Blauvelt said it should be \$600.

Beautification

Supervisor Livsey said Doris Lent provided him with her requests.

The Beautification budget is \$3,000 which breaks down to \$500 for the Garden Club, \$500 for Misc. and \$2,000 for Vision. The Supervisor said this budget will be looked at later to see what can be given.

COMMUNICATIONS

Supervisor Livsey has left \$3,000 in the equipment line in case anything is needed for the tower and he lowered the contractual line a little.

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EMERGENCY DISASTER PLANNING

This budget is being left the same.

TOWN BOARD

Ms. Blauvelt stated that this budget is not done to allow the Board to discuss it.

Supervisor Livsey believes that money should be put in the budget to allow Board members to go to the Association of Towns. The Supervisor stated that new Board members should go.

Supervisor Livsey suggested raising the Training line by \$1,800 and putting an additional \$600 in the Cell-phone line.

Ms. Blauvelt pointed out that if those increases are put in the budget, it would raise the Town Board's budget by 8%.

The Board discussed putting money in the Training line to allow for payment for Board members to attend the monthly Orange County meetings.

After much discussion the following motion was made:

Supervisor Livsey made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to require the Board Members/Supervisor to pay their own way when attending the monthly Orange County meetings.

MOTION CARRIED: **3-ayes (Livsey, Edsall, King)**
 1-nay (Voltaire)
 1-abstain (Gunza)

Ms. Blauvelt confirmed the changes to be that the Training line will go back down and the Cell-phone line will increase by \$600.

ADJOURN

Council Member Voltaire made a motion seconded by Council Member King to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm.

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

RESOLUTION
OF
AUGUST 14, 2017

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
OF THE HIGH-POINT UTILITY LDC:
PROJECT ENGINEER

Council Member **Gunza** moved the following resolution which was seconded by Council Member **Voltaire**.

WHEREAS, the Village of Highland Falls High-Point Utility, LDC ("HPU") was formed on May 11, 2015 as a NY non-profit Local Development Corporation to benefit the Village of Highland Falls and its surrounding community in all areas related to utility or industrial related development or improvements, in particular with respect to all opportunities to partner and assist the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in its 50-year duration Utility Privatization ("UP," U.S. Code Title 10, Sec 2688) process now underway, in any way that might benefit the local civilian community; and

WHEREAS, it has an established all-volunteer Board of Directors, including several local Engineers, an Attorney, EIN and bank account, and is authorized to enter into contracts, bond and raise capital for these special purposes, to benefit the community; and

WHEREAS, on May 8, 2017, the Town Board of the Town of Highlands unanimously passed a resolution in support of the work performed by HPU; and

WHEREAS, in further support of the efforts of the HPU, the Board would like to appoint (i) a liaison to report to the Board on the activities of the LDC and (ii) a project engineer to facilitate work done by the LDC that may benefit the Town of Highlands.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Highlands Town Board appoints Councilman Edsall to act as liaison with HPU; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board appoints John Dodson, to provide engineering services for the Town of Highlands in cooperation with HPU, with the understanding that no projects or undertakings will be considered that require fiscal support from the Town, unless specifically presented, authorized and approved in advance by the Town Board of the Town of Highlands.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows:

Tyrone King, Councilman	voting Aye
June Gunza, Councilwoman	voting Aye
Adrienne T. Voltaire, Councilwoman	voting Aye
William Edsall, Councilman	voting Aye
Mervin R. Livsey, Supervisor	voting Aye

The foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution duly made, seconded and adopted at a meeting of the Town Board, Town of Highlands, on August 14, 2017

June Patterson, Town Clerk