

TOWN BOARD

The Town Board, Town of Highlands held a Special meeting on Monday, March 1, 2010 at Town Hall, 254 Main Street, Highland Falls, NY 10928 at 7pm.

PRESENT:	Edward Magryta	----	Supervisor
	Holly Gokey	----	Council Member
	William Edsall	----	Council Member
	Laurie R. Tautel	----	Council Member
	Mervin R. Livsey, Jr.	----	Council Member
	Justin Rider	----	Counsel
	June Patterson	----	Town Clerk

Supervisor Magryta opened the special meeting at 7pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ann Marie Feducia asked the Supervisor what happens to the seniors when it's cold and there is no electric.

Supervisor Magryta said the Town does what it can. The Supervisor informed Ms. Feducia that on Friday (during the blizzard) a warming center was set up at 6pm. When there is a situation like that, the residents can call the Town Hall if it is open or the Police or Ambulance Corps if the Town Hall is closed.

Supervisor Magryta further reported that the Town Board made an effort to help during the outage by calling O&R which resulted in the power being back on days before scheduled.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Council Member Tautel thanked Jeff Perry and the O&R crews, Tony Squicciarini and the Highway crew, OIC Bailey and the Police Dept, the Fort Montgomery Fire Dept, the Town of Highlands Ambulance Corps and anyone else she may have missed for all their hard work during this storm.

Council Member Gokey thanked Council Member Livsey for directing traffic during the storm.

WORKSHOP AGENDA

Supervisor Magryta said that at the last meeting there was a request from the Park Police to have the Town Court prosecute their traffic tickets. The Supervisor has a call into Maj Herrick to ask him some questions. The Supervisor asked the Board to look at the document and let him know if there are any questions.

TOWN BOARD

MARCH 1, 2010

Supervisor Magryta said that in the handbook under Closing Procedures it states that if the Town Hall closes exempt employees will be paid while non-exempt employees need to use time to get paid. The Supervisor questioned if this is appropriate.

Council Member Tautel doesn't believe that there should be two different standards.

Council Member Gokey said that if the Town Hall closes the employees should be paid.

Council Member Tautel was asked by Colleen Solan, Dial-A-Bus Manager, if something specific could be put in the Handbook for Dial-A-Bus.

Supervisor Magryta said there is a provision in the Handbook that says the Town Board reserves the right to modify this policy under extenuating circumstances.

Council Member Tautel made a motion seconded by Council Member Gokey to resolve that this past Friday was an extenuating circumstance and that the non-exempt employees be paid in accordance with the way the Town pays exempt employees.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Magryta, Gokey, Edsall, Tautel, Livsey)
0-nays**

Supervisor Magryta asked Council Member Livsey to explain the Disaster Coordinator position.

Council Member Livsey explained that he went to different municipalities and they didn't have a Disaster Coordinator. The duties were performed by the Police, Fire and/or Ambulance Corps. Council Member Livsey contacted Dominick Greene from Orange County and was told that the Town did not need to have a Disaster Coordinator. Council Member said that while Patricia Pfeister has done a great job, he doesn't see a need for this position.

Council Member Tautel agrees with Council Member Livsey.

Supervisor Magryta suggested maybe an administrative position at a nominal cost to the Town to update and distribute the Emergency Plan.

Council Member Livsey would be willing to ask John O'Connor to do that.

Supervisor Magryta believes that Patty Pfeister should be offered the position first.

Council Member Edsall suggested asking the Fire Chief, OIC Bailey or Capt. Stroppel to do it.

TOWN BOARD

MARCH 1, 2010

Council Member Livsey asked the Supervisor how much time he thought it would take to do the updates.

Supervisor Magryta estimates 50-75 hours and he suggested the person be paid \$15 per hour.

Council Member Tautel thinks that \$10-12 per hour would be sufficient.

Justin Rider said that at \$15 per hour it would cost approximately \$750 to do.

Supervisor Magryta would like to first give the Plan to the emergency responders for their input.

Supervisor Magryta asked Mr. Rider if the funding could be used if the \$12,000 for the Disaster Preparedness Coordinator and introduce \$750 plus \$250 for expenses for the Admin position.

Mr. Rider said this can be done but there should be some re-titling and a motion.

Supervisor Magryta said the Town can probably eliminate the Disaster Preparedness position and come up with a blueprint for the administrator for next week's meeting.

Mr. Rider doesn't recommend abolishing the position. Mr. Rider said the Board can either amend the title and the figures or do a supplemental appropriation for a new position and do a budget transfer out of the existing Disaster Preparedness Coordinator position to the newly created position.

Supervisor Magryta would like to hold off to get the title, the compensation, establish the position and then see who would be interested in filling the position. The Supervisor would like to give Patty Pfeister first opportunity for this.

Mr. Rider will prepare a resolution.

Supervisor Magryta said the Snow Policy and several other things in the Handbook need to be looked at.

Supervisor Magryta asked Council Member Tautel to update the Board on the grant with the Village.

Council Member Tautel said that she has not had a chance to follow up with Todd Atkinson.

TOWN BOARD

MARCH 1, 2010

Supervisor Magryta asked the Town Clerk to come up with a blueprint of fees for FOIL requests for the next meeting.

Mr. Rider said that if any more than two (2) hours are spent reproducing a record the Town can charge the lowest hourly rate for time.

Supervisor Magryta said that OIC Bailey will be at the meeting next week to discuss Peace Officers operating the metal detector. OIC Bailey also withdrew his request for a new police car after discovering that the warranty covers up to 100,000 miles.

Supervisor Magryta would like to prepare a resolution in opposition of the 911 trials that the entire Board is comfortable with. The Supervisor briefly went over the two resolutions that have been prepared and asked if anyone had a problem with any of the items.

Council Member Edsall would like the resolution to only reference the Town of Highlands.

Council Member Tautel recommended that the Board work off of resolution #2.

Supervisor Magryta would like to have a 3-4 line resolution that states that the Town does not want the trials in our backyard. The Supervisor will put together something for next week.

The Board agreed to this.

Council Member Tautel would like the Board to get involved in keeping the Battlesite open.

Supervisor Magryta spoke to Stella Bailey who asked for the Town's support. The Supervisor if the State wants to close the Battlesite, maybe the Town could look into leasing it and using volunteers to run it.

Council Member Tautel would like the Town to work with the PIPC and Mrs. Bailey to see what can be done to keep it open, even if only part-time.

Supervisor Magryta said the Town will stand by and see what happens.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Victor Crapanzano is still concerned with the glass that is being used in place of sand on slippery roads and asked the Supervisor to find out how much Tony Squicciarini saved by using it.

TOWN BOARD

MARCH 1, 2010

Supervisor Magryta will speak to Mr. Squicciarini about possibly finding a suitable alternative.

Council Member Tautel made a motion seconded by Council Member Livsey to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter and litigation. Board went into executive session at 8:05pm.

MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Magryta, Gokey, Edsall, Tautel, Livsey)
0-nays

Council Member Tautel made a motion seconded by Council Member Livsey to close the Executive Session. Executive session closed at 10:28pm.

MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Magryta, Gokey, Edsall, Tautel, Livsey)
0-nays

Council Member Livsey made a motion seconded by Council Member Tautel to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 10:29pm.

MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Magryta, Gokey, Edsall, Tautel, Livsey)
0-nays

Attest,