

## TOWN BOARD

The Town Board, Town of Highlands, held an executive session on Tuesday, May 29, 2012 at Town Hall, 254 Main Street, Highland Falls, NY at 6:30pm followed, at 7:00pm, by a regular meeting.

PRESENT:	Mervin 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 Executive Session at 6:30pm.

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gokey to close the executive session. Executive session closed at 6:55pm.

Supervisor Livsey opened the regular meeting at 7:00pm and explained that the Board was in executive session to discuss a Police personnel matter and the Police Contract.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

### MINUTES

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Stradley to approve the minutes from the May 14, 2012 Town Board meeting.

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

### COMMUNICATIONS

Supervisor Livsey received information that the property at 26 Mine Dock Rd will be demolished soon. The Supervisor also said he would like the Board to consider demolishing the property at 28 Hemlock St.

Mr. Rider said that it would be a fairly short process to be able to do this.

## TOWN BOARD

MAY 29, 2012

Supervisor Livsey said he will put that matter on the agenda for the next meeting.

Supervisor Livsey said he feels sorry for the Police and Fire Departments because of the lack of numbered buildings in the Town.

Supervisor Livsey said that he and the Comptroller are still looking into the Insurance Buyout, but it looks like the program might be lost. The Supervisor advised the Comptroller to pay the full buyout amount in June and we will see what happens next year.

Supervisor Livsey received information that the mosquito experts will be spraying the catch basins in June.

Supervisor Livsey said that the West of Hudson Access will be hosting an open house on June 12.

## FINANCIAL

### Budget Adjustment Request:

Supervisor Livsey has a request to make a budget adjustment for Brooks Park Grant monies.

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Gokey to approve the budget adjustment.

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

### Water Billing Stipend:

Supervisor Livsey said the stipend of \$1,726/year for the Water billing was omitted from the Salary Schedule and there is a request to add it.

Council Member Gokey made a motion seconded by Council Member Stradley to add the \$1,726/year stipend for water billing to the salary schedule.

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

### Reporting for Elected Officials:

Supervisor Livsey asked the elected officials to provide the Town Clerk with their hours worked.

Supervisor Livsey said that he would like to give his report first because he has a statement to read and, if the Board had any comments, they could make them during their reports.

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

Supervisor Livsey read a statement that he had prepared in response to Judge Fatsis recent article in the newspaper. In his statement the Supervisor said that the Board has done their best to accommodate the Judge's requests, and that he is going to make sure that every penny is spent wisely and that the Town Clerk has been working very hard to fix the basement problem, which has been there for many years. The Supervisor also said, in his statement, that the taxpayer is his highest concern and expansion of government is the last thing the Town needs.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Council Member Stradley:**

Dial-A-Bus: The Dial-A-Bus was recently out of service again, nothing has been heard about the contract for the new bus, and Ms. Solan has not heard back from the Town of Monroe.

Recreation: The Long Pond sticker and gate sales were good this past weekend.

Highway: The crew is busy prepping the roads for repair.

Sanitation: The new recycling box is working out good. Mr. Stradley said that if someone has a TV or monitor, they just need to call the Highway Dept. and make arrangements for pickup.

**Council Member Edsall:**

Water: The easement addendums have been mailed.

Zoning: Received additions/corrections from Mr. Hager and they will be made.

Council Member Edsall commended Supervisor Livsey on his comments and stated that he is concerned about what is being said.

**Council Member Gokey:**

Building: There have been some requests for Building Permits that have been referred to the Zoning Board.

IT: The work will be commencing soon and should be complete by June 7.

Supervisor Livsey said he spoke to Council Member Gokey about the slow speed of the e-mail.

Assessor: Grievance Day was held on May 22 & 24 with 104 people attending.

## TOWN BOARD

MAY 29, 2012

### Council Member Gunza:

Emergency Services: Attended the 1<sup>st</sup> Responders Recognition Ceremony on May 22 where 4 of our people were honored. The Town of Highlands Ambulance people honored were Bill Stropfel, Steve Broessler, Eileen Searles and Mervin Livsey, Jr.

Emergency Preparedness: The next Committee meeting will be at the end of June, but there is a meeting tomorrow night.

### ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS

No comments from Mr. Rider.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### Water District 2 Billing Update:

Supervisor Livsey explained that, as per Town Law, if you live in the water district (which is a benefit district) you are responsible to pay some charges. The Supervisor said that if anyone has questions about the points to please contact him and he will explain them.

Supervisor Livsey said the Town has filed a hardship application with a 0% interest rate and if this is accepted, it will be a big savings.

#### Vision Funding for Memorial Park:

Council Member Edsall said Vision got quotes to replace the macadam at Memorial Park with pavers and is requesting \$6-7,000 from the Town Board to help pay the \$14,000 to do this.

Supervisor Livsey said there is approximately \$100,000 in the Parkland Fees fund. The Supervisor suggested Vision donate money to the Town and have the Town do the project.

Council Member Edsall said the money in the Parkland Fees fund needs to be spent and it would be a benefit to the community.

Council Member Stradley is ok with it.

Council Member Gunza said this is a good project that would benefit the community.

Council Member Gokey made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to expend \$7,000 out of the Parkland Reserve Fund for the project at Memorial Park.

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

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

Resignations:

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to accept the resignation of PO William Mindel effective May 27, 2012.

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

Council Member Stradley made a motion seconded by Council Member Gokey to accept the resignation of PO Michael Coleman effective May 31, 2012.

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

Supervisor Livsey prepared a Certificate of Appreciation for William Mindel for his many years of service. The Supervisor asked Chief Quinn to give it to him.

Police Contract:

Council Member Gunza reported that the Police Contract expired on 12/31/10 and that the previous Board was unable to come to an agreement. Ms. Gunza said that she and Council Member Stradley discovered that, because of discussions held at previous mediation sessions, there was very little for them to discuss and they agreed to participate in the final mediation session.

Council Member Gunza said that with the course of action taken by the previous Board; this Board was left with little it could do. Ms. Gunza said that at this time the Town Board has not reached an agreement, but if the Board agrees with the MOU, the new contract will expire 12/31/13 and if they do not, the Board will go to mandatory arbitration to settle the contract.

Supervisor Livsey said he is not prepared to vote tonight.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**ADJOURN**

Council Member Stradley made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

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

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gokey to open the meeting for 1 additional item.

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

Supervisor Livsey has a request from Highway Supt. Squicciarini to dispose of the old police car.

Supervisor Livsey said there has been an offer of \$550 made on the 2001 Chevy Tahoe and he would like the Board to approve to accept this bid.

Council Member Gokey made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to accept the offer of \$550 from Doug Schofield for the 2001 Chevy Tahoe.

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

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gokey to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:43pm.

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

Attest,