

## TOWN BOARD

The Town Board, Town of Highlands, held meeting on Monday, June 22, 2015 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 7:48pm)  
June Gunza ---- Council Member  
Adrienne T. Voltaire ---- Council Member  
Justin Rider ---- Counsel  
June Patterson ---- Town Clerk

Supervisor Livsey opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

### PRESENTATION – NEW HEALTH INSURANCE

Brad Palmiter from Marshall & Sterling gave a presentation on the new health insurance and explained the reason the Town needs to switch. Mr. Palmiter answered the Board's questions.

Ms. Blauvelt explained that she estimated the cost of the new health insurance and it comes out to just below a 2% increase from last year.

Mr. Palmiter stated that the Town still needed to have pediatric dental and now pediatric vision is also a requirement.

Supervisor Livsey asked about the time frame.

Ms. Blauvelt said the current plan ends August 31 and the paperwork would need to be done by August 1.

Council Member Edsall said he is okay with the plan, but is hesitant about the Union.

Supervisor Livsey said the Board can show this is a good plan.

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to switch the Town's health insurance to MVP Liberty HDHP Silver 3 effective September 1, 2015.

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

### PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Supervisor Livsey said he received a letter from NYS DOT saying the Dial-A-Bus had a good audit.

Supervisor Livsey received an invitation to participate in the Montgomery Day Parade on September 12. The Supervisor said he cannot attend and invited any Board Member to go.

Supervisor Livsey received notification that Vision will be holding a reception for the Class of 2019 on June 28 at the Hotel Thayer from 2-5pm.

Supervisor Livsey stated that there will be two public hearings on the Orange & Rockland rate hikes. The Supervisor said one will be on June 30 from 4-7pm at the Orange County Emergency Services Building and the other one will be on July 1 at the Ramapo Town Hall.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS, REQUESTS & RESOLUTIONS**

**Accounts Payable:**

Supervisor Livsey said the total accounts payable amount was \$242,656.77.

**BOARD REPORTS**

**Council Member Voltaire:**

Council Member Voltaire reported that she attended the last School Board meeting of the year, which was Toniel Speidel's last one. Ms. Voltaire thanked Ms. Speidel for all her work while on the School Board.

Council Member Voltaire stated that she will be attending the High School and Intermediate School graduations this week.

**Council Member Gunza:**

Council Member Gunza reported that the Town Police are doing traffic enforcement on 9W.

Council Member Gunza said the Highland Falls and Fort Montgomery Fire Departments were well represented at the Hudson Valley Fireman's Parade in Lake George this past weekend. Ms. Gunza also stated the Grand Marshall was John Gunza and that two Fort Montgomery Firefighters were given the Firefighter of the Year award (Jessica Bugby and Jean Lent). Ms. Gunza said these two women were the first women to ever receive this award.

Council Member Gunza said she attended a meeting with Pat Patterson and the Supervisor regarding Hazard Mitigation.

Supervisor Livsey said both Fire Departments did a great job.

**Council Member Edsall:**

Council Member Edsall said the Farmer's Market has begun and he thanked the Library for storing and organizing the books.

Council Member Edsall said he was informed by Mr. Rider that the double pole situation should be moving soon.

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

Supervisor Livsey reported that he, Pat Patterson and Council Member Gunza attended the initial presentation on the Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant on June 15, 2015. The Supervisor said that Orange County has asked the Town to participate in this with them. The Supervisor said there will be more meetings on this at a later date.

Supervisor Livsey said the Water District #2 project is moving along.

**Comptroller Blauvelt:**

Ms. Blauvelt stated that there will be Workplace Violence training for Town employees this week.

Ms. Blauvelt thanked the Board for approving the new health insurance.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Resignation – EMT Stroppel:**

Supervisor Livsey received a letter from Bill Stroppel resigning from his part-time EMT job.

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to accept Mr. Stroppel's resignation with regrets.

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

Supervisor Livsey said Mr. Stroppel receives \$100 a month for the administrative work he does for the Ambulance Corps and that will not change.

**Union Negotiations:**

Supervisor Livsey has a request from the Town of Highlands Employee Association to begin negotiations. The Supervisor said their contract expires at the end of 2015. The Supervisor said last time he and Council Member Gunza did the negotiations and asked if any other Board member would like to participate. (Since no one offered, the negotiators will remain the same as last time)

(Council Member Stradley arrives – 7:48pm)

**Court Attendant Hire:**

Supervisor Livsey said that Chief Quinn would like the Board to hire Frank Scala as a part-time Court Attendant. The Supervisor was told that Mr. Scala has experience and all the necessary permits.

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Stradley to hire Frank Scala as a part-time Court Attendant at the rate of the current salary schedule and with the maximum probation.

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

**Resignation – Police Officer:**

Supervisor Livsey has a letter of resignation from part-time Police Officer Cory Pingiczer effective for June 26.

Council Member Stradley made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to accept the resignation of Cory Pingiczer.

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

**Renovations – Police Department:**

Supervisor Livsey said the Police Department renovations has finally been settled.

Council Member Gunza said Mr. Patterson is getting a quote on a new awning and the hinges will be fixed.

Supervisor Livsey said, as far as moving for space, there has been an agreement between the Police and Ambulance that the Police will take the one bathroom and the Ambulance can have the other bathroom.

Council Member Gunza said that the Chief would like a door in the hallway at a later date.

**Brooks Park:**

Supervisor Livsey said Community Development will be at Brooks Park on Thursday. The Supervisor said he and Al Fusco will be there.

Mr. Rider said he has a resolution for the Board that will authorize the Supervisor to sign an agreement with Orange County in connection with the CDBG Program for 2015.

**TOWN BOARD**

**JUNE 22, 2015**

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to adopt the resolution to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Municipal Agreement with Orange County in connection with the Community Development Block Grant Program for 2015 for Brooks Park improvements.

**RESOLUTION ADOPTED:           5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Stradley, Gunza, Voltaire)**  
**0-nays**

**\*\*\*\*RESOLUTION ATTACHED\*\*\*\***

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ray Brown complained about a dead deer on 9W just south of the car wash.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Supervisor Livsey said that the Board may resume the regular meeting after the executive session and he will look to see if anyone is waiting.

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to go into executive session to discuss the Vehicle & Traffic Prosecutor, Court Officers Salary and Assessor's hours. Board went into executive session at 8:00pm.

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

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to close the executive session. Executive session closed at 8:45pm.

**REGULAR MEETING RESUMED**

**SPECIAL PROSECUTOR**

**Terminate Minard Law:**

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Stradley to terminate Minard Law as Special Prosecutor effective July 30, 2015.

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

**TOWN BOARD**

**JUNE 22, 2015**

**Hire Fatsis & Associates:**

Council Member Stradley made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to hire Fatsis & Associates as Special Prosecutor of Vehicle & Traffic infractions on a month to month basis. The amount paid monthly is based on \$12,500 per year and is inclusive of all costs. The effective date of this hire is August 1, 2015.

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

**ADJOURN**

Council Member Voltaire made a motion seconded by Council Member Stradley to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Attest,

RESOLUTION

OF

JUNE 22, 2015

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE  
A MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT  
WITH ORANGE COUNTY IN CONNECTION  
WITH THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FOR 2015:  
BROOKS PARK IMPROVEMENTS

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Highlands made application for consideration of a Community Development Block Grant (“CDBG”) as administered by Orange County for a project to improve handicap accessibility at Brooks Park (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the Town of Highlands conducted a public hearing in accordance with the CDBG regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Project has been selected for a \$25,000.00 grant and the County of Orange has provided a Municipal Agreement for CDBG fiscal year 2015, a copy of which is annexed hereto as Exhibit A.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Highlands Supervisor is hereby authorized to execute the requisite Municipal Agreement for and on behalf of the Town of Highlands, and to deliver the executed Agreement to the County of Orange; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Highlands is hereby authorized to accept the grant funds in accordance with the terms of the Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Supervisor and officers of the Town are hereby authorized and empowered to make, execute and deliver, or cause to be made, executed and delivered, in the name of and on behalf of the Town, all such certificates, agreements, documents and papers as may be necessary to effectuate and carry out the contents of the foregoing resolutions

and the terms and conditions of the Municipal Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the aforesaid resolutions shall take effect immediately.

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

James Stradley, Councilman	voting	<b>Aye</b>
June Gunza, Councilwoman	voting	<b>Aye</b>
Adrienne T. Voltaire, Councilwoman	voting	<b>Aye</b>
William Edsall, Councilman	voting	<b>Aye</b>
Mervin R. Livsey, Supervisor	voting	<b>Aye</b>

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 June 22, 2015.

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June Patterson, Town Clerk