

TOWN BOARD

The Town Board, Town of Highlands, held a meeting on Monday, November 23, 2015 at Town Hall, 254 Main St, Highland Falls, NY at 7:00pm.

PRESENT: Mervin R. Livsey ---- Supervisor
June Gunza ---- Council Member
William Edsall ---- Council Member
Justin Rider ---- Counsel
June Patterson ---- Town Clerk
Kelly Blauvelt ---- Comptroller

Supervisor Livsey opened the meeting at 7:05pm.

Supervisor Livsey explained that he is waiting on a couple of people for the executive session and he would be proceeding with the meeting in the meantime.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

FINANCIAL

Accounts Payable:

Supervisor Livsey stated that the Town paid out \$58,365.72.

Budget Transfers:

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to transfer a total of \$2,500 from Highway Equipment and Highway Other Exp. to Highway Personal Services.

MOTION CARRIED: 3-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza)
0-nays
2-absent (Stradley, Voltaire)

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to transfer \$15,000 from Accrued Employee Benefit Reserve Fund to Recreation Director unused vacation & sick time.

MOTION CARRIED: 3-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza)
0-nays
2-absent (Stradley, Voltaire)

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Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to transfer \$9,896.93 from Insurance Proceeds to Police Vehicle Repair & Maintenance.

MOTION CARRIED: **3-ayes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza)**
 0-nays
 2-absent (Stradley, Voltaire)

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to transfer \$250 from Long Pond Equipment to Recreation Other.

MOTION CARRIED: **3-ayes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza)**
 0-nays
 2-absent (Stradley, Voltaire)

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Livsey said he and Ms. Blauvelt met with a representative from Marshall & Sterling who gave a presentation on NYMIR. The Supervisor stated that the bottom line is a little less than what is being paid now. The Supervisor also stated that there are two more companies that they will meet with.

Ms. Blauvelt stated there is a meeting set with Scott Liebert from CLG the first week of December.

Supervisor Livsey said with the money crunch, the Town is not going to stay with a company just because they have had them for years.

Supervisor Livsey said the deadline for the grant from Hudson Valley Greenway to do work at Mine Dock Park was January 9, 2016 and the Town has been granted an extension to January 9, 2018.

Supervisor Livsey received a letter from the Library thanking the Board for keeping their level of finance the same.

Supervisor Livsey received a letter that a Fort Montgomery resident wrote to the West Point Garrison Commander asking that Mine Road be closed after the construction on the Palisades is complete. The Supervisor asked the general public to write letters to the Garrison Commander to keep the road open.

Supervisor Livsey said he was questioned about the police patrolling Mine Road and he confirmed that they are.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Dumpster Billing:

Supervisor Livsey stated the business dumpster customers received a notice about a rate increase and the start of semi-annual billing to begin January 1. The Supervisor also said if a customer has 3 or more cans they will be charged the minimum dumpster fee and that anything over 3 will be charged \$10 per can.

Vision – Memorial Park:

Supervisor Livsey said Vision has requested the use of Memorial Park on December 5 for their Winter Fest.

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to approve Vision using Memorial Park contingent upon the Town receiving the insurance certificate.

MOTION CARRIED: 3-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza)
0-nays
2-absent (Stradley, Voltaire)

Resolution – Transportation Funding:

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to adopt the resolution supporting Local Transportation Funding by New York State.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED: 3-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza)
0-nays
2-absent (Stradley, Voltaire)

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

Contracting Police:

Supervisor Livsey said there was a film crew in Fort Montgomery recently that needed police support. The Supervisor said the Town hired out some of their officers and he would like to set a fee of \$50 an hour with a minimum of 4-hours for future cases.

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to approve contracting out Police Officers, when necessary, at a rate of \$50 an hour and a minimum of 4 hours.

MOTION CARRIED: 3-eyes (Edsall, Gunza)
0-nays
1-abstain (Livsey)
2-absent (Stradley, Voltaire)

Mayor Flynn:

Mayor Flynn said he has a request from the Village Board for the Recreation Director to move to the senior building.

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Mayor Flynn also said the Village Board discussed the grant for consolidation and part of the grant is to put together a committee. The Mayor asked Mr. Rider to prepare an intermunicipal agreement.

Supervisor Livsey said the Town Board would discuss this.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Supervisor Livsey asked for a motion to go into executive session.

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to go into executive session to discuss: Creation of new water district, Corbin Hill connections, Water tower for districts, Cemetery issue, Town employee issue, Regulations concerning billboards in the Town and Personnel appointment discussion. Board went into executive session at 7:25pm.

MOTION CARRIED: **3-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza)**
 0-nays
 2-absent (Stradley, Voltaire)

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to close the executive session. Executive session closed at 8:40pm.

MOTION CARRIED: **3-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza)**
 0-nays
 2-absent (Stradley, Voltaire)

REGULAR MEETING CONTINUED

Supervisor Livsey apologized for anyone waiting for taking so long, but explained that it was a very important executive session.

Appoint-Board of Assessment Review:

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to table the appointment of the Board of Assessment Review member.

MOTION CARRIED: **3-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza)**
 0-nays
 2-absent (Stradley, Voltaire)

Supervisor Livsey said this was advertised and two Letters of Interest were received.

Supervisor Livsey stated that the Board has decided to table the approval of the previous minutes until the next meeting.

RESOLUTION

OF

NOVEMBER 23, 2015

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING
LOCAL TRANSPORTATION FUNDING
BY NEW YORK STATE

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

WHEREAS, a reliable transportation infrastructure is vital for the safety of New York's traveling public and its economy; and

WHEREAS, approximately eighty five (85%) percent of New York's roads and bridges are maintained by local governments; and

WHEREAS, despite preventative maintenance treatments and measurements, the age and condition of many of locally-owned transportation assets are in need of costly rehabilitation and reconstruction; and

WHEREAS, estimates by the State Comptroller, DOT and independent studies show a large portion of road mileage is deteriorating and many bridges in the state are rated structurally deficient and functionally obsolete; and

WHEREAS, the State Comptroller estimates that there will be \$89 billion in unmet local infrastructure needs over the next 20 years; and

WHEREAS, funding for our local system has been far short of what is needed and we've fallen further and further behind in maintaining the vast and aging transportation infrastructure over this long period with severe consequences; and

WHEREAS, the New York Consolidated Local Street and Highway Program (CHIPS) provides essential funding for every municipality in the state and is part of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) capital program; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1990's the Governor and Legislature created the Dedicated Highway and Bridge Trust Fund (DHBTF) to pay for the NYSDOT capital program and the Dedicated Mass Transit Trust Fund (DMTTF) to assist with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) and other transit systems' capital programs: and

WHEREAS, when the DHBTF was created, it was agreed that the NYSDOT and MTA five-year capital programs would be similar in size and would be negotiated concurrently; and

WHEREAS, through 2005-2009, both five-year capital programs were similar in size and adopted within months of each other; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 the Executive and Legislature broke traditional parity and enacted five-year capital program for the MTA but not the DOT.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOVLED, that the Town of Highlands calls upon the Governor and the New York State Legislature to make additional state funding and resources available at levels that accurately reflect critical needs of local roads and bridges; and increase CHIPS funding in the 2016-17 state budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Highlands calls upon the Governor, and members of the New York State Legislature to fully fund and submit a new NYSDOT five-year transportation capital plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be delivered to: the Hon. Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor, the Hon. William J. Larkin, Jr., Senator for the 39th District, and the Hon. James Skoufis, Assemblyman for the 99th District, by the Town Clerk; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the foregoing resolution 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	Absent
June Gunza, Councilwoman	voting	Aye
Adrienne T. Voltaire, Councilwoman	voting	Absent
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 November 23, 2015.

June Patterson, Town Clerk