

## **TOWN BOARD**

The Town Board, Town of Highlands, held 2 Public Hearings and a regular meeting on Monday, July 25, 2016 at Town Hall, 254 Main St, Highland Falls, NY at 7:00pm.

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 7:00pm.

### **PUBLIC HEARING – CORBIN HILL WATER**

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to open the public hearing. Public hearing opened at 7:01pm.

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

### **Public Comment**

Anthony Squicciarini said he was disappointed that the information was not available in a timely manner. Mr. Squicciarini questioned why the Town was taking over the Corbin Hill water system and what the money was being spent on.

John Sarcone stated that in 2003 the Town agreed to take over the water system, but because of possible contamination, things needed to be re-configured.

Justin Rider, Town Attorney, stated that the residents of Corbin Hill made the request for the Town to take over their water system. Mr. Rider said there are benefits to the Town, i.e., it would allow for looping and extension in the future. Mr. Rider reviewed the costs of the project.

Supervisor Livsey said the Corbin Hill water system is not, and has not been, contaminated.

Mr. Squicciarini asked the Board to take their time and give the public time to review the plan.

Mr. Rider explained the increase in the points if the Town took over Corbin Hill water.

Dave Tonneson commended the Town Board for looking into taking over Corbin Hill water. Mr. Tonneson said he doesn't believe a water tank is necessary. Mr. Tonneson asked about any money being paid.

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Mr. Rider stated the developer is not being paid any money and the Town will be contributing approximately \$150,000 toward this project. Mr. Rider said the Village wants the water tank. Mr. Rider said he believes the Town Board thinks this is best for everyone.

Todd Atkinson, Folchetti Engineering, stated that he represents the Corbin Hill Homeowner's Association. Mr. Atkinson gave a brief overview of the project.

Mr. Rider said the Town is required to have a chlorination system.

Mr. Atkinson said, with this project, the Town will acquire ownership of the treatment facility and the property.

Mr. Sarcone said he didn't mean to imply that Corbin Hill water was contaminated. Mr. Sarcone said the Department of Health is trying to get Corbin Hill on the Town water system and the agreement with the Village requires a water tank. Mr. Sarcone said this is a step in the right direction and he urged the Board to close the Public Hearing and move forward.

Mr. DeRoberts, a Corbin Hill resident, stated that they were promised Town water.

Chris Byrnes said he was on the Town Board when taking over Corbin Hill water was discussed and he stated that the water was supposed to be donated by the developer with an additional lot.

Mr. Squicciarini said maybe the Town should take time to see if any of the State Departments can help with funding and talk to the Village to see if they will negate the water tank. Mr. Squicciarini urged the Board to take their time to make this decision.

Supervisor Livsey stated that the residents of Corbin Hill have been paying into Water District #2 for many years and have not been receiving water.

Mr. Rider said he does not recommend voting tonight, but rather leaving the public hearing open until the next meeting.

Council Member King made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to hold the Public Hearing on Corbin Hill water open until the next Town Board meeting.

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

## **PUBLIC HEARING – PHASE III WATER**

### **Public Comment**

No public comment.

Mr. Sarcone said there are many litigants on Miles Lane.

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Mr. Atkinson gave a brief description of this project.

Mr. Tonneson said it is a good idea that money is being used from the Trust. Mr. Tonneson asked where the pipes were being placed.

Mr. Atkinson said on the edge of the road.

Mr. Sarcone said he would like to get this project going as so as possible and asked the Board to pass the resolution in front of them.

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to close the public hearing. Public hearing closed at 7:52pm.

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

## **REGULAR MEETING**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

### **Ambulance Award Program – LOSAP**

Chris Byrnes is asking the Board to raise the benefit period from 20 to 30 years. Mr. Byrnes said this would cost the taxpayers between \$4,500 and \$5,000 a year.

Supervisor Livsey said he has information for the Board to review for the next meeting.

Mr. Rider said he would look at it and decide if a referendum is needed.

### **MINUTES**

Council Member King made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to accept the minutes from the July 11, 2016 meeting.

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

### **FINANCIAL**

#### **Accounts Payable**

Supervisor Livsey said the Town paid out a total of \$246,119.94.

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### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Supervisor Livsey said he received an invite from the Hudson Highlands Land Trust for a River of Words on July 31, 2016 from 4-6pm.

### **BOARD REPORTS**

#### **Council Member Voltaire**

Council Member Voltaire reported that the Orange County Youth Bureau is accepting second requests.

Council Member Voltaire stated that the Orange County Department of Health is starting a youth group.

Council Member Voltaire said that her daughter recently participated in the STEM Camp, which was sponsored by the Buffalo Soldiers. Ms. Voltaire said there will be a banquet on September 24 to benefit the Buffalo Soldier monument.

#### **Council Member Gunza**

Council Member Gunza reported that the CVS drug drop box is in place in the Police Department lobby.

Council Member Gunza said the High School is looking for police presence at their football games and would like for it to be at the same rate as it was for the basketball games - \$50.74/hr.

Council Member Gunza said the Chief has requested to switch from Time Warner back to Verizon because of problems he is having.

Council Member Gunza stated that the Chief is still working on the grant for the traffic light.

#### **Council Member King**

Council Member King reported that he spent time with the Highlanders and they had a couple of requests. Mr. King said they are requesting assistance creating activities for the seniors and for the Senior Center to be open more frequently. Mr. King said these may be things the Assistant Recreation Director can help with.

Council Member King asked if there was a curfew in the Town.

Supervisor Livsey said there is no curfew in the Town outside the Village.

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### Council Member Edsall

Council Member Edsall reported that there was a consolidation meeting on July 14 and the data was looked over. Mr. Edsall said the Mayor would like to focus on consolidation of the Police and because of the low number of full-time officers in the Village, he thinks this would be a good time.

Council Member Edsall stated the Mayor said his attorney would be in touch with our attorney.

### SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Livsey reported that the pump station on 9W needs to be re-done. The Supervisor has put together a bid proposal and given it to Mr. Rider for review.

Mr. Rider said the bid proposal was good.

Supervisor Livsey said he sent a letter to the owner of Highland Green, Hudson View Terrace, and copied the caretaker, letting them know that their water information is now available on line. The Supervisor said there seems to be a leak in their system.

Supervisor Livsey stated that he notified the Village that the Town is proposing to hook up more users to the water system.

Supervisor Livsey said he notified the Department Heads of the bi-annual balances in their accounts.

Supervisor Livsey said he was given permission at the last meeting to switch billing companies for the Ambulance and he will be signing a contract with a new company.

Ms. Blauvelt said the new company doesn't charge a percentage, but rather for each PCR, they charge \$35. Ms. Blauvelt received an aging report from Evolution which shows about \$100,000 in outstanding bills.

### GENERAL BUSINESS

#### Resolution on water Phase III

Supervisor Livsey said he would like to take care of this matter so Mr. Sarcone and Mr. Atkinson can leave.

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to adopt the Public Interest Resolution for Water District #2, Phase III, Miles Lane.

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

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

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### Account Clerk

Supervisor Livsey stated that there were 12 candidates on the Civil Service list for this position and only 3 were interested. The Supervisor said 1 has taken another job, 1 is retired and would need a waiver to work and the third person has been interviewed and is interested in the position.

Supervisor Livsey said he recommends that the Board hire Debra Graves, to fill the position of Account Clerk, at a salary of \$17 per hour.

Council Member King made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to hire Debra Graves to fill the position of Account Clerk at a salary of \$17 per hour and with a one year probationary period.

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

### Resolution – Opposing Closing of Cornwall ER

Supervisor Livsey said Cornwall Hospital will be closing their Emergency Room in October. The Supervisor said he attended a meeting on Friday and, it was stated, that they are losing a lot of money with it being open.

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to adopt the resolution opposing the closing of Cornwall Hospital Emergency Room.

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

### Comptroller's Report

Ms. Blauvelt reported that there will be a Worker's Comp audit in August.

Ms. Blauvelt said she is trying to get the budget packages out and apologizes for them being late.

Ms. Blauvelt said she is behind on the Workplace Violence training.

Ms. Blauvelt stated that the Medicaid application, for the Ambulance, is ready to get sent and the Medicare application is done.

Ms. Blauvelt said Health Insurance enrollment is taking place.

Ms. Blauvelt thanked Elaine LaBarre for everything she has done since her office has been understaffed.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Byrnes thanked the Board for passing the resolution that opposes the closing of the Cornwall Emergency room.

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Jim Ramus said there are things he would like to add Planning Board Intermunicipal Agreement.

Dr. Andrea Matthews, Buffalo Soldier’s Committee, said she would like to visit the idea of bringing a museum to the Town.

Council Member King asked if it would be a Buffalo Soldiers’ museum.

Dr. Matthews said it would be. Dr. Matthews also stated that she will be launching her national campaign to put a monument on West Point.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council Member Voltaire made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to go into executive to discuss a specific personnel matter. Board went into executive session at 9:03pm.

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

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to close the executive session. Executive session closed at 9:35pm.

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

**ADJOURN**

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member King to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9:36pm.

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

Attest,