

SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE VILLAGE OF HIGHLAND FALLS

April 11, 2017

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Highland Falls was held in Village Hall, 303 Main Street, Highland Falls, New York on April 11, 2017.

The purpose of the meeting was to hold the eighth budget workshop for FY 2017-2018.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor D'Onofrio at 7:01P.M.

Members present were:

Mayor Joseph E. D'Onofrio  
Trustee Mervin R. Livsey, Jr.  
Trustee Barbara Murphy  
Trustee James M. Ramus (via phone in)

Member Absent was:

Trustee Brian Aylward

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Regina M. Taylor  
O.C. Legislator, James DiSalvo  
Mr. Ralph J. Walters, former Village Treasurer  
2 Community residents

Mayor D'Onofrio gave a brief update regarding the water emergency that occurred during the day in the Village. Mayor D'Onofrio assured the residents that the water was safe to drink and use, but encouraged all Town Residents to conserve usage until further notice. Mayor D'Onofrio thanked all local, Town, County and State responders for their prompt handling of the situation.

Mayor D'Onofrio introduced Mr. Ralph Walters, the former Treasurer of the Village and asked for Board support in hiring Mr. Walters on an intern basis until May 31, 2017 at \$40.00/hr to help finish the budget process and help with the fiscal year end at which time the position will be reviewed by both parties.

Trustee Livsey motioned to appoint Ralph Walters the intern Treasurer at \$40.00/hr until May 31, 2017 at which time the position will be reviewed by both parties.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy and on a roll call vote, the results which follow:

3 Ayes 0 Noes 2 Absent (Aylward/Ramus)

motion carried.

Mayor D'Onofrio reported that the following changes need to be made to the summary page of the Tentative Budget:

1. Lower the total assessment for the from \$303,371,114.00 to \$303,311,714.00, a difference of \$59,400.00 due to a tax certiorari for Peregrine Realty, 105-5-7, which came in after the Tentative was set, and
2. Reduce the amount of fund balance appropriated by \$13,000.00 for transfers approved out of the FY16-17 budget by the prior administration at the Board meeting held on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Ramus called in with some questions regarding various line items in the Tentative Budget. Mayor D'Onofrio and the Village Clerk clarified some of his concerns and Mayor D'Onofrio reported that he would get the answers to those questions that could not be answered.

Discussion was held on the amount budgeted for the Police Department and Communications. Trustee Livsey commented that he would like to see the Police Department be built back up with a chain of command and he would also like to see the 3<sup>rd</sup> shift dispatch be returned from Orange County 911 Emergency Services to the local department.

Mayor D'Onofrio commented that there is still a lot of work to be done and he will try to get a date next week that everyone is available to hold another workshop. Mayor D'Onofrio reminded the Board that the adoption must be done on or before May 1, 2017.

Trustee Murphy motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee Livsey and unanimously carried.

The meeting closed at 7:51P.M.

---

Regina M. Taylor, Village Clerk