

Minutes of the Village Board Meeting held at Town Hall on April 10, 2014 at 7PM

Present: Michael Queenan, Mayor  
Neil Crouse, Timothy Egan, Thomas Flood and David Sutz, Trustees  
Absent: None  
Also Present: Jessica McClennan, Deputy Village Clerk/Treasurer; Fred Ungerer, Woodbury Parks

**I. Public Hearing:**

a. Fiscal Year Budget 2014/2015:

A public hearing was held to entertain public comment on the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2014/2015 budget. The public notice was printed in the Times Herald Record on April 3, 2014 and the following comments were received:

Mayor Queenan noted the budget proposed is reasonable and responsible. The General Fund decreased and there are increases in the Consolidated Water and Consolidated Sewer Fund. The total budget is below the tax cap limit dictated by the State.

Donald Siebold, asked for justification for the raises proposed for the Board members and in the line-item for Village Clerk personal services. It was noted that the Board members have not received raises for at least the past five years. The reason for the increase in the Village Clerk line-item is because the Village will now be employing a full-time Deputy Village Clerk/Treasurer. It was further noted these individuals are paid from the General Fund, which had a tax levy decrease this year. Trustee Crouse stated he feels the departments that the Village is administratively responsible for are the most vital to the community. He added that when the Village was formed and responsibilities shifted, the Town Board did not decrease their salaries and have continued to accept raises almost every year since. He personally declined his salary for the first five years of his term and only began accepting one last year. He believes the increase is fair based on the work being done.

With no further comments received, a motion was offered by Trustee Egan, seconded by Trustee Crouse, to close the public hearing.

**ADOPTED** AYES 5 Queenan, Crouse, Egan, Flood, Sutz  
NOES 0

Motion was then offered by Trustee Flood, seconded by Trustee Sutz, to adopt the Fiscal Year 2014/2015 budget as printed on pages \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ of this minute book.

**ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL AS FOLLOWS:**

Mayor Queenan	AYES
Trustee Crouse	AYES
Trustee Egan	AYES
Trustee Flood	AYES
Trustee Sutz	AYES

Motion was then offered by Trustee Egan, seconded by Trustee Sutz, to rescind Local Law 1 of 2014 entitled "Tax Cap Override" for the 2014/2015 fiscal year.

**ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL AS FOLLOWS:**

Mayor Queenan	AYES
Trustee Crouse	AYES
Trustee Egan	AYES
Trustee Flood	AYES
Trustee Sutz	AYES

**II. Administrative Business:**

a. Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion was offered by Trustee Sutz, seconded by Trustee Egan, to accept the minutes of the meeting held March 27, 2014.

**ADOPTED**      AYES    5            Queenan, Crouse, Egan, Flood, Sutz  
                     NOES    0

b. Approval of Abstract:

Motion was offered by Trustee Crouse, seconded by Trustee Egan, to approve Abstract 21 containing vouchers 131320 – 131366 and totaling \$75,705.93.

**ADOPTED**      AYES    5            Queenan, Crouse, Egan, Flood, Sutz  
                     NOES    0

c. Budget Modification:

Motion was offered by Trustee Flood, seconded by Trustee Egan, to approve a modification to the budget of the General Fund by decreasing A1410.435 (VC-Law Book Supplements) by \$4900, A3410.448 (FD-Operations) by \$3000, A3410.455 (FD-Equipment Repairs) by \$3000, A3410.464 (FD-JAWS Testing) by \$3379, A8020.402 (Comprehensive Plan) by \$15,013 and increasing A1410.100 (VC-Personal Services) by \$4300, A1410.430 (VC-Transportation/Travel) by \$600, A1440.402 (Engineer – Planning Board) by \$7000, A1610.406 (General-Building/Grounds) by \$8000, A1670.401 (Central Printing) by \$13, A3410.208 (FD-Radio Equipment) by \$3718, A3410.417 (FD-Cellular Phone) by \$600, A3410.423 (FD-Fire Prevention) by \$61 and A3410.453 (FD-Vehicle Repairs) by \$5000.

**ADOPTED**      AYES    5            Queenan, Crouse, Egan, Flood, Sutz  
                     NOES    0

d. Appointment of W/S Seasonal Employee:

Motion was offered by Trustee Sutz, seconded by Trustee Crouse, to appoint Joseph Phillips as a seasonal laborer to do Infiltration & Inflow (I&I) work with the Water/Sewer Department May 5, 2014 – October 31, 2014 at \$12.00 per hour.

**ADOPTED**      AYES    5            Queenan, Crouse, Egan, Flood, Sutz  
                     NOES    0

e. Change Meeting Date – May 22 to May 29, 2014:

Motion was offered by Trustee Flood, seconded by Trustee Egan, to change the May 22, 2014 meeting date to May 29, 2014. This change of date was requested by the Village Clerk so that as many invoices as possible could be paid in the current fiscal year.

**ADOPTED**      AYES    5            Queenan, Crouse, Egan, Flood, Sutz  
                     NOES    0

f. Eagle Scout Recognition:

Mayor Queenan announced that Robert Vincent Lutz will be receiving the rank of Eagle Scout from the Boy Scouts of America at a court of honor ceremony on May 3, 2014. Robert's project was to renovate the entrance to Village Hall by removing damaged bushes and creating a siting area with benches. The Board members congratulated Robert on his achievement.

g. Acceptance of Slate of Officers – Fire Department:

Motion was offered by Trustee Egan, seconded by Trustee Sutz, to accept the following slate of Fire Chief's as voted upon by the Fire Department at their annual meeting held April 3, 2014: Pasquale Prozzillo, Fire Chief; Scott McClennan, First Assistant Fire Chief and John Jones, Second Assistant Chief.

**ADOPTED**      AYES    5            Queenan, Crouse, Egan, Flood, Sutz

NOES 0

The Board was also notified of the officers elected to each company. However, no notification was given as to who was elected to the other positions in the Department other than the Chiefs.

h. Fire Department Equipment Requisition:

Motion was offered by Trustee Egan, seconded by Trustee Flood, to approve Fire Department Equipment Requisition 2014-09 totaling approximately \$865.52 for the purchase of helmets to replace outdated gear.

**ADOPTED** AYES 5 Queenan, Crouse, Egan, Flood, Sutz  
NOES 0

i. Fire Department Membership – Change in Status:

Motion was offered by Trustee Crouse, seconded by Trustee Flood, to accept the resignation received from Margaret Kling from the Highland Mills Fire Company effective immediately.

**ADOPTED** AYES 5 Queenan, Crouse, Egan, Flood, Sutz  
NOES 0

**III. Old Business:** *There was no old business to discuss.*

**IV. New Business:**

a. Schedule Public Hearing – FY-2015 OC Community Development:

Motion was offered by Trustee Sutz, seconded by Trustee Flood, to schedule a public hearing to be held April 24, 2014 at 7PM to entertain public suggestions for projects to be applied for funding through the 2015 Orange County Community Development Grant program.

**ADOPTED** AYES 5 Queenan, Crouse, Egan, Flood, Sutz  
NOES 0

b. Resolution – Establish Polling Place and Times of Election:

Motion was offered by Trustee Crouse, seconded by Trustee Sutz, to adopt the following resolution establishing the polling place and times for the Village's General Election:

**RESOLVED** that the Highland Mills Firehouse/Village Hall community room located at 455 Route 32, Highland Mills, New York is hereby established to be the polling place for all voting to be held for the 2014 Village General Election scheduled for June 17, 2014; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the polls for said Village General Election will open at Noon and close at 9:00PM.

**ADOPTED** AYES 5 Queenan, Crouse, Egan, Flood, Sutz  
NOES 0

EXTRA ITEM – Advertise for Upcoming Vacancies on Various Boards:

Motion was offered by Trustee Egan, seconded by Trustee Flood, to authorize the Village Clerk to advertise for upcoming vacancies on the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals with letters of interest due back by the close of business on May 2, 2014.

**ADOPTED** AYES 5 Queenan, Crouse, Egan, Flood, Sutz  
NOES 0

**V. Public Comment:**

Fred Ungerer stated that at a Village Board meeting held in March the Mayor spoke about a letter that the Board would be sending to the State supporting a casino in Woodbury. He has concerns

that the public has not been given enough information about the casinos and that the public information session that was held on April 1 did not provide an opportunity for the public to ask questions. He feels that submitting a letter is premature and noted that the Board has not stated their opinion publicly either. He is also concerned that if a letter is sent and the state approves the application but the public opinion is against it what would happen? Mayor Queenan stated the letter is for support of the casino not approving it. However, no letter has been sent and one will not be until the public is heard. He added that the Town Board would also need to send a letter in order for the state to entertain the application. The public will have an opportunity to speak about the issue but it will be at a special meeting, most likely held at the school. He stressed the Board will not take action until the public is given the opportunity to speak. Mr. Ungerer asked if a letter is submitted could it be withdrawn after the fact and Mayor Queenan stated once the letter is submitted the casino becomes a permitted use in the zoning and the applicant would need to appear before our Zoning and Planning Boards.

Donald Siebold asked for an explanation on what the OC Community Grant program is. Mayor Queenan explained that it is for funding for projects in the community. He noted some projects that were approved in the past (flooring at the Senior Center, sidewalks on Smith Clove Road). Trustee Crouse further explained the funds come from the federal government through HUD. The applications are based on the salary mean in the area being applied for. Mr. Siebold then asked whether absentee ballots are accepted for the election and he was told they were. He then asked how the hours that the election is held are determined and he was told the Board decides. Mr. Siebold reminded the Board that a proposition will be on the ballot to change the election date to November and he feels the hours to vote should be longer to accommodate those that will not be able to vote in the evening. Mayor Queenan stated the election has always been Noon to 9PM. Last year the Board did extend the hours and, based on turnout between 6AM and Noon, it was decided to not be cost effective.

Rod Suffern stated he is concerned about what the letter will say that is being sent to Albany and he is against it and against the casino. He believes the infrastructure of Woodbury is under siege. He also has concerns about how the casino will affect the improvements planned for the Route 32/6/17 corridor. He then noted there were "unsavory characters" that attended the casino informational session and that Woodbury has taken its fair share of growth in the County, especially since we do not get our fair share of the sales tax revenue. Mayor Queenan stated he agrees regarding the sales tax revenue and added that a letter has not been sent regarding the casinos. He stressed again that the public will be heard first before a decision is made.

Brenda Suffern stated she appreciates the Board listening to the concerns of the public. She is also against the casino and is concerned about the infrastructure and traffic. Mayor Queenan stressed for the record that the casino developers approached the Village Board, not the other way around.

Tracy Maggio stated she understands both sides of the argument regarding moving the election from June to November but feels that quality over quantity is important. She feels that individuals that vote in November are not fully informed about the candidates they are electing. She suggested the Village and Town investigate ways for voters to be able to cast their votes online. Clerk Potvin stated online voting would be great but New York State Election Law governs the manner in which elections are held.

#### **VI. Board Member/Department Comment:**

Trustee Sutz stated he is glad that individuals came to speak this evening and feels it is good to hear the opinions. He then wished all a happy Easter and Passover.

Trustee Crouse agreed with the comments made by Trustee Sutz. He then stated that he has been asked by members of public what the construction material is for in the Kohl's parking lot. He stated they are remodeling.

Trustee Flood urged motorists to drive slower since the weather will be nicer and more individuals will be walking alongside the roads.

Trustee Egan congratulated the three Fire Chief's on their re-election and thanked them, and all volunteer members, for their service to the community.

Mayor Queenan announced that April 12 at Central Valley Methodist Church the Lion's Club will be hosting their annual pancake breakfast. The breakfast is free and they are asking that individuals bring canned goods to donate to the food pantry. He also announced that May 31 is the annual Relay for Life benefit at the school from 10AM – 10PM.

**VII. Adjournment:**

With no further business to discuss or comments received, a motion was offered by Trustee Sutz, seconded by Trustee Crouse, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55PM.

<b>ADOPTED</b>	AYES	5	Queenan, Crouse, Egan, Flood, Sutz
	NOES	0	

Desiree Potvin, Village Clerk