

VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON, NEW YORK
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 17, 2009

A Regular Meeting was held by the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, February 17, 2009 at 8:10 p.m. in the Meeting Room, Municipal Building, 7 Maple Avenue.

PRESENT: Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr., Trustee Peter Swiderski, Trustee Jeremiah Quinlan, Trustee Danielle Goodman, Village Attorney Marianne Stecich, and Deputy Village Manager Susan Maggiotto.

ABSENT: Trustee Diggitt McLaughlin

CITIZENS: 80

Mayor Kinnally: Because of the size of this crowd we are going to ask the Fire Chief to give the instructions.

Chief Bannon: The exits are over here and over there. Follow me.

Mayor Kinnally: And the limitation on people in the room will be suspended for awhile tonight. I am amazed at the turnout tonight for the only resolution on the agenda, the award of the lawn maintenance contact.

We have administration of oaths of office. But we can only administer the oath of office if there is a vacancy in the Police Chief role and, indeed, there is. We have been blessed for many, many years to have the leadership of Chief Tom O'Sullivan in the Village. He is here with us this evening. He retired officially at midnight last night. I do not know if the wall is holding you up, or you are holding up the wall. His back is bothering him a bit. But certainly, his shoulders should be hurting him because he shouldered the burden of leadership of the department for the last five-plus years. I underscore the leadership because this department and this village have been blessed by his leadership and by the professionalism he has shown to us and to the men and women of the department.

When he became chief, he said to me, I really want to accomplish a number of things, but first and foremost I want the accreditation process to go forward. Aside from the fact that we have one of the finest forces in the county, the accreditation process is his claim to fame and he is quite proud of it. But more than that, the men and women of the department are proud of it. They have learned by example. He has shown that example. Chief, congratulations on your retirement. And a hearty thank you from all of us, God speed, and a very happy, healthy, and prosperous retirement. And a long one.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS OF OFFICE

Mayor Kinnally administered the oath of office to Chief of Police David Bloomer.

Police Chief Bloomer: Thank you for the confidence you have in me in giving me this position. Thank you for everybody being here today. I am honored to share the stage with Dave Dosin and Anthony Visalli. I think they will do a tremendous job. I want to thank Chief O'Sullivan, although I know that has just been done, for his six years of guidance and counsel and for the ease with which the transition has gone so far. I owe that to him. I do not want to thank individual people because I will forget somebody, but there is a great crowd here and I do appreciate it. Certainly, my parents are here. If you did not know who they were, they are the ones that have been handing out the fliers announcing this. I want to thank the people from the school. I have worked with them quite a bit. I am pleased to see staff and some students here. I appreciate the support. Judge McElroy, I also want to thank you for coming. It was an honor for me to learn from you. We worked together for a long time, and I appreciate it. And also all the former members of the department and current members of the department that have come. Thank you very much.

Mayor Kinnally administered the oath of office to Lieutenant David Dosin.

Lt. Dosin: There are enormous challenges ahead of us, and I am honored that I have been chosen to meet these challenges. And they will be met. I just want to thank everybody. I would like to thank the Board of Trustees. Hastings is a very special place to live, and we are going to make it a lot safer.

Mayor Kinnally administered the oath of office to Sergeant Anthony Visalli.

Sgt. Visalli: I just want to say thank you to everybody in the community for your continued support and positive feedback. It is always appreciated. It has been a pleasure serving you as a patrolman, and I look forward to serving you as a sergeant. Thank you very much.

Mayor Kinnally: There is going to be a reception following this downstairs. I want to point out some dignitaries: the police chief from Dobbs Ferry, Betsy Gilardi; former Village Justice Mike McElroy, former Acting Village Justice Louis Maggiotto. Justice Joe DiSalvo is in Arizona, and Acting Village Justice Jim DeVita is in Florida. Rabbi Eddie Schecter is here, and Father Matthew Fernan and Father Smythe from St. Matthew's. The fire chiefs are here. If I overlooked anybody, my apologies. It is truly a remarkable night, a happy night, for everybody.

The Village Board does the interviewing with the candidates, and we were blessed with a number of candidates who had impeccable credentials. Given the length of time it took us to make some decisions, it was a tough decision. But in the end, the Village comes out ahead because we had such a deep pool of talent. The Village is going to be served well with the leadership it has, and with the rank and file of the department. Thank you all for coming out and supporting everybody.

[Recess 8:20 p.m.]
[Resume 8:30 p.m.]

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Kinnally: Page 16. Peter says, I have no trouble removing the sidewalk. I think it is the crosswalk.

On MOTION of Trustee Goodman, SECONDED by Trustee Swiderski with a voice vote of all in favor, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 3, 2009 were approved as amended.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

On MOTION of Trustee Goodman, SECONDED by Trustee Swiderski with a voice vote of all in favor, the following Warrants were approved:

Multi-Fund No. 55-2008-09	\$123,126.44
Multi-Fund No. 56-2008-09	\$ 71,424.03
Multi-Fund No. 58-2008-09	\$ 250.00

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Gonder, 153 James Street: I want to remind you about Hillside Woods. It is a destination from the Aqueduct through Hillside to the Saw Mill River route. I know the Board has looked at various things, and you mention a lot about an environmental study, the type of materials being used for a walk. You could use the Parks and Recreation to do this. Should it be two feet wide, or four or six. The most important environmental study is the deer population. You have got to do something about the deer population. Ravensdale Park, Dan Rile Park, Uniontown Park, Pulver's Woods, Zinsser Park, and Draper Park and all the other parks are being destroyed by the deer population. You had Dr. Padawer give you a beautiful report.

Mr. Swiderski, several months ago, maybe two years ago, said, nobody wants to take care of Bambi. But Mama Doe you have to take care of because they are dangerous. You went through Padawer's report. You have got to get rid of 70%. The recommendation is 10 deer per square mile. We have over 100 deer in Hastings, maybe more. There is a solution, and the solution is, I am willing to give \$10 for every deer, up to 100, that are taken out one way or another; whether it is bow and arrow or shotgun or a 30-30 or a tranquilizer, and transported to Maine, where the deer are disappearing because of hunters. If you could get 50 people like me and, maybe more that are wealthier and can give you more than \$10 a deer, and you can get some money to take care of it so it would not cost Hastings anything. But we know Lyme disease, and the danger in automobile accidents. The Board will be changing shortly. You have to take this under consideration, and take care of it quickly and do something. Thank you very much.

15:09 AWARD OF BID - LAWN MAINTENANCE AND WATERING

Deputy Manager Maggiotto: We had three landscapers submit bids. One was slightly more than this, one was considerably more. This is a renewal of a contract for Ryan & Ryan. It is \$3,000 more per year than their last three-year contract. We have been very satisfied with their work, and are happy to have them back again.

On MOTION of Trustee Swiderski, **SECONDED** Trustee Goodman by the following Resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

RESOLVED that the Mayor and Board of Trustees award the bid for lawn maintenance and watering to Ryan & Ryan Landscaping, Inc., Dobbs Ferry, New York for a three-year period, March 1, 2009, to December 31, 2011, in the amount of \$66,000 per year, to be paid from the general fund.

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Trustee Peter Swiderski	X	
Trustee Jeremiah Quinlan	X	
Trustee Diggitt McLaughlin		Absent
Trustee Danielle Goodman	X	
Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr.	X	

VILLAGE MANAGER'S REPORT

Deputy Manager Maggiotto: I have no report tonight.

Mayor Kinnally: Mr. Frobel is on vacation.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS

1. Update on the Waterfront

Mayor Kinnally: Trustee Swiderski and I met with our environmental counsel, Mark Chertok, and his associate, Jen Coughlin, to go over a number of things on the waterfront, including ARCO and Tappan Terminal. We went over the items I had reported on over the past couple of meetings. Mr. Chertok is going to get back to us with certain information and timetables. He was going to reach out to ARCO, and I am hoping on March 3 to have an update on where things stand with the DEC, if there have been any changes since the last report, and a better idea of the timetable for both the work that is being proposed for the Anaconda site and the work that will be done on a pilot project on the Tappan Terminal site this spring and summer.

2. Update on the Comprehensive Plan

Trustee Quinlan: On Monday, February 23, they are going to have a kickoff meeting with the consultant at 7:30 at the Community Center. I strongly encourage everyone to come to the meeting. We are trying to generate some excitement for all the things the committee still has to do and for all the work they have done. This would be a good time to come out and see what they are doing. The CPC is gathering reports from the approximately 25 boards and commissions we have. Thank you, Susan, for sending us all those. I am sure that will be very helpful for the Comprehensive Plan.

3. Other

Trustee Goodman: I acknowledge receipt of an email from Kathy Sullivan, chair of the CPC committee., regarding budgetary requests for the next funding year for anticipated SEQRA review. I guess that will be considered with the budget?

Mayor Kinnally: Yes, that should go to Fran because it should be incorporated in the budget. Kathy, do you have anything?

Kathy Sullivan, Chair, Comprehensive Plan Committee: Thank you for that nice update, Jerry. I wanted to share some of the particulars of what we are trying to accomplish on Monday. Our consultant is setting up a tentative schedule of the public conversations we are going to have over the Comprehensive Plan. There is going to be an initial Village forum, which is scheduled; a topical workshop which will probably be held all day on a weekend; and then another Village forum, which would be a chance to talk over some of the preliminary findings. The other thing the consultant is going to do on Monday is hold what they call a SWOT with the Comprehensive Plan Committee, a discussion of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. This is going set the framework for a comparable conversation that happens with the community in the first Village forum.

Trustee Swiderski: About eight or nine months ago Paul Feiner convened a committee to seek some revisions to the Finneran Law, in part to allow construction of a particular project in Greenburgh called the tennis bubble which Paul Feiner would like to have open to non-unincorporated residents, and under the current Finneran Law would be prohibited. I and Herb Rosenberg, were two of the only members out of the villages. That group has come up with some proposals, which we have declined to participate in past a certain point because they do not address Village interests. We have told the group that they can refine their idea into a proposal the villages will look at, but that both the tenor of the discussion and their receptivity to Village concerns was such that we were not interested in participating in an active way. So we are passively waiting for a result to come out of this committee, and it will be distributed to all the villages for their input. Two of the villages have already weighed in preliminarily, Elmsford and Ardsley, but they are not pleased with the direction in which this effort is going. We will probably get a result out of the committee in the next few weeks, and I will present it to the Board at that point for comment.

The issue is a change to the law that has been on the books for 20 years: should it at least look forward another 20 years. It should not be attempting to patch the law to address one particular project. Its current form and format does that, and is restricted in ways that, frankly, are insulting to a number of the villages. We have stepped back from the negotiation.

ADJOURNMENT

On MOTION of Trustee Quinlan, SECONDED by Trustee Swiderski with a voice vote of all in favor, Mayor Kinnally adjourned the Regular Meeting at 8:45 p.m.