

VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON, NEW YORK
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
APRIL 4, 2000

An Organizational Meeting was held by the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, April 4, 2000 at 8:05 p.m. in the Meeting Room, Municipal Building, 7 Maple Avenue.

PRESENT: Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr., Trustee James B. Keaney, Trustee Elsa C. DeVita, Trustee Michael Holdstein, Trustee David Walrath, Trustee-elect Bruce Jennings, Village Manager Neil P. Hess, Deputy Village Attorney Marianne Stecich, and Village Clerk Susan Maggiotto.

CITIZENS: Twenty (20)

INVOCATION

Mayor Kinnally: I would ask Reverend James Smythe if he would lead us with the invocation.

TRUSTEE KEANEY FAREWELL

Mayor Kinnally: We will start this evening by bidding farewell to one of our colleagues, Jim Keaney, who has been on our Board for six years.

Trustee DeVita: I would like to personally thank you, Jim. I have known Jim for over 25 years; I have gotten to know him a lot better the last six when we spent a lot of late nights together as Boardmembers. The one word that comes to mind when I think of Jim is "genuine," and that is who he is. He is a really genuine person. He has set standards on this Board and his expectation is that we live up to those standards. He is very sincere with his compliments, and he is constructive in his criticisms. He is an honest person, a sincere person, and there is never a hidden agenda. And for that, I thank you very much, Jim, and we will miss you.

Trustee Holdstein: I do not know how to follow up on those words, which I thoroughly agree with. I am going to miss you, Jim. You have been a wonderful friend and confidante. We have had a lot of laughs together and a lot of serious discussion together. I think Jim has served this Village very well for not only the six years that he served as Trustee, but as head of the inauguration of our LWRP, overseeing the Planning Board, involved in affordable housing, and a whole host of other things. I am going to miss your wit, your humor, your insight, and your leadership on this Board. And I wish you well in everything for you and your family.

Trustee Walrath: Those are hard to add to, but I did want to say, Jim, I feel very honored to have had the chance to spend one year learning from you on the Board and I hope you will still be there because you have always provided wise counsel. The Village, as others have already said, owes you a great debt of gratitude. You have been a wonderful Trustee, and I am sure you will still continue to serve whenever anybody wants to consult with you. And I think I will, frequently.

Village Manager Hess: Jim and I have known each other quite a while, since the time we went out to the battleship Massachusetts and slept overnight with the Scouts about 15 or 20 years ago or so.

Trustee Keaney: It is as fresh in your mind as it is in mine.

Village Manager Hess: Because the cots they made during World War II were 5 feet 3. So we were a little cramped.

But Jim has been a wonderful leader on this Board, a legislative leader for sure in terms of his review of many Village issues over the years. A lot of people have talked about Jim, and I just want to thank Liz and the family who gave up quite a bit. It takes a lot out of the family to have a person on this Board. They put in an awful lot of time. So I want to thank Liz and the family for allowing Jim that time.

Deputy Village Attorney Stecich: I have worked for Jim for six years on this Board, and then a number of years before on the Planning Board. I am really going to miss working with you. I have always been impressed by your intelligence, your humor, your common sense, and your compassion. And I am also going to miss your poetry.

Mayor Kinnally: I say every year that this is a difficult evening because we inevitably say goodbye to somebody. This is difficult for me this evening. I have known Jim for as long as he has been in the Village. He bought my sister-in-law's house, and I believe we had the closing in my dining room.

Trustee Keaney: The memory is faulty, Mayor.

Mayor Kinnally: But I know you bought my sister-in-law's place. One out of two is not bad.

I got to know Jim after that. Liz may not appreciate this, but I think I am the one that talked Jim into getting involved in the first place. To me, the Village has prospered under Jim's

leadership. He has been just a wonderful person. I was thinking today, how do you define a number of things and how do you define public service. I would say Jim Keaney. He got into serving the Village not because he wanted to run for any particular office, but he had something to contribute. This is a very talented individual. People have talked about his wit and his humor. I say this as a compliment: he is not politically correct, and he is irreverent. And that carries an awful lot in the course of a meeting, and deliberations.

In the space of the last six years this Board has been faced with a number of tough decisions. Jim spoke out, not always in favor of what we were doing. But whatever he spoke out about it was well thought out, obviously well-articulated, and he brought not an agenda but his common sense, his decency, his compassion to the Board. He is just a class act, and Jim, it has been a delight and a pleasure to serve with you. I have been privileged and honored to do that.

The Village has something for you. We thought, What characterized what has happened in the Village in the name of progress over the last few years, and what you have done to define us and to keep us on the straight and narrow. Jim, all of us would like to present this library card catalogue to you for your contributions. Jim is technologically challenged at times. The plaque says: "Trustee James Keaney, 1994-2000. Leader, dedicated worker, and gentleman."

Trustee Keaney: Well, it is my turn now to just say nice things about other people. I thank you all, first of all, for the very witty idea.

I wanted to thank the mayor first of all. He has always been generous with his time and his experience to me. I know that sometimes it takes a lot of doing to build a consensus, which I know is always your aim to do. You do that, and I am thankful for it. I thank my fellow Boardmembers, Elsa, David, and Michael. There has been a real spirit of cooperation on this Board, and you should be applauded for that. I have been fortunate on other boards with some fine public servants: Sue Smith, Sue Winn, Anthony Gagliardi, Pam Barnes--all fine people--and I have learned a lot from them; and the entire Village staff--Manager Hess, Deputy Manager Maggiotto, and not to forget our Village Clerk, Mary Callas, who is retired, and all the staff in the Village Hall. They have always been 100% professional, very helpful to me, and they really serve this Village well day in and day out. You do not see them, but they are there and they are making us all look good.

That is all I have to say, except to thank my number one supporter, my wife, Liz, in the audience and all my other friends here who have come to wish me well. Thank you very much.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

Mayor Kinnally administered the oath of office to Village Justice Michael McElroy, Trustee Michael Holdstein, and Trustee Bruce Jennings.

Mayor Kinnally: Welcome aboard, Bruce.

Trustee Jennings: May I add my word of gratitude to Jim Keaney. I would like to share in the remarks the Board made earlier about his service to the Village.

29:00 MAYORAL AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPOINTMENTS

On MOTION of Trustee Holdstein, SECONDED by Trustee DeVita, the following resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

A. ACTING VILLAGE JUSTICE

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint **Joseph A. DiSalvo** Acting Village Justice for a term of one (1) official year.

B. DEPUTY VILLAGE CLERK

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint **Linda M. Knies** Deputy Village Clerk for a term of one (1) official year.

C. VILLAGE ATTORNEY AND VILLAGE PROSECUTOR

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees award a contract for services to **Murphy Stecich & Powell, LLP** as Village Attorney and Village Prosecutor for a term of one (1) official year.

D. HISTORIAN

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint **Mary Allison** Historian for a term of one (1) official year.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	AYE	NAY
Trustee Elsa C. DeVita	X	
Trustee Michael Holdstein	X	
Trustee David Walrath	X	
Trustee Bruce Jennings	X	
Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr.	X	

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

Village Justice McElroy administered the oath of office to Acting Village Justice Joseph A. DiSalvo.

30:00 MAYORAL AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES DESIGNATIONS

On MOTION of Trustee DeVita, SECONDED by Trustee Walrath, the following Resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

A. OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees designate *The Rivertowns Enterprise* and *The Journal News* as official newspapers for a term of one (1) official year.

B. OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees designate the **Bank of New York, Citibank, N.A., Chase Manhattan Bank, Hudson Valley National Bank, and MBIA-Class** as official depositories for a term of one (1) official year.

C. VILLAGE AUDITORS

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees designate the firm of **Bennett Kielson Storch Yablon & DeSantis LLP** as Village Auditors for a term of one (1) official year, to be compensated on a fee or contract basis.

D. POLICE AND FIRE SURGEONS

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint **Dorian Tergis, M.D.** and **Charles Edelman, M.D.** as Police and Fire Surgeons for a term of one (1) official year each, to be compensated on a fee or contract basis.

E. REGULAR MEETING DAYS

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees designate the **first and third Tuesday of each month** as the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Days.

F. AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN CHECKS AND INSTRUMENTS

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees authorize the following to sign checks and instruments of the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson, when countersigned by the Mayor or one (1) Trustee:

Neil P. Hess, Susan Maggiotto, and Linda M. Knies

except individual payroll checks which shall require two (2) of the following signatures:

Neil P. Hess, Susan Maggiotto, Linda M. Knies

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYE

NAY

Trustee Elsa C. DeVita
Trustee Michael Holdstein
Trustee David Walrath
Trustee Bruce Jennings
Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr.

X
X
X
X
X

31:00 EXECUTIVE SESSION POLICY

On MOTION of Trustee Holdstein, SECONDED by Trustee Walrath, the following resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve the Executive Session Policy as attached.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	AYE	NAY
Trustee Elsa C. DeVita	X	
Trustee Michael Holdstein	X	
Trustee David Walrath	X	
Trustee Bruce Jennings	X	
Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr.	X	

32:00 RULES OF PROCEDURE

On MOTION of Trustee Walrath, SECONDED by Trustee DeVita, the following resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve the Rules of Procedure as attached.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	AYE	NAY
Trustee Elsa C. DeVita	X	
Trustee Michael Holdstein	X	
Trustee David Walrath	X	
Trustee Bruce Jennings	X	
Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr.	X	

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Kinnally: The liaison appointments for the Trustees have not been finalized, so we will put that off until another meeting.

APPOINTMENT - LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mayor Kinnally reappointed Amanda Zeitlin for a full term to the Library Board of Trustees.

ADJOURNMENT

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On MOTION of Trustee DeVita, SECONDED by Trustee Holdstein with a voice vote of all in favor, Mayor Kinnally adjourned the Organizational Meeting at 8:35 p.m.