

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on 4/8/13 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room of Village Hall.

Present: Mayor John E. Barton
Trustee Thomas VanAernem
Trustee Michael Horrigan
Trustee James Gallagher, Jr.
Trustee Robert Cook
Attorney Stefanie DiLallo Bitter

At 6:00 p.m. time was set aside for a public hearing on the 2013-2014 Village Budget.

The Mayor opened the meeting to public comment.

Ray O'Brien, 38 Lafayette Street inquired if there would be any money left over from the current budget and if so would it be applied to the upcoming budget.

Clerk Brayman advised that the \$580,000 of appropriated fund balance will be applied to the upcoming 2013-2014 Village Budget. Mr. O'Brien noted that many of the figures are close to previous years.

Upon motion made by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Horrigan and carried it is

RESOLVED, that the 2013-2014 Village Budget be adopted in the amount of \$4,810,487 which is a total of \$3,771,487 General Fund and \$1,039,000 Water Fund with a tax rate of 7.46 per \$1,000 assessments and a tax levy of \$2,341,629.

Roll Call:	Trustee Horrigan	Aye
	Trustee VanAernem	Aye
	Trustee Cook	Aye
	Trustee Gallagher	Aye
	Mayor Barton	Aye

The Mayor opened the meeting up to General Public Comment.

Peter Leonbruno owns an apartment house at 165 Main Street and has a parking situation he would like the Board to review and consider addressing. He provided the Board with a sketch of the parking at his property. He feels limiting parking in front of his property and across the street from the Post Office to 20 minutes will resolve his problems. He does not have issue with the Post Office customers, but the tenants on the other side of the corner are parking in front of his property 24/7. He was there today and couldn't get his truck out and had to ask them to move so that he could get out. The Mayor advised that he discussed the area/concern with Superintendent Fiorillo who advised that NYS DOT will be installing a curb in the area as well as a 12 foot driveway (approximately) entrance. They may work with Mr. Leonbruno as to where the driveway will be located but there will be a curb installed in that area once the project is completed.

Chief Diamond indicated that it is tough to enforce any type of parking restrictions because there is no curb in the area in question. The Chief advised that he will ask his patrols to talk with the tenants who are parking there 24/7. The Mayor advised that he would talk to Superintendent Fiorillo to determine if he has any suggestions in terms of resolving the parking issue.

Jim Burns, Derby Street advised that he understands what Mr. Leonbruno is talking about. He suggests no parking 20 feet from the corner. This would eliminate a safety issue as well as Mr. Leonbruno's problem.

Upon motion made by Trustee Horrigan, seconded by Trustee Gallagher and carried the minutes of the regular meeting of 3/11/13 and the Special Meeting of 3/24/13 were approved as read.

Upon motion made by Trustee VanAernem, seconded by Trustee Cook and carried it is

RESOLVED, that Michelle Richardson be appointed as an alternate member of the Planning Board to fill the vacant position due to Lynn Leland's appointment as a regular member of the Planning Board.

Michelle was in attendance – the Board thanked her for her interest and welcomed her aboard.

The Mayor reported that Chambers Advisory Group has met with Clerk Brayman and inquired as to whether the Village is interested in having their firm analyze the Gross Receipt/Utility Gross Receipt Taxes. A discussion ensued as to the details of the terms of their agreement. It was agreed that we check the company's references and the required retainer guarantee, negotiate the retainer and the 50% compensation.

Upon motion made by Trustee Horrigan, seconded by Trustee Cook and carried it is

RESOLVED, that the new slate of officers of the Hudson Falls Volunteer Fire department be approved as submitted.

Line Officers

Chief: Michael Fitzgerald S. Fitzgerald
1st Assistant: Carl Knapp
2nd Assistant: Arthur Porlier
3rd Assistant: John Santa Croce

Company Grade Officers

1st Captain: Teddy Bigelow
2nd Captain: Michael R. Fitzgerald
1st Lieutenant: Jarrod Barton
2nd Lieutenant: Alex Nikas
3rd Lieutenant: Tim Webster
4th Lieutenant: Mick O'Dalaigh
Fire Police Capt. Ed D'Arton

Upon motion made by Trustee Gallagher, seconded by Trustee VanAernem and carried the Board accepted the resignation of Patrolman Paul Trottier effective 4/8/13.

Upon motion made by Trustee VanAernem, seconded by Trustee Gallagher and carried it is

RESOLVED, that the request of Chief Diamond to appoint of Christopher Davis-Flynn of Greenwich, New York as Part-Time Police Officers at a rate of \$15.00/ hours effective immediately be approved.

Upon motion made by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Horrigan and carried it is

RESOLVED, that the request of Chief Diamond to appoint of Ryan Woodward, Hudson Falls NY and Jacob Kearns, Hudson Falls, New York as Part-Time Police Officers for the purpose of sponsorship in the NYS Basic Academy through SUNY Canton be approved.

Upon motion made by Trustee Gallagher, seconded by Trustee Cook and carried it is

RESOLVED, that Shut-Off Notices be sent to the attached list of delinquent out of district water customers.

The Mayor reported the upcoming grant opportunities for the Board's consideration – NYS Main Street Program, CDBG Water Main Replacement and Single Family Housing Rehab.

Trustee Cook advised that he has been meeting regularly with Jonathan Newell over the last several weeks discussing his plans and visions for the future. His group has received a grant in the amount of \$2,500 and will be using additional funds to conduct four (4) concerts to be held at what is known as River Street Park. Our DPW, and many volunteer organizations have done a tremendous amount of work to the park getting it ready. Research was done on the history of the property – Grace Paris donated the property to the village to be used for recreation. Jonathan would like to rename the park Grace Park. There are plans to build a performance stage. Part of the vision is to have a festival atmosphere during these concerts, allowing a minimum number of vendors to participate. The current Code does not define what constitutes a festival and what limits we need to place on it. In terms of vendors, our Code does allow for a 6 month permit but not a one day or weekend permit. It was found that communities which conduct outdoor festivals generally have something in the Code to address them. Jonathan has other programs planned for the park other than the 4 concerns, if all of the programs Jonathan has planned come to fruition, it will be incredible for the community. Moving forward, this could be a common occurrence. He would suggest that the Board look at draft language for outdoor festivals and create a fee schedule for 24 hour or weekend vendors. The Mayor asked Trustee Cook to put something together for the Board to review. Trustee Cook asked that the Board move on these issues quickly, because Jonathan plans to have a concert in June.

A lengthy discussion was conducted regarding the emergency repairs to the fire truck.

Upon motion made by Trustee VanAernem, seconded by Trustee Gallagher and carried it is

RESOLVED, that the Mayor be authorized to discuss the emergency repairs with Tyler with regards to negotiating a better price for the additional repairs, as well as an extended warranty, it is further

RESOLVED, that the necessary budget appropriation be approved based on the discussions the Mayor has with Tyler with regards to the additional emergency repair to the fire truck.

Upon motion made by Trustee Horrigan, seconded by Trustee Cook and carried it is

RESOLVED, that the following budget appropriations be approved as submitted:

	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>	
C-599 Appropriated FB	4,000		[to use Program Income to pay Grant Application Fee for Art Place
C-8668.4.P10 Fed. Program Income		4,000	Program and Project Implementation of NY Restore Grant]

Upon motion made by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee VanAernem and carried, the following monthly reports were approved as read: Police Department, submitted by Chief Diamond; Justice Court submitted by Justice Matthew Mabb; Code Enforcement submitted by Francis Cortese; and Fire Department, submitted by Chief Michael Fitzgerald.

Upon motion made by Trustee Horrigan, seconded by Trustee Gallagher and carried the following abstracts were audited and ordered for payment:

General Fund	Check Nos.	27108 - 27168
Water Fund (General Fund)	Check Nos.	27108 - 27168
Water Fund	Check Nos.	5381 - 5387
Drug Fund	Check Nos.	1287
AHC Grant Fund	Check No.	1026 - 1027
Home Grant Fund	Check Nos.	1288
Federal PI	Check Nos.	186 - 187
Trust Fund	Check Nos.	5988 - 6005
Payroll Fund	Check Nos.	27613 - 27632

The Mayor asked the Board for their comments.

Trustee Cook advised that prior to the meeting he was watching the news where NYS Comptroller DiNapoli was talking about the financial strengths of local government. His message was simple – moving forward municipalities are not going to see a lot more coming from the State. Tough economic times put a strain on everyone’s budget. Part of his message was to encourage local municipalities to tighten their belts. Trustee Cook reported that he is very proud of the budget the Village Board has put together. Our revenues are down from last year, and the costs and expenses are up and yet the Village Board, with the help of department heads, managed to actually shrink the Village Budget. What is going out to the taxpayers is essentially no tax increase which he feels is commendable. He would like to call the Comptroller’s Office and tell them they should take a look at how one municipality found a way to go out with a budget that meets our community’s needs but doesn’t burden the taxpayers.

Dr. Potvin, Pearl Street inquired as to whether parking will be an issue for the plans at River Street Park. Trustee Cook advised that there are some concerns which need to be ironed out but feels that addressing the parking will be a good problem to have. Trustee VanAernem concurred. The Mayor reported that the Village has made suggestions and there are discussions ongoing to address these types of concerns.

Mike Willig, 43 Elm Street feels that the visions and plans Jonathan Newell has are great for the community. He would like to address the River Street corridor, suggested a volunteer effort to address keeping the

River Street corridor clean. He would volunteer his time. Trustee VanAernem advised that he would look into how we could coordinate a volunteer crew to clean-up the River Street corridor and maybe other areas that need to be addressed throughout the Village. A discussion ensued. It was agreed that the Board will look into how this could be addressed.

The Mayor asked for general public comment.

Upon motion made by Trustee Gallagher, seconded by Trustee Cook and carried the meeting adjourned to executive session for the purpose of discussing current collective bargaining negotiations and to discuss the employment history of a particular unnamed employee.

Upon motion made by Trustee Horrigan, seconded by Trustee Gallagher and carried executive session was closed.

No action was taken.

Upon motion made by Trustee VanAernem, seconded by Trustee Horrigan and there being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Ellen M. Brayman, Clerk/Treasurer