

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on May 9, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room of Village Hall.

Present: Mayor John Barton
Trustee Michael Horrigan
Trustee Daniel Hogan
Trustee James Gallagher, Jr.
Trustee Jeffrey Gaulin
Attorney William Nikas

Mayor Barton began by requesting approval for an omnibus resolution for the annual resolutions.

Upon motion made by Trustee Horrigan, seconded by Trustee Gallagher and unanimously carried it is;

RESOLVED, that unless otherwise scheduled, the monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hudson Falls for the current official year will be held on the second Monday of each Month at 6:00 p.m. with the exception of the months of June, July and August, whereby the meetings will be held at 4:00 p.m.

RESOLVED, that the Post Star published in Glens Falls, New York be and hereby is designated as the official newspaper of the Village of Hudson Falls for the ensuing official year.

RESOLVED, that the Village enter into a contract with the Senior Center of the Kingsbury and Fort Edward Areas, Inc., whereby the Village of Hudson Falls will pay the Senior Center of Kingsbury and Fort Edward Areas, Inc., the sum set forth in the annual budget in exchange of said senior citizens for travel.

RESOLVED, that the Village enter into a contract with the Hudson Falls Free Library Association, whereby the Village of Hudson Falls will pay said Free Library Association, the sum set forth in the annual budget in exchange of said Library making its facilities available to the residents of the Village.

RESOLVED, that David Foote be appointed on an independent contractor basis as the Village's Public Health Officer for the current official year at an annual fee of \$1,800 as set forth in the budget, payable in twelve equal installments and that the Village enter into a contract with David Foote for said Public Health Officer duties.

RESOLVED, that Todd Lemery be appointed webmaster of the Village website for the current official year at an annual fee of \$3,000 as set forth in the budget, payable in two equal installments and that the Village enter into a contract with Toddy Lemery for said webmaster duties.

RESOLVED, that the Mayor or Deputy Mayor and the Village Clerk-Treasurer or Deputy Clerk be and hereby are authorized and directed to sign all checks drawn against funds of the Village of Hudson Falls, two signatures of the above designees being required.

RESOLVED, that Glens Falls National Bank & Trust Co. be and it hereby is designated a depository of this corporation with authority to accept at any time for the credit of this corporation deposits by whomsoever made of funds in whatever form and in whatever manner endorsed, and said Bank be and it hereby is authorized and directed to pay or otherwise honor or apply without inquiry and without regard to the application of the proceeds thereof, checks, drafts, notes, bills of exchange, acceptances, undertakings and other instruments or orders for payment, transfer or withdrawal of money on deposit with it to the credit of this corporation, for whatever purpose and to whomsoever payable, including those drawn or endorsed to the individual order of a signer, when signed, accepted, or endorsed by any two signatures of the following named person, or persons from time to time holding the following offices of this corporation: John E. Barton, Mayor; Michael Horrigan, Deputy Mayor; Cassandra A. Allen, Village Clerk-Treasurer; Penny J. Ward, Deputy Clerk; and Fawn Brown, Deputy Treasurer.

RESOLVED, that Penny J. Ward be appointed Deputy Clerk for a one (1) year term, at salary set forth in the budget payable in bi-weekly installments.

RESOLVED, that Fawn Brown be appointed Deputy Treasurer for a one (1) year term, at salary set forth in the budget payable in bi-weekly installments.

RESOLVED, that William L. Nikas, Esq. be appointed as Village Attorney at an annual fee of \$36,000.00 payable in twelve monthly installments for general legal services. Out-of-pocket expenses for these matters, if necessary, will be reimbursed by the Village (long distance phone calls, legal publications, postage, travel expenses, photocopies, court filing fees, witness fees and stenographer fees).

RESOLVED, that Elena DeFio Kean, Esq. be appointed as Special Counsel for labor matters and municipal bonding and financing matters at a fee of \$175.00 per hour.

RESOLVED, that all present employees of the Village whose appointments are not made for a definite specified period of time, are to continue their duties to serve at the pleasure of the Mayor with approval of the Board of Trustees.

RESOLVED, that the benefits of Section 18 of the Public Officer's Law are conferred upon the Village's employees, as that term is defined in Section 18 (1) (b) of the Public Officer's Law, and the Village shall be held responsible for the costs incurred under Section 18 of the Public Officer's Law be hereby adopted.

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined to authorize payment in advance of audit of claims for public utility services, postage, freight and express charges; and

WHEREAS, all such claims must be presented at the next regular meeting for audit; and

WHEREAS, the claimant and the officer incurring or approving the claim are jointly and severally liable for any amount the Board of Trustees disallows.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees authorizes payment in advance of audit of claims for public utility services, postage, freight and express charges. All such claims must be presented at the next regular meeting for audit and the claimant and the officer incurring or approving the claims are jointly and severally liable for any amount the Board of Trustees disallows and that the resolution is effective immediately.

SEMINAR/CONFERENCE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Section 77-b of the General Municipal Law states that the Board of Trustees, by a majority vote, may authorize any of its members or any officer or employee or the chief or assistant chief of its fire department or other person who has been elected pursuant to the law to a public office of a municipality for which the term of office has not commenced to attend a conference; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 77-b of the General Municipal Law authorization by the Board of Trustees must be provided by resolution prior to such attendance or the Board of Trustees may delegate the power to authorize attendance at such conference to any executive officer; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees have concerns with providing authorization at a public meeting details of such conferences and seminars which identifies when Village Board members and employees will be out of town and wish to proceed in a different manner relative to providing such authorization in the future.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that for the 2022-2023 Village Year the Village of Hudson Falls Board of Trustees hereby authorizes attendance and reimbursement for travel and fee for the following:

1. Village Board of Trustees, Village Clerk-Treasurer and Code Enforcement Officer, to attend conferences and seminars offered by NYCOM, the Association of Towns, NYMIR, NEMRC, GFOA and all NYS, County and local agencies.
2. Village Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals Members to attend all NYS, County and local agencies, NYCOM, NYMIR, Association of Towns and Attorney's Offices.
3. Village Superintendent of DPW and Water to attend all seminars/conferences offered by NYCOM, the Association of Towns, NYMIR, GFPA, the Adirondack Water Works Seminar, Washington County Safety Courses, New York Rural Water Association, Storm Water Conferences, American Water Works Association, Cornell Cooperative Extension; Dig Safety Training and all NYS, County and local agencies.
4. Chief Scott Gillis and members of the Police Department to attend

conferences and seminars offered by:

- A. Dept of Criminal Justice Services
- B. NYS Chiefs Association
- C. Northeast Chiefs Association
- D. NY State Police
- E. NYS Commission of Correction
- F. NYS Governors Traffic Safety Conference
- G. Empire State Traffic Safety Conference
- H. NYS Dept of Homeland Security
- I. Federal Dept of Homeland Security/Federal Agencies
- J. Multi-jurisdictional Counter-drug Task Force
- K. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Program
- L. MAGLOCLEAN
- M. NYMIR
- N. Reid Associates
- O. Merlin Consultants
- P. Northeast Counter-drug Training Center
- Q. Taser
- R. Public Agency Training Council
- S. All Police Agencies
- T. All NYS and County Agencies

- 5. Code Enforcement to attend all seminars/conferences Northern Adirondack Code Enforcement Officials, NYCOM, the Association of Towns, NYMIR, GFOA and all NYS, County and local Agencies.
- 6. Fire Department officials and members to attend all seminars/conferences/training offered by all NYS, County and local agencies, NYCOM, and NYMIR.

FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Trustees will still be provided notice of all seminars and conference requests; and

FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Village Board of Trustees hereby delegates the power to authorize Village Officers and Employees to attend such conference that are not mentioned in this resolution to the Village Clerk/Treasurer Cassandra Allen.

Moving on to old business, with regard to Traffic Violations Bureau, Mayor Barton would like to remove that from the agenda going forward. The issue with reporting has now been adjusted and we have been receiving notification from the State Comptroller and then shortly after that we are paid by the Town of Kingsbury.

Upon motion made by Trustee Gaulin, seconded by Trustee Hogan and carried, the minutes of the regular meeting of April 12, 2022, were approved as submitted.

Upon motion made by Trustee Hogan, seconded by Trustee Gallagher and unanimously carried it is;

RESOLVED, a Special Meeting to be scheduled for May 27, 2022, at 12:00 PM to pay the year end vouchers.

Mayor Barton made it known that the Annual Water Report will be available on the Village Website at www.villageofhudsonfalls.com upon approval of New York State Department of Health.

Also, the Annual Stormwater Report will be available on or before May 31st on the Village Website at www.villageofhudsonfalls.com

Upon motion made by Trustee Hogan, seconded by Trustee Gallagher and unanimously carried it is;

RESOLVED, to authorize proper Budget Appropriations:

	Debit	Credit
A-8620.4.000 Grant Applications	\$16,000	
A-3120.1.000 Police		\$16,000
A-1990.4.000 Contingency	\$5,000	
A-3120.4.000 Police		\$5,000
A-1990.4.000 Contingency	\$3,000	
A-1620.4.000 Buildings		\$3,000

Upon motion made by Trustee Hogan, seconded by Trustee Gaulin and unanimously carried it is;

RESOLVED, to approve Chazen/Labela Group to submit for two (2) Consolidated Funding Applications (CFA).

Trustee Horrigan, added to be clear this application is to apply for possible infasturcture funding, or main street grants that may be available. We are authorizing the application process to begin. A brief discussion ensued.

Mayor Barton informs the board that we have recently had someone inquire about the office space that is available for lease at Village Hall. Attorney Nikas received the inquiry. Jim Cramer from Granville, he is a salesperson for a Slate Company and currently works out of Atlanta. After a brief meeting with him, we were able to discuss his needs as far as Wi-Fi, space, and possible rent amount of \$500 monthly. Approval for a lease agreement need to be discussed with his company. If the board is inclined to approve the potential agreement, we will then move forward when we are able to. Mayor Barton agrees to approve it as a month-to-month contingent upon the approval of his company. Trustee Horrigan shares brief history of the vacant office space that is available.

Upon motion made by Trustee Gaulin, seconded by Trustee Gallagher, and unanimously carried it is;

RESOLVED, to approve the Village to begin the process of potentially entering a lease agreement with Jim Cramer, in the available office space at Village Hall at the rate of \$500 monthly, contingent upon the lessee’s company approval.

Upon motion made by Trustee Gaulin, seconded by Trustee Horrigan and unanimously carried it is;

RESOLVED, the following monthly reports were approved as read:

- Police Department, submitted by Chief Gillis
- Fire Department, submitted by Chief Thomas Bover

Upon motion made by Trustee Hogan, seconded by Trustee Gaulin and unanimously carried, the following abstracts were audited and ordered for payment:

General Fund	Check Nos. 34828 - 34891
Water	Check Nos. 5869 - 5875
Capital Project	Check Nos. 1040
Trust	Check Nos. 7768 - 7780
Payroll	Check Nos. 30847 - 30857

Mayor Comments:

Mayor Barton would like to begin by thanking and recognizing the Fire Department for a job well done at 32 LaBarge Street. That was a large fire that effected the two surrounding houses that the department had to tend to.

Board Comments:

Trustee Horrigan would like to share updates on Derby. Saratoga sod will be around tomorrow to lay the grass. The expect to be finished by Thursday. The landscaping and tres will also begin tomorrow. The Irrigation system is up and running. By weeks end, the basketball and pickleball courts will be painted. The fencing will also be completed, with eh exception of the far end of the park near the parking lot. The Club house, electrical has started. Catalfamo construction will be adding a third bathroom for us, a handicap accessible bathroom. Tim Burk has ordered windows for us, and they are in soon to be installed. O'Leary overhead doors, the door is in and is now being painted. The walls and ceiling are painted on the inside. Bergman is giving us the final draft of the cabinets. We are still waiting on the two bids for painting the exterior. It is going to be white with black trim. Jack Hall is donating all the fixtures and labor for the project for the bathrooms. Mahoney notifier has donated the cameras, wires, and recorder to set up surveillance. ASCO electric is donating all of the electrical and Leviton is donating all of the outlets to the project along with outdoor motion lights, Rozell is doing the install. We are grateful for companies that have come through to donate what they are able to the project. Trustee Horrigan emphasized on the importance of staying off the grass until it is ready.

Mayor Barton added that the water to the irrigation system is coming from a well not from village water. He also added that he is working with the Police Department and Chief Gillis to increase patrol at Derby Park.

Trustee Hogan would like to thank the Village residents that assisted in the clean up of Main Street. While out, he saw a bunch of people out cleaning up.

The Mayor opens the meeting up to the public, he would like to set a limit of discussion to five minutes.

Diane Santacroce, is inquiring about a supervisor at Derby at opening. Trustee Horrigan informs her that we are looking in having someone down there mainly for maintenance and cleanliness. For events, cleanup will be up to who receives the permit. A brief discussion ensued.

Diane Santacroce would also like to confirm that Hope (Enforcement Officer) will continue to be appointed. The board has affirmed that she is going to continue on, she is just a different type of appointment that does not fall inline with the ones that were currently listed at the beginning of the meeting. She would also like to request more updates on the Village website of what is going on in. She was recently looking up Zoning and there is no one listed. An example given is the turf/sod that is being laid out, that we should put something up about that.

Agnes Kiernen, thanks the board for recognizing the clean up on Main Street. Her group would like to inquire about a free clean up day. Providing free or subsidized for larger items for residents to dispose of. Mayor Barton informs her that we tried to do that years ago, and there is no interest in bringing that back. Kiernen comments that other towns do, why can't we again consider the option. A member from the public added that it would come out of our tax dollars. Trustee Horrigan informed her that it was extremely costly when the option was offered. We ended up having residents from the surrounding towns and villages who were bringing their trash and dumping it throughout the village knowing that the Village was paying for the disposal. Mayor Barton added that we did not feel as though it was a good use of Village tax dollars to dispose of personal accumulated trash. Keirnen disagrees.

Kiernen would also like to talk about the drug activity on Cherry Street. She has been talking with the Police Department, almost everyday, but it seems as though it has only got worst. She is also having Code issues, but they are on top of things but she is being harassed along with other neighbors. The Police Department is telling her that they can not do anything. She has called Carrie Woerner's office and spoke with her assistant who told her that the Police are being resistant because they are angry that the people are just going back out on the street. She is requesting cops to not just drive by once in a while, that it should happen more often. She has taken pictures of the people driving by or the people on the street. She expresses her concern with her neighbor and the ongoing disagreement that she is having in detail. Trustee Horrigan asks if she reported the harassment. She says that she has called to complain and allowed the Police Department to download the pictures and videos thar she has on her phone, but they were unable to clearly see the time and date on what was submitted. Trustee Horrigan informs her that drug cases are not discussed publicly but they are aware. Mayor Barton adds that New York State does not make it easy. Trustee Gaulin, former Detective adds that prior to retirement, he was also involved in that case and the new laws in New York State has made it challenging and for Carrie Woerner's office to say that to you is unfair to our Police Department. What the department is doing behind the scenes cannot be disclosed. A brief discussion ensued.

Kiernen would like to meet with the Chief of Police. Trustee Gaulin recommended that she can certainly reach out to him to schedule something. She said she has tried to schedule Coffee with a Cop and that at this time they are too busy. Trustee Gaulin reminded her how busy the department is and that they may get tied up for hours on end in a more complex situation. There are about two guys working on a shift handling all the calls and that is a lot. Keirnen would like to propose that we increase taxes to spread the funds out and to hire more officers or to get a police dog. The boards recommend to her that she talks with Chief Gillis.

Jean Waters, of Lower Feeder Street, begins to inform the Board that she has been to the Board Meeting before about her property flooding and every year it gets worst. She lets them know that in the past it has been a bit saturated in parts of her yard and then it dries up. Now, it starts at the road and goes about 300 feet back and 50 feet wide and about a foot deep. It did begin to be absorbed this year, but then it all came back. She has a sub pump but does not have a hose to pump it out but if she did, she would've pumped it into the canal. She expresses her frustration with the situation and the lack of communication when she has requested assistance. Mayor Barton mentions that last time went through this Attorney Nikas provided you with advise. Attorney Nikas, says the last time her son-in-law had fikled some paperwork with he state., and he has not received any copies. Waters says she has submitted the paperwork and has not received any notifications or calls back. She has spoken with a women named Lauren Fahay, she told her a couple weeks ago is not the property on her property, it is the source of the water. If you were to walk in the back, you can see the water pouring down through from the top of the hill. Attorney Nikas says he has not heard from her son-in-law in well over a year, the Village does not have authority but is willing to help. Attorney Nikas adds, that if he needs support from the village, please have him call him with an update on where it was left almost two years ago and they will coordinate a strategy in attempt to assist her. Water also would like to ask if they are able to put a culvert into the road who would have to pay for that? Attorney Nikas informs her that it is a state road and the Village tax payers can not pay for a personal solution to private property. It would be her responsibility to pay for it if required. Attorney Nikas would like to see if there are other solutions before Waters becomes concerned with the cost. A brief discussion ensued.

Agnes Kiernen, an article in the Post-Star quoted Carrie Woerner saying that she agrees to sit with the Village to work on grants for revitalization. She would like to know if she has done that. Mayor Barton lets her know that we have grant writers that handle the grants for the village and are very successful with having the best interest for the village in mind. Kiernen asks that Woerner's office agreed to meet, and the Village did not. Mayor Barton lets her know we have not received a request for a meeting.

The next meeting will be held on June 13, 2022, at 4:00 pm for June, July, and August.

Upon motion made by Trustee Gallagher, seconded by Trustee Gaulin and there being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Cassandra Allen, Village Clerk-Treasurer