

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on May 8, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room of Village Hall.

Present: Mayor John Barton  
Trustee Michael Horrigan  
Trustee James Gallagher, Jr.  
Trustee Daniel Hogan  
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 Gaulin, seconded by Trustee Hogan 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.

**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 2023-2024 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 John Kibling 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.

A Special Meeting is to be scheduled to pay year end vouchers.

Upon motion made by Trustee Horrigan, seconded by Trustee Gallagher and unanimously carried; **RESOLVED**, a Special Meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m, to pay the year end vouchers.

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

**RESOLVED**, to approve appointment of Billy Blodgett as a Volunteer Fire Fighter, contingent upon successful completion of mandatory requirements.

Annual Water Report will be available on the Village Website at [www.villageofhudsonfalls.com](http://www.villageofhudsonfalls.com) upon approval of New York State Department of Health.

Annual Stormwater Report will be available on or before May 31<sup>st</sup> on the Village Website at [www.villageofhudsonfalls.com](http://www.villageofhudsonfalls.com).

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

**RESOLVED**, to approve the following budget appropriations:

	Debit	Credit
A-2401.000 Interest	20,506.37	
A-1950.4.000 Taxes AllenStBiz		20,506.37

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

General Fund	Check Nos. 35639 - 35694
Water	Check Nos. 5919 - 5923
Trust	Check Nos. 7898 - 7909
Payroll	Check Nos. 31088 - 31108
Derby	Check Nos. 146 - 148

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

**RESOLVED**, to approve Final Pay Application for the Derby Park Project.

**Mayor Comment:**

Summer is finally here. Please enjoy Derby park without the non-sense, it seems to be going better.

There have been a few break-ins over the last week and half. They did end up catching the young individual and he confessed to all the break-ins along with a few more outside of the village. Nice job again, by the Hudson Falls Police Department.

**Board Comment:**

None given.

**Public Comment:**

John Hack, John Street. He begins to explain his 10-year on-going code violation. He filed the complaint on 134 John Street for the filth and health hazard. About three years ago, Jim Buxton wrote 17 violations on the house for the garbage, dog feces, and junk. There is no grass in their back yard, his fence that he installed is beginning to lean and be ruined. Mayor Barton said he would like to talk with Code Enforcement to look at the details and where we are at with the property. Mr. Hack is concerned that over the last 10 years since the start of his complaints, nothing has been done and is concerned nothing will be done. He cannot even sit on his back porch and be invaded by the smells and sounds coming from next door. The Mayor concluded he will look into it and see where we can go from here to finally get it resolved.

Luke Graywolf, he would like to propose the idea to create a youth group at Derby Park to help reduce the bad experience children are having with other children. After talking with some other parents, we have stopped our children from even going to the park. The group could give the kids with good structure a place to play without fear at the park. Or, help the children without good structure to find peace or better ways to release their anger. He would like to also propose the idea to have a fundraiser to help raise money for cameras. He got feed back and possible support from a handful of businesses. He is just trying to alleviate the stress on our Police Department and the children and families that are just trying to enjoy the park.

Trustee Horrigan responds that he has also talked with Mahoney alarms. He briefly explains the social media complaints about the lack of surveillance with cameras. There have been 5 cameras installed since the park re-opened. 3 on the club house for the gates and playground and 2 more for pickleball and basketball. 2 more additional cameras are about to be installed on the basketball courts.

We have spectrum coming with high-speed internet to live feed the cameras to the police station and the police cars, or phones.

Mr. Graywolf, thanks the Board for their time. Mr. Nikas asks if he needs direction on how to accomplish his youth group, it is briefly explained that he has been into the clerk's office to help assist him.

Upon motion made by Trustee Gaulin, seconded by Trustee Gallagher and unanimously carried, the Board to move to Executive Session to discuss a real estate transaction.

Upon motion made by Trustee Gallagher, seconded by Trustee Hogan and unanimously carried; the Board to come out of Executive Session and to approve a fee of \$250 for the use of the upstairs of the former Courthouse property, 122 Main Street, upon approval of appropriate application.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 4:00 pm

Upon motion made by Trustee Gallagher, seconded by Trustee Hogan and there being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

---

Cassandra Allen, Village Clerk-Treasurer