

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on May 13, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room of Village Hall.

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

Mayor Barton begins the meeting by swearing in Trustee James Gallagher.

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

**RESOLVED**, to approve **Omnibus Resolution made for the following Committee Appointments and Resolutions.**

**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 Antonio Izzo 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 Antonio Izzo 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 Cassandra Allen be appointed Village Clerk - Treasurer for a four (4) year term, at salary set forth in the budget payable in bi-weekly installments.

**RESOLVED**, that Penny J. Ward be appointed Deputy Clerk for a four (4) year term, at salary set forth in the budget payable in bi-weekly installments.

**RESOLVED**, that Fawn Brown be appointed Deputy Treasurer for a four (4) 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 and Enforcement Officer 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.

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

**RESOLVED**, to approve the appointment of Blake Laroe, as a Junior Firefighter for the Village of Hudson Falls Fire Department, contingent upon successful completion of required screening and physical.

Schedule a Special Meeting to pay the year end vouchers and any other business that may come before the Board.

Special Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 12:30 PM.

Annual Water Report will be available on the Village Website at [www.villageofhudsonfalls.com](http://www.villageofhudsonfalls.com) upon approval of NYS DOH.

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

**RESOLVED**, to approve Water Relevy in the amount of \$130,607.43.

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

**RESOLVED**, to approve Resolution accepting Labella to provide grant and loan application services.

## Village of Hudson Falls

### RESOLUTION

Accepting a Proposal from LaBella Associates  
to Provide Grant/Loan Application Services  
for Water Distribution System Improvements

**Whereas**, the Village of Hudson Falls intends to pursue loan/grant funding through the USDA Office of Rural Development (RD) and the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA), and

**Whereas**, the Village has received a proposal dated May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, from LaBella Associates to assist the Village with the preparation and submission of grant/loan applications to the above noted Agencies and,

**Whereas**, the Village wishes to retain LaBella to assist the Village with the preparation and submission

of the above noted loan/grant applications, and

**Therefore,** Be It Resolved, that the Village Board accepts and approves the proposal from LaBella and authorizes the Mayor to sign the proposal.

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

**RESOLVED,** to approve Resolution for accepting a proposal for the Water Department project for Engineering Report.

#### Village of Hudson Falls

#### RESOLUTION

#### Accepting a Proposal from LaBella Associates to Prepare a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) for Water Distribution System Replacement and Improvements

Whereas, the Village has identified deficiencies in its aged water distribution system and intends to address these deficiencies by developing a comprehensive long-term program to replace the deteriorated mains and distribution lines and finance the improvements, and

Whereas, in order to address the deficiencies, the Village intends to pursue loan and grant funding through the USDA Office of Rural Development (RD) and other funding sources including the Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA), and

Whereas a critical component of an application for funding is the development of a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER), and

Whereas, the Village has received a proposal from LaBella Associates to prepare a Preliminary Engineering Report which complies with the requirements of the USDA Office of Rural Development (RD) and the EFC WIIA program, and

Whereas, the Village wishes to retain LaBella to assist the Village in its water infrastructure improvement efforts and to prepare the required Preliminary Engineering Report, and

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Village Board accepts and approves the proposal from LaBella and authorizes the Mayor to sign the proposal.

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

**RESOLVED,** to approve Monthly Reports as submitted.

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

General Fund	Check Nos. 36413 - 36495
Water	Check Nos. 5668 - 5670
Trust	Check Nos. 8011 - 8018
Payroll	Check Nos. 31321 - 31337
2% Fire	Check Nos. 1015 - 1016

Discuss Kingsbury Town Court concern. It has come to our attention again, that we do not believe that we are receiving the correct revenue from the Town Court. During a discussion, he received a listing of traffic tickets and DWI arrests. Mayor Barton is going to schedule a meeting with Anthony White to get to the bottom of it. Mr. Nikas reminds the Board that the Village is not entitled to all tickets. We are entitled to Parking Tickets and any Code Violations. That was the trade off for the town to take over, they receive all fees except code violations. Trustee Gaulin says there is a code for traffic tickets within Village streets. Mr. Nikas adds that they will need to use the section of code that will allow the village to collect. If they are just using the Vehicle and Traffic Law violation, that will be the reason we cannot collecting. It could be the way the officers are coding it at the time of a ticket. Mayor Barton adds, he will start with the Police Department to see how they are coding it. Trustee Gaulin says there is a list of Village Codes that are all computerized. They should have a printout of the different codes that should be used. A brief discussion ensued.

**Mayor Comment:**

Mayor Barton reminds everyone of the parade and the Memorial Service at 10:45 at Juckett Park, then meet at Village Hall for 11:00 parade. He also wants to add he was fortunate to attend the Fire Banquet this year, and it was very nice. He would like to publicly announce the recognition of 51 years of service for John Santa Croce.

**Board Comment:**

Trustee Horrigan gives a Derby Park update. We now have lights on at the basketball court and pickleball court and a light facing the playground. It was installed by Nichols Electric. We have been chasing a different company for about two years now and recently switched to Nichols. There is a timer that can be programmed based on use of the park. It has been about 15 years minimum that Derby has had lights. A brief discussion ensued.

Mayor Barton adds that he has met with school, and they will be one Soccer game scheduled possibly two. Mr. Nikas inquires about the fertilization issue. Mayor Barton says they have. Trustee Horrigan says the school informed him that they legally can not do it because it is not their property. They will be receiving a quote from Girard Landscaping; it looks as though it will be Girard handling it.

Diane Santa Croce inquires if the gates at Derby are locked at night. Mayor Barton informs her, yes, the Police lock them at night and unlock them in the morning. She inquires about someone full-time supervising. They explain that we have Officer Casentino who is there part-time hours. He is great with the kids, and he fills the fridge with water and freeze pops for them. It's been great having him, and it has helped the park tremendously.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday June 10, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

June, July and August meetings will be 4:00

Upon motion made by Trustee Horrigan, seconded by Trustee Hogan and there being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

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Cassandra Allen, Village Clerk-Treasurer