

TOWN BOARD
GARNERVILLE, NY
MAY 12, 2008

The Town Board of the Town of Haverstraw met at a Regular Meeting on Monday, May 12, 2008 at 8:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Town Hall, One Rosman Road, Garnerville, New York.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On Roll Call the following members answered to their names:

Supervisor	Howard T. Phillips, Jr.
Councilman	Isidro Cancel
Councilman	Vincent J. Gamboli
Councilman	John J. Gould
Councilman	Hector L. Soto

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

181-08 PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING OF APRIL 28, 2008; submitted by the Town Clerk on motion by Councilman Gamboli, seconded by Councilman Soto, were unanimously adopted.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Councilman Gamboli offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Cancel, and on roll call unanimously adopted.

182-08 RESOLVED, that bills numbered 1,398 through and including 1,605 in the amount of \$382,331.77; and Highway Vouchers numbered 249 through and including 276 in the amount of \$18,230.60 audited at this meeting, be and they are hereby paid.

ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

Councilman Cancel offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Gamboli, and on roll call unanimously adopted.

183-08 RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING POLICE ACTIVITY REPORTS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED AND ARE HEREBY ACCEPTED: POLICE FINGERPRINT CARDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$181.00 FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2008 AND PHOTO COPY DISPERSALS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2008 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$98.25.

REIMBURSEMENT FOR PROPERTY DAMAGE – EMIAH FORRESTER

Councilman Soto offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Gould, and on roll call unanimously adopted.

184-08 RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW HEREBY AUTHORIZES REIMBURSEMENT TO EMIAH FORRESTER FOR PROPERTY DAMAGE IN THE SUM OF \$351.00.

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**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF DEDUCTIBLE IN THE MATTER OF
JEFFERY WILCOX**

Councilman Gamboli offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Soto, and on roll call unanimously adopted.

185-08 RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW DOES HEREBY AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT TO CLARENDON NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY IN THE SUM OF \$5,000. ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN'S DEDUCTIBLE PORTION OF THE INSURANCE SETTLEMENT PAID TO JEFFERY WILCOX.

**AUTHORIZATION TO REVISE RESOLUTION NO. 175-08 ENTITLED,
"AUTHORIZATION TO SETTLE TAX CERTIORARI – BARR LABORATORIES"**

Councilman Gould offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Soto, and on roll call unanimously adopted.

186-08 RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW HEREBY RESCINDS RESOLUTION NO. 175-08 ENTITLED, "AUTHORIZATION TO SETTLE TAX CERTIORARI – BARR LABORATORIES" TO CORRECT THE AMOUNT OF THE REVISED ASSESSMENT FOR THE YEAR 2006 FROM 14,169,300 TO 14,163,900 AND TO CORRECT THE AMOUNT OF THE AMOUNT OF REDUCTION FROM 2,551,600 TO 2,557,000 DUE TO A RECORDING ERROR.

CONTINUING EDUCATION SEMINAR FOR TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW ASSESSOR

Councilman Cancel offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Soto, and on roll call unanimously adopted.

187-08 RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW, HEREBY GRANTS PERMISSION FOR DAVE ADAMS, ASSESSOR TO ATTEND A NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF REAL PROPERTY SERVICES SEMINAR ENTITLED "THE SIGNS OF DECLINING & STABLE MARKETS", WHICH IS REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN ASSESSOR CERTIFICATION. THE SEMINAR WILL BE HELD AT THE ROCKLAND CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC IN SPRING VALLEY, NEW YORK ON MAY 21, 2008 FROM 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM AT A COST OF \$65.00.

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FARMS IN ROCKLAND COUNTY

Councilman Gamboli offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Soto, and on roll call unanimously adopted.

188-08 WHEREAS, THE ROCKLAND FARM ALLIANCE IS A GRASS ROOTS ORGANIZATION OF FARMERS AND OTHER ROCKLAND RESIDENTS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN PRESERVING AND PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE FARMING WITHIN ROCKLAND COUNTY, AND

WHEREAS, THE LOWER HUDSON-LONG ISLAND RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL INC., IS AN OFFSHOOT OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND HAS OFFERED TO WORK WITH THE ROCKLAND FARM ALLIANCE TO OBTAIN GRANTS FROM FEDERAL, STATE AND PRIVATE AGENCIES FOR STUDYING, IMPLEMENTING AND MAINTAINING FARMS AND FARMLAND WITHIN ROCKLAND COUNTY, AND

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WHEREAS, THE GLYNWOOD CENTER IS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION THAT PROVIDES CONTRACTUAL SERVICES THAT HELP ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE FARM ALLIANCE TO DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS THAT ENCOURAGE THE PRESERVATION AND CREATION OF FARMS AND FARMLAND WITHIN MUNICIPALITIES, AND

WHEREAS, THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW HAS AGREED TO BE THE MUNICIPAL APPLICANT AND GRANTEE OF A PLANNING GRANT FROM THE NEW YORK STATE GREENWAY COUNCIL THAT, IF APPROVED, WILL PROVIDE THE FUNDS TO ENABLE THE GLYNWOOD CENTER TO WORK WITH THE ROCKLAND FARM ALLIANCE TO PROPOSE METHODS OF PRESERVING AND CREATING FARMS AND FARMLAND WITHIN ROCKLAND COUNTY, AND

WHEREAS, THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW IS AND ALWAYS HAS BEEN SUPPORTIVE OF LOCAL FARMERS WITHIN ROCKLAND COUNTY AND BELIEVES THAT THESE FARMS ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE HEALTH, WELL-BEING AND QUALITY OF LIFE OF ROCKLAND COUNTY RESIDENTS,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW SUPPORTS THE APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY THE VILLAGE OF CHESTNUT RIDGE TO THE NEW YORK STATE GREENWAY COUNCIL FOR PROJECTS THAT PROVIDE FOR THE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMS TO MAINTAIN EXISTING FARMS AND TO ENCOURAGE NEW FARMS TO BE ESTABLISHED WITHIN ROCKLAND COUNTY.

CHANGE OF MEETING DATE - MEMORIAL DAY

Councilman Soto offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Cancel, and on roll call unanimously adopted.

189-08 WHEREAS, THE SECOND MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW IN MAY, IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, MAY 26, 2008, THE LEGAL HOLIDAY FOR THE OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN CLERK IS AUTHORIZED TO PUBLISH A LEGAL NOTICE THAT SAID MEETING IS HEREBY RESCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2008 AT 8:00 P.M.

ADVERTISE FOR BIDS NO.4-2008 - BUS TRANSPORTATION FOR SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM - 2008

Councilman Gamboli offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Gould, and on roll call unanimously adopted.

190-08 RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN CLERK BE AND SHE HEREBY IS AUTHORIZED TO PUBLISH A NOTICE TO BIDDERS THAT SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT HER OFFICE AT ONE ROSMAN ROAD, GARNERVILLE, NEW YORK, UP TO AND INCLUDING 10:00 A.M. ON FRIDAY, MAY 23, 2008, FOR THE RECEIPT OF BIDS FOR THE PROVISION OF BUS TRANSPORTATION FOR THE CHILDREN IN THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW'S SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM 2008 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPECIFICATIONS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK, COPIES OF WHICH, TOGETHER WITH FORM OF PROPOSAL, MAY BE OBTAINED AT HER OFFICE. THE TOWN RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS. BIDS RECEIVED LATER THAN THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED AND WILL BE RETURNED TO THE BIDDER UNOPENED. ALL BIDDERS MUST FILE A STATEMENT OF NON-COLLUSION WITH THEIR BIDS.

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POSITION CONTROL NUMBER FOR LABORER (SEASONAL)

Councilman Gould offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Soto, and on roll call unanimously adopted.

191-08 RESOLVED, THAT THE ROCKLAND COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL HAS REQUESTED THAT THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW RENUMBER THE POSITION OF LABORER (SEASONAL), WHICH WILL ALLOW THE TOWN TO APPOINT ALL LABORER (SEASONAL) POSITIONS AGAINST THE SAME POSITION CONTROL NUMBER, AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT THE NEW POSITION CONTROL NUMBER WILL REPLACE THE LABORER (SEASONAL) POSITIONS THAT WERE CREATED ON SEPTEMBER 10, 1996.

WCI/LETCHWORTH DISCUSSION & PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Supervisor Phillips stated that WCI, the developers of the Letchworth property defaulted. Tonight, we are here to entertain any questions or suggestions that the public may have.

Martin Bagrosky, 20 Oakwood Lane, Thiells ask why the State is interested in the 29 acres of land at the Highway Dept.

Supervisor Philips stated that this is a perfect site for the Departments to consolidate. The Highway, Parks and Golf course are serving the taxpayers by centralizing these locations and having the different departments working together. By having them in one location, it saves a lot of money.

Martin Bagrosky, 20 Oakwood Lane, Thiells stated that it was a good and right approach by Legislator Jay Hood and Chief Miller regarding the loud mufflers. The speeding laws also need to be revisited. 30 MPH is too fast on a residential street. It should be lowered to 25 MPH or lower. People are driving too fast and they are still speeding.

Supervisor Phillips stated that we placed many stop signs throughout the Town. The stop signs are very effective in slowing down traffic. Lowering the speed limit and doubling the fines is a start. Just bear with us in lowering the speed limit.

Chief Miller wasn't sure on the amount of the fines for speeding and will look into the matter. The Supervisor asked Chief Miller to look at the other towns' amounts for fines.

Councilman Cancel stated that the police are enforcing muffler noise and the loud radios in the Village.

Barry Berman, 19 Turner Drive asked if the Town would consider keeping at least 19 acres of the Letchworth property for recreation use. He believes that we need a community center in this area that would take care of all our needs.

Supervisor Phillips stated that we put aside 10 acres for recreation and 40 acres for open space. We have already considered a community center.

Lou Cohen, 95 Crystal Hill, Pomona stated that it took a lot of work to develop the plans for Letchworth and how excited he was about moving there.

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Supervisor Phillips stated that the real estate market is taking a hard hit. Tonight is about hearing from the public and your thoughts, idea, or comments that you may have. About six developers have contacted us and we have made no commitments. The property has a tremendous amount of value. The Town does not want to go out and sell when the market is bad. This property belongs to the people of Haverstraw and we want to receive the maximum profit. This may mean delaying the project and looking at different types of offers.

Kevin Adams, Weichert Realtors asked who owned the WCI plans and would this interest a developer to come and pursue the plans.

Supervisor Phillips stated that the value is in the plans. The plans are on file and available for anyone to come and look at them. The plans are worth \$7 million. A developer could come in and use those plans, which would mean that they don't have to spend the \$7 million to have plans made.

Mrs. McKiernan, 12 Skyline Drive, Thiells thoughts that the housing at Encore was very expensive, very large and felt they were very inappropriate for the age group. Was there not enough interest in the place?

William Stein, Town Attorney stated that the developers were not having trouble with people buying the units, the buyers were having trouble selling their homes. You cannot commit until you sell your house. WCI had a large bond to put up and it was a gamble for them. Homeowners could not sell their homes.

Steve Silverberg, Attorney Planning & Zoning stated that you can't judge how many people were willing to sign a contract. You don't sign a contract until you sell your house.

Supervisor Phillips stated that the whole real estate business has changed. WCI didn't feel as though they could develop this project. They need contractors and the banks were no longer going to give the cash the developers needed. The residents will not sell their houses until they get the value of their home.

Mrs. McKernin stated that it was too expensive, too large and too much. Maybe the land could be divided. The unit that she wanted she could not afford.

Supervisor Phillips stated that the houses were way above what the market was. We hope that we can accommodate and get somebody that is competitive.

Lou Cohen stated that a lot of people go to Woodbury Commons. People are moving outside of Rockland and going upstate.

Supervisor Phillips stated that we were going to pay the Mirant Bond off with the money from Encore Palisades. Everything has been put on the shelf because WCI defaulted. I am confident that the market will come back and that the property will come back. It's ideal, but it will take time.

Virginia Mikhaylov, 4 Marion Ct. asked if the Letchworth property will still be for 55 and over.

Supervisor Phillips stated that he is not going to shut the door on anything. We still think it's an excellent idea and the direction we intend to go.

PRESENTATION

Supervisor Phillips presented a check for \$100 to Gabriel Estrella for the first home run of the 2008 Little League season.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Holly Dunitz, Garnerville inquired about the Town's Shade Tree Committee.

Supervisor Phillips stated that he will give Ms. Dunitz the names of the members on the Architectural Review Board/Shade Tree Committee.

Diego Aviles, 18 Jacobs Road, Thiells inquired about local government shared services and if any grants came out.

Supervisor Phillips stated that we have been looking at their grants toward municipalities in shared services. We work together with the Town of Stony Point for sewer hookups. The Town also assists the DPWs of the Villages of Haverstraw and West Haverstraw, as well as sharing equipment. A meeting with the other Towns was held last month regarding this issue. We can work together on many areas.

Mrs. Mc Kernin asked if there were any plans to pave Thiells Mt. Ivy Road. Thiells Mt. Ivy Road needs to be widened and sidewalks installed.

Supervisor Phillips stated that he would suggest that you write a letter to the County Executive regarding the widening of Thiells Mt. Ivy Road.

Lou Cohen inquired about the status PIP Bridge on Rte. 202 and Thiells Mt. Ivy Road.

Supervisor Phillips stated that new bids are expected to go out in March of 2009 for the construction of the PIP on Rte. 202 and next to Rte. 45 commuter parking lot. It's a horrible mess and the State is trying to clean it up.

Bruce Leach, 22 N. Wayne, West Haverstraw since the Town Board past the resolution to fly model airplanes at the Landfill, we would like to do a demonstration and get some kids involved.

Supervisor Phillips stated that the Town is looking forward to the demonstration.

ADJOURNMENT

192-08 Supervisor Howard T. Phillips, Jr. stated that he would like to close tonight's meeting in memory of Luz Caramanica, Marie Van Horne, Catherine Elhers, Sydelle Feinman, Anthony Purello, Lena Carnevale, John F. DeEntremont, Patricia Ann Gooler, Irene U. Furnari, Filomena DeCaprio, Rose Tatti and Frank A. Gulino, Sr., who recently passed away. The Board also recognized Connor James Corish who recently lost his life at a young age. Supervisor Phillips, the Town Board members and the Elected Officials further extended their condolences and sympathy to the families. Thereafter, a motion was made by Councilman Gould, seconded by Councilman Cancel, and the Town Board Meeting was adjourned.

JOSEPHINE E. CARELLA
Town Clerk