Regular Meeting Opened 6:46 PM

PLACE: MEETING ROOM, Municipal Building, 7 Maple Avenue

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Armacost
Trustee Lopez (Arrived 6:53)
Trustee Fleisig
Trustee Drake

Village Manager Murphy
Village Attorney Whitehead

Absent: Trustee Lambert

EXECUTIVE SESSION
On motion of Trustee Fleisig, seconded by Trustee Drake, the Board of Trustees entered into an Executive Session to discuss matters of personnel. Motion carried, all voting “aye”. Approved 3-0.

Return from Executive Session 6:59 PM

PROCLAMATION
Mayor Armacost read a proclamation dedicating May 3, 2022 in honor of Anne Schnibbe.

PRESENTATION
Ainsley Zamore and Mia Christie presented to the Village Board the Mayor’s Climate Youth Council.

PRESENTATION
Police Chief David Dosin presented the Village Board with the 12-month Police Reform update. A brief discussion with the Village Board followed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Trustee Drake moved to approve the minutes for the Public Hearings and Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, April 19, 2022, seconded by Trustee Fleisig. Motion carried, all voting “aye”. Approved 4-0.
APPROVAL OF WARRANTS
Trustee Fleisig moved to approve the warrants, seconded by Trustee Lopez. Motion carried, all voting “aye”. Approved -0.

APPOINTMENTS
Mayor Armacost appointed the following to boards and commissions:
- Eyal Dror – Conservation Commission
- Chris Thomas – Comprehensive Plan Update & LWRP Committee
- David Gunton – Comprehensive Plan Update & LWRP Committee
- Edward Kuch – Comprehensive Plan Update & LWRP Committee
- John Patrick Diggins – Comprehensive Plan Update & LWRP Committee
- Meg Walker – Comprehensive Plan Update & LWRP Committee
- Meghann Donahue – Comprehensive Plan Update & LWRP Committee
- Natalie Barry – Comprehensive Plan Update & LWRP Committee
- Ray Dovell – Comprehensive Plan Update & LWRP Committee
- Richard Bass – Comprehensive Plan Update & LWRP Committee
- Samantha Merton – Comprehensive Plan Update & LWRP Committee
- Sarah Dupere Ostro – Comprehensive Plan Update & LWRP Committee

PUBLIC COMMENT
David Skolnik offered public comment on the Main Street and Warburton Avenue sidewalk project as it relates to the trees in the project, the traffic light at Main Street and Warburton Avenue, traffic around the school, and on resolution 60:22.

RESOLUTIONS

55:22 APPROVAL OF 2021 LOSAP CENSUS LIST
Trustee Fleisig moved, seconded by Trustee Lopez, that the following resolution be approved: Approved 3-0. Trustee Drake abstained.

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve the 2021 LOSAP Census List, as presented by the Fire Department.

56:22 AUTHORIZATION TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR VILLAGE HALL WINDOW RESTORATION
Trustee Drake moved, seconded by Trustee Lopez, that the following resolution be approved: Approved 4-0.

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees authorize the Village Manager to solicit bids for restoration of the windows in the Village Hall building.

57:22 AUTHORIZATION TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR COMMUTER STAIRS PROJECT
Trustee Lopez moved, seconded by Trustee Drake, that the following resolution be approved: Approved 4-0.

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees authorize the Village Manager to solicit bids for restoration of the Commuter Stairs from the Steinschneider Lot to Southside Avenue.
58:22 AUTHORIZATION FOR VILLAGE MANAGER TO EXECUTE UPDATED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SHORT-TERM WESTCHESTER POWER EXTENSION CONTRACT FOR COMMUNITIES IN THE CONSOLIDATED EDISON SERVICE TERRITORY

Trustee Drake moved, seconded by Trustee Fleisig, that the following resolution be approved: Approved 4-0.

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees authorize the Village Manager to execute an updated Memorandum of Understanding for Participation in the Short-term Westchester Power Extension Contract for communities in the Consolidated Edison Service Territory.

59:22 PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE FIRST FRIDAY IN JUNE TO BE NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

Trustee Lopez moved, seconded by Trustee Fleisig, that the following resolution be approved: Approved 4-0.

This proclamation declares the first Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and to declare that we as a country must do more to reduce gun violence.

WHEREAS, every day, more than 100 Americans are killed by gun violence and on average there are more than 13,000 gun homicides every year; and

WHEREAS, Americans are 25 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries; and

WHEREAS, according to the most recent statistics issued by the CDC in New York State in 2020 there were 870 gun deaths per year, with a rate of 5.3 deaths per 100,000 people; and

WHEREAS, gun homicides predominantly occur in cities, with more than half of all firearm related gun deaths in the nation occurring in 127 cities; and

WHEREAS, cities, towns and villages across the nation are working to end the senseless violence with evidence-based solutions; and

WHEREAS, protecting public safety in the communities they serve is mayors’ highest responsibility; and

WHEREAS, support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from people with dangerous histories; and

WHEREAS, mayors and law enforcement officers know their communities best, are the most familiar with local criminal activity and how to address it, and are best positioned to understand how to keep their citizens safe; and

WHEREAS, the pandemic facing America has had a dramatic effect on communities and individuals sheltering in place, which may result in situations where access
WHEREAS, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who marched in the presidential inaugural parade and was tragically shot and killed just weeks later, should be now celebrating her 24th birthday; and

WHEREAS, to help honor Hadiya – and the more than 100 Americans whose lives are cut short every day and the countless survivors who are injured by shootings every day – a national coalition of organizations has designated June 3, 2022, the first Friday in June, as the 8th National Gun Violence Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, the idea was inspired by a group of Hadiya’s friends, who asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing orange; they chose this color because hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters when out in the woods and orange is a color that symbolizes the value of human life; and

WHEREAS, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to Wear Orange on June 3rd, the first Friday in June in 2022, to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

WHEREAS, by wearing orange on June 3, 2022 Americans will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors; and

WHEREAS, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands, and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our children safe.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Mayor Nicola Armacost of the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson, declare the first Friday in June, June 3, 2022, to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day. I encourage all citizens to support local efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

May 3, 2022

60:22 DECLARING SUPPORT FOR THE NEW YORK STATE CLIMATE ACTION COUNCIL SCOPEC PLAN

Trustee Drake moved, seconded by Trustee Lopez, that the following resolution be approved: Approved 4-0.

WHEREAS, the Sixth Assessment of the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) finds that climate change is causing dangerous and widespread disruption in nature and affecting the lives of billions of people around the world; and

WHEREAS, the IPCC Assessment concludes that rapid, deep and sustained reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) are necessary, including
accelerated action in this critical decade, to limit global warming to within 1.5°C and 2°C in this century; and

WHEREAS, New York State recognizes the urgent need to reduce and eliminate GHG emissions in the atmosphere, passing the 2019 Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act ("Climate Act") committing the State to:

- reduce GHG emissions by 40 percent by 2030 below 1990 levels, and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050;
- meet 70 percent of electricity needs from renewable resources by 2030, and 100 percent of electricity needs from zero-emissions resources by 2040;
- ensure a just and equitable transition that leaves no one behind, and dedicate up to 40 percent of the benefits of clean energy investments to Disadvantaged Communities; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Climate Action Council has approved for public comment a Draft Scoping Plan to meet New York's climate and equity goals; and

WHEREAS, the Scoping Plan calls for shifting to energy-efficient electrification in buildings and transportation as the primary solution to replace fossil-fuel combustion in these sectors, which together account for 60 percent of the state's carbon emissions; and

WHEREAS, the Scoping Plan calls for a phase-down of emissions from fossil fuel-fired electricity generation, while ensuring support and protections for impacted workers as they transition to clean energy jobs; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 Jobs Study by the Just Transition Working Group for the NYS Climate Action Council estimates that meeting New York's climate goals will result in a net gain of 189,000 jobs across the state by 2030, alone, with a ratio of jobs gained to jobs displaced of 10 to 1; and

WHEREAS, the Scoping Plan includes measures that would expand the development of renewable resources and battery storage, encourage "agrivoltaics," or the co-location of agricultural activities with solar and wind, and provide resources to communities to assist with renewable siting and land-use planning; and

WHEREAS, the Scoping Plan recognizes the critical role that rural landscapes play, both natural and working lands, in sequestering carbon emissions and enabling the state to achieve net-zero emissions, and the importance of agricultural land preservation, open space protection, support for farmers to improve soil health, and policies that expand afforestation and reforestation and incentivize and assist private landowners in implementing sustainable forest management practices; and
WHEREAS, the Integration Analysis for the Scoping Plan finds that meeting emissions reduction goals of the Climate Act is technically feasible and will have the additional and significant benefit of improving public health by eliminating co-pollutants from fossil fuel combustion, resulting in an estimated $50 to $120 billion in health-related savings by 2050; and

WHEREAS, according to NYSERDA, over half of what New Yorkers currently spend on energy leaves New York, mostly for fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, our communities would be better served by keeping energy spending primarily within the local economy; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson affirms the critical importance of meeting the emissions and equity goals of the Climate Act, which will help mitigate dangerous warming while delivering the additional benefits of improving public health, economic opportunities, agricultural land open space protection, and quality of life for the people of Westchester County; and, be it further

RESOLVED, Hastings-on-Hudson declares its support for prohibiting an expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure, which contradicts the goals of the Climate Act, and for transitioning to efficient electricity-based solutions for buildings and transportation; and be it further

RESOLVED, Hastings-on-Hudson supports a planning process for a managed transition of the utility gas system that maintains affordable, safe, and reliable utility service and protects low- and moderate-income households from an undue burden in the transition; and be it further

RESOLVED, Hastings-on-Hudson supports the recommendations of the Scoping Plan for advanced building codes that will improve the energy efficiency of new buildings, creating healthier living and work environments while reducing monthly energy costs; and be it further

RESOLVED, Hastings-on-Hudson supports the recommendations of the Scoping Plan to phase in code requirements prohibiting on-site combustion of fossil fuels in new buildings over a 2024-2027 period; and, be it further

RESOLVED, Hastings-on-Hudson calls on the Climate Action Council to include in the Scoping Plan the necessary policies and support to help owners of existing buildings improve energy efficiency and transition to zero-emissions equipment, ensuring cost parity with fossil fuel systems, with incentives and financing assistance as necessary; and, be it further

RESOLVED, Hastings-on-Hudson supports Scoping Plan recommendations that make electric vehicles more affordable relative to gas-powered vehicles, and expand fast-charging infrastructure; and, be it further
RESOLVED, Hastings-on-Hudson urges the Climate Action Council to include in the Scoping Plan recommendations to expand assistance for all-electric municipal transit systems; and, be it further

RESOLVED, Hastings-on-Hudson further urges the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and NYSERDA to immediately launch a sustained statewide public education and information campaign on the benefits of a clean energy economy and climate-friendly choices by consumers of heating and cooling systems, transportation, and products and appliances; and, be it further

RESOLVED, Hastings-on-Hudson shall forward copies of this resolution to the Commissioner of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, President of NYSERDA, Chair of the NYS Public Service Commission, the NYS Climate Action Council, and Members of the State Senate and Assembly representing Hastings-on-Hudson.

61:22 AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WITH WESTCHESTER COUNTY
Trustee Fleisig moved, seconded by Trustee Lopez, that the following resolution be approved: Approved 4-0.

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees authorize the Village Manager to execute a contract for an Employee Assistance Program with Westchester County.

VILLAGE MANAGER’S REPORT
Village Treasurer Foxman provided the Village Board with a financial report for the third quarter of the Village fiscal year.

Village Manager Murphy provided an update on the restoration of the Chemka Pool. Village Manager Murphy indicated that the aquatic engineer’s recommendation was not to award, but to re-bid in July. The Chemka Pool will not be opening for the 2022 season. A more detailed update will be provided to residents in the short term.

Village Manager Murphy briefed the Village Board on ConEd gas line work in the area of Rosedale Avenue, Hillside Avenue, Valley Place, and Wilson Place. Additional gas work in Yonkers will also spill over the Village border. The Village Manager noted that paving from curb to curb will occur.

Village Manager Murphy informed the Village Board that the Route 9A paving was delayed due to the gas work. Preparation work will occur in this year for repaving next year.

Village Manager informed the Village Board and the public that this week is National Hurricane Preparedness Awareness Week. Village Manager Murphy encouraged residents to visit the Village’s Emergency Preparedness page on the Village website.
Village Manager Murphy informed the Village Board that from this week, May 2 through May 5, the Saw Mill River Parkway will be closed between Farragut and Ashford from 10pm – 5am.

Village Manager Murphy informed the Village Board that this Saturday, May 7 is Household Recycling Day at the Sprian Ridge Pool for paints, chemicals, and other products that cannot be regularly recycled.

Mayor Armacost and Village Manager Murphy recognized the newly installed bluestone at Villard Pocket Park that was donated by the Diane Dobbs Allen Charitable Trust for Hastings-on-Hudson.

**BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS**

Mayor Armacost introduced discussion on sidewalk cafés and restaurant use of Village parking lots. The Village Board agreed to waive fees for the 2022 season, but will revisit this item later in the year, in the summer, for the 2023 season.

Village Manager Murphy mentioned that there was a cap on gasoline sales tax in the County, which would have an impact on sales tax revenue.

Trustee Lopez updated the Village Board with sidewalk and pedestrian improvements to-date. Trustee Lopez also indicated that there were many project ideas to be considered. Village Board discussion followed. The Village Board directed Village Manager Murphy to pursue design documents for a sidewalk on Rosedale Avenue.

Mayor Armacost informed the Village Board of the discovery of a water cistern buried under Wagner Plaza/Revolutionary Walk, which serviced the Sugar Houses belonging to the Kattenhorn family.

The Village Board discussed traffic related issues around the Farragut Middle School/Hastings High School complex, as well as a traffic study on Ravensdale.

Trustee Drake offered thanks to the community for attending the Rocky Tollefsen Alley dedication on April 23, 2022.

Mayor Armacost provided statistics on COVID-19 data in the Village, as well as recent developments in vaccination and recovery efforts.

Mayor Armacost provided a recap on recent events and announced the upcoming schedule of events.
ANNOUNCEMENTS
1. Wed. May 4 – Youth Council Meeting 7:00 PM Hosted via ZOOM
2. Tues. May 10 – Comprehensive Plan Update and LWRP Committee 7:30 PM, James Harmon Community Center
3. Tues. May 10 – Conservation Commission Meeting 8:00 PM Hosted via ZOOM
4. Thurs. May 12 – Affordable Housing Committee 7:30 PM Hosted via ZOOM
5. Thurs. May 12 – Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting 8:00 PM Hosted via ZOOM
6. Tues. May 17 – Board of Trustees Regular Meeting 7:00 PM, Village Hall Meeting Room

ADJOURNMENT
Trustee Drake moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting, seconded by Trustee Lopez. Motion carried, all voting “aye”. Approved 4-0.

Meeting Adjourned 9:52 PM

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Anthony P. Costantini  
Village Clerk