



# *Village of Harriman*

1 Church Street  
Harriman, New York 10926  
TEL: (845) 783-4421

## **VILLAGE BOARD MEETING May 13, 2024**

**7:00PM – AUDIT BILLS**

**7:25PM – PUBLIC HEARING LL#2024-05 Amending Chapter 136**

**7:30PM – REGULAR MEETING**

### **AGENDA**

- 1. ROLL CALL – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 9, 2024 & April 16, 2024**
- 3. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**
- 4. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**
- 5. RESIGNATION ZBA CHAIRPERSON**
- 6. VILLAGE TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT**
- 7. ZBA RESIGNATION – D. Sainato**
- 8. ZBA CHAIRPERSON APPOINTMENT**
- 9. ZBA APPOINTMENT**
- 10. LOCAL LAW 2024-05 – Amending Chapter 136**
- 11. IMA – Independence Day Celebration**
- 12. WATER TAP REQUEST – 12 Edgewood Drive**
- 13. WATER AGREEMENT – J Squared Builders**
- 14. LEGAL NOTICES – Budget and Tax Collection**
- 15. PBA CONTRACT**
- 16. RESIGNATION – Village Attorney**
- 17. AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF AN RFP FOR VILLAGE ATTORNEY**
- 18. PARK REQUEST – a) Lopez**
- 19. PROBATION RELEASE – Police Officer Burns**
- 20. SURPLUS – Patrol Vehicle 372**
- 21. SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING – Water Restrictions**
- 22. POLICE OFFICER RETIREMENT – Officer Mena**
- 23. POLICE OFFICER NEW HIRE - Martinez**
- 24. BUDGET TRANSFERS/ADJUSTMENTS**
- 25. ATTORNEY COMMENT**
- 26. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 27. POSSIBLE MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **UPCOMING MEETING DATES:**

**PLANNING BOARD MEETING:**

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING:**

**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING:**

**May 20, 2024 Cancelled**

**June 05, 2024**

**June 11, 2024**

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7:00pm – Audit Bills

7:25pm – Public Hearing – LL# 2024-05 Amending Chapter 136

7:30pm – Regular Meeting

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Mayor read:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Village Board of the Village of Harriman will hold a public hearing on a proposed local law introductory # 5 of 2024 amending Chapter 136 of the Harriman Village Code (Water), Article I, (System Rules and Regulations) § 136-4 (Rates and Repair Bills) pursuant to Sections 10 and 20 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, at the Harriman Village Hall, 12 Church Street, Harriman, New York on May 14, at 7:25 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

The purpose of the local law is to amend § 134-4 (A) (3) changing the billing commencement date for new water customers to the date a water meter is received from the Village, or installed, whichever comes first.

A copy of the proposed local law will be available for inspection at the Village Clerk's office located at 12 Church St., Harriman, NY.

All persons interested in the subject of the proposed local law will be heard by the Village Board at the above time and place. Persons may appear in person or by agent. All written communications addressed to the Board in connection with the proposed local law must be received by the Village Board at or prior to the public hearing.

Mayor asked if there were any written comments.

Clerk replied no.

No Public Comments.

**MOTION** to close the Public Hearing was made by Trustee Daly. **SECOND** by Deputy Mayor Mitchell  
**ALL IN FAVOR**

**REGULAR MEETING:**

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor G. Bruce Chichester, Deputy Mayor Wayne Mitchell, Trustee Sandra Daly, Village Clerk Jane Leake and Attorney Dave Darwin

**ABSENT** Trustee Carol Schneider

**ALSO, PRESENT** – Planning Board Chairperson, Irma Escallier

The Mayor asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor asked if there are any changes or corrections to the minutes of April 9, 2024?

**MOTION** was made by Trustee Daly to accept the minutes of April 9, 2024.

**SECOND** was made by Deputy Mayor Mitchell

**ALL IN FAVOR**

Mayor asked if there are any changes or corrections to the minutes of April 16, 2024 Special Meeting?

**MOTION** was made by Deputy Mayor Mitchell to accept the minutes of April 16, 2024 Special Meeting.

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Daly

**ALL IN FAVOR**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

This evening's bills were audited:

General Fund	\$ 42,231.09
Trust & Agency	\$ 1,452.64
Water Fund	\$ 43,070.94
Engineering Fees	\$ 1,291.95
Capital Projects	\$ 746,775.98

- Up Coming Meeting Dates:
  - Planning Board – May 20, 2024 – Cancelled
  - Zoning Board of Appeals – June 5, 2024
  - Village Board – June 11, 2024
- Village Office hours are 8am – 4pm and by appointment from 7:00 am to 8:00 am. Phone numbers and contact information can be found on the [villageofharriman.org](http://villageofharriman.org) website.
- A drop box is also available outside the Village Hall entrance for dropping off water payments for the Water Dept., or fines and tickets to be dropped off outside of normal business hours. We do ask that you do not leave any cash payments in the lock box.
- Residents and the public can sign up on the Village website to receive email alerts about Village information, community events, and information regarding water bill dates.
- Brush pick-up continues – we ask that you place brush, untied, at the edge of your property with but end facing out. Please do not place on the street and we do not accept grass clippings.
- Clean Sweep was held on April 20<sup>th</sup> and was a very successful event. Thanks to everyone who volunteered, and I especially want to thank our DPW and Police Departments who did a fantastic job keeping everyone safe.
- The Memorial Day Parade is scheduled for Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> starting at 1:30 at Smith Clove Park.
- In Harriman, the Memorial Day services will start at 10 a.m. on Monday, May 27, 2024, at Saint Anastasia Church. Service will then follow at the Memorial at Village Square, the Memorial at the Harriman VFW, and a Memorial at the Emily Perez Monument by the Mary Harriman Park. Food at Mary Harriman Park afterwards.

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- On April 13<sup>th</sup> Deputy Mayor Mitchell, Trustee Schneider, and I attended the Monroe Joint Fire District Inspection Dinner. We would like to thank the Monroe Joint Fire District for inviting us. Also, we would like to congratulate the recipients of the awards given out as well as thank our local firefighters for all that they do.
- Hydrant Flushing will be taking place the whole month of May. The water may be discolored, but it is safe to drink.
- The Harriman Engine Company's Annual Carnival will be held June 6, 7, 8 and 9<sup>th</sup> in the Walmart Parking Lot.
- Village Hall and the Court Office will be closed Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day.
- On Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> Trustee Schnieder attended the Woodbury Historical Society "50 Items that Tell the Story of Southeastern Orange County". She said that it was a wonderful event and would like to thank our Village Historian Irma Escallier for her dedication and presentation of the Village of Harriman's History.
- On June 9<sup>th</sup> there will be a MS Walk taking place at the Village of Monroe Commuter Lot. If you would like to volunteer for the event, please go to the Village of Harriman website or call the office for details.
- New Village Hall and Police Station Update – Everything is on schedule and proceeding well.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Treasurer Report – see attached report

DPW – see attached report

Police Department – see attached report – Funds \$15.00

Water Account Adjustments – see attached report

Court Reports – see attached report      March NYS Report \$22,835.00    Village Received - \$16,822.50  
April Court Activities \$22,186.50

Building Department – see attached report

\$ 1,280.00	6 Building Permits
\$ 750.00	3 Violation Searches
\$ 600.00	6 Building Permit Extensions
<u>\$ 50.00</u>	1 Sign Permit
\$ 2,680.00	

**MOTION** by Deputy Mayor Mitchell to accept the Department Monthly Reports.

**SECONDED** by Trustee Daly

**ALL IN FAVOR**

**RESIGNATION ZBA CHAIRPERSON**

Mayor stated the Board has received a resignation letter from our ZBA Chairperson.

**MOTION** by Trustee Daly to accept the ZBA Chairperson, Reyna Sandoval's resignation.

**SECONDED** by Deputy Mayor Mitchell

**ALL IN FAVOR**

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**VILLAGE TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT**

Mayor stated I would like to appoint Reyna Sandoval to be our new Village Trustee.

**MOTION** by Trustee Daly to approve the appointment of Reyna Sandoval to Village Trustee.

**SECONDED** by Deputy Mayor Mitchell

**ALL IN FAVOR**

Mayor stated welcome to the Village Board.

Trustee Sandoval replied thank you. I am honored to be here.

**ZBA RESIGNATION – D. Sainato**

Mayor stated the Board has a resignation letter from ZBA Member, Darrin Sainato.

**MOTION** by Trustee Daly to accept ZBA Member, Darrin Sainato's resignation.

**SECONDED** by Deputy Mayor Mitchell

**AYE:** Deputy Mayor Mitchell

Trustee Daly

Trustee Sandoval

**ZBA CHAIRPERSON APPOINTMENT**

Mayor stated being the ZBA Chairperson position is vacant I would like to appoint Golam Sarker as the new ZBA Chairperson.

**MOTION** by Deputy Mayor Mitchell to approve Golam Sarker as the ZBA Chairperson.

**SECONDED** by Trustee Sandoval

**AYE:** Deputy Mayor Mitchell

Trustee Daly

Trustee Sandoval

**ZBA APPOINTMENT**

Mayor stated I would like to offer the name of Tracey Torres as a new ZBA Member.

**MOTION** by Trustee Sandoval to approve appointing Tracey Torres as a new ZBA Member.

**SECONDED** by Deputy Mayor Mitchell

**AYE:** Deputy Mayor Mitchell

Trustee Daly

Trustee Sandoval

**POLICE OFFICER RETIREMENT – Officer Mena**

Mayor stated the Board has a retirement letter from P.O. Mena.

**MOTION** by Deputy Mayor Mitchell to accept Police Officer Mena's retirement letter, effective June 7, 2024.

**SECONDED** by Trustee Sandoval

**AYE:** Deputy Mayor Mitchell

Trustee Daly

Trustee Sandoval

Mayor stated regretfully. We wish you well on your retirement.

Deputy Mayor Mitchell replied yes.

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**POLICE OFFICER NEW HIRE – Martinez**

Mayor stated we have a request from the Chief to hire Christopher Martinez as new Police Officer.

**MOTION** by Trustee Daly to approve hiring Officer Christopher Martinez effective June 8, 2024.

**SECONDED** by Deputy Mayor Mitchell

**AYE:** Deputy Mayor Mitchell

Trustee Daly

Trustee Sandoval

**LOCAL LAW 2024-05 – Amending Chapter 136**

There were no written or verbal comments at tonight's Public Hearing. Mayor read Local Law.

**MOTION** was made by Trustee Daly to adopt Local Law 2024-05 – Amending Chapter 136.

**SECOND** was made by Deputy Mayor Mitchell

**AYE:** Deputy Mayor Mitchell

Trustee Daly

Trustee Sandoval

**NAY:**

NONE

**IMA – Independence Day Celebration**

Mayor read IMA.

**MOTION** was made by Trustee Daly to authorize the Mayor to sign the IMA Independence Day Celebration Agreement.

**SECOND** was made by Deputy Mayor Mitchell

**AYE:** Deputy Mayor Mitchell

Trustee Daly

Trustee Sandoval

**NAY:**

NONE

**WATE TAP REQUEST – 12 Edgewood Drive**

Mayor stated the Board has the water request for 12 Edgewood Drive.

**LACK OF MOTION - Denied**

**WATER AGREEMENT – J Squared Builders**

Mayor stated the Board has the Water Usage Agreement for J Squared Builders.

**MOTION** was made by Deputy Mayor Mitchell to authorize the Mayor to sign the J Squared Builders Water Usage Agreement.

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Daly

**AYE:** Deputy Mayor Mitchell

Trustee Daly

Trustee Sandoval - Recuse

Mayor Chichester

**NAY:**

NONE

**LEGAL NOTICES – Budget and Tax Collection**

Mayor read notices.

**MOTION** was made by Deputy Mayor Mitchell to accept the Legal Notices.

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Sandoval

**AYE:** Deputy Mayor Mitchell

Trustee Daly

Trustee Sandoval

**NAY:**

NONE

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**PBA CONTRACT**

Mayor stated the Board has information regarding the approval of the Police Contract and the one section that was left out of it.

**MOTION** was made by Deputy Mayor Mitchell to accept the PBA Contract in this corrected state.

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Daly

<b>AYE:</b> Trustee Daly	<b>NAY:</b>
Deputy Mayor Mitchell	NONE
Trustee Sandoval – Recuse	
Mayor Chichester	

**RESIGNATION – Village Attorney**

Mayor stated this is a sad one, but it has to be done. We received a resignation letter from our Village Attorney effective close of business on June 11, 2024. Mayor read letter. It has been our pleasure to have you serve as Village Attorney.

**MOTION** was made by Trustee Daly going to miss you, unfortunately, I accept the Village Attorney's resignation letter.

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Sandoval

<b>AYE:</b> Regretfully, Deputy Mayor Mitchell	<b>NAY:</b>
Regretfully, Trustee Daly	NONE
Trustee Sandoval	

Mayor stated thank you for your service. Along with Board Members Mitchell and Daly.

**AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF AN RFP FOR VILLAGE ATTORNEY**

Mayor stated the Board has a request for a new Attorney. Mayor read RFP.

**MOTION** was made by Trustee Daly to accept the Issuance of an RFP for the Village Attorney with a 30-day deadline.

**SECOND** was made by Deputy Mayor Mitchell

<b>AYE:</b> Deputy Mayor Mitchell	<b>NAY:</b>
Trustee Daly	NONE
Trustee Sandoval	

Trustee Daly asked is there a deadline for when they have to get it in by? Can we set a day of 30 days?

Attorney Darwin replied I left the deadline blank for the Board to decide.

Discussion on deadline date.

**PARK REQUEST**

Lopez – June 8, 2024, 2pm – 7pm

**MOTION** was made by Trustee Daly to approve Lopez's Park Request for June 8, 2024.

**SECOND** was made by Deputy Mayor Mitchell

<b>AYE:</b> Trustee Daly	<b>NAY:</b>
Deputy Mayor Mitchell	NONE
Trustee Sandoval	

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**PROBATION RELEASE – Police Officer Burns**

Mayor stated we have a memo from Chief Tenaglia requesting Police Officer Burns to be released from probation effective May 28, 2024. Mayor read memo.

**MOTION** was made by Deputy Mayor Mitchell to approve the probation release for PO Burns effective May 28, 2024.

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Daly

**AYE:** Deputy Mayor Mitchell  
Trustee Daly  
Trustee Sandoval

**NAY:**  
NONE

**SURPLUS – Patrol Vehicle 372**

Mayor stated the Police Chief is requesting Police Unit 372 a 2015 Ford Explorer be declared surplus and put out for an online auction. Mayor read memo.

**MOTION** was made by Deputy Mayor Mitchell to approve Police Unit 372 a 2015 Ford Explorer be declared surplus and put out for an online auction.

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Daly

**AYE:** Deputy Mayor Mitchell  
Trustee Daly  
Trustee Sandoval

**NAY:**  
NONE

Brief discussion

**SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING – Water Restrictions**

Mayor stated we need to schedule a public hearing on water restrictions for our June 11, 2024 meeting at 7:25pm.

**MOTION** was made by Trustee Daly to approve scheduling a public hearing on water restrictions for June 11, 2024 at 7:25pm.

**SECOND** was made by Deputy Mayor Mitchell

**AYE:** Trustee Daly  
Deputy Mayor Mitchell  
Trustee Sandoval

**NAY:**  
NONE

**BUDGET TRANSFERS**

Mayor stated the Village Treasurer has requested Budget Transfers. Mayor read memo.

**MOTION** was made by Deputy Mayor Mitchell to approve the Budget Transfers Request as outlined in the Treasurer's memo of May 9, 2024.

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Daly

**AYE:** Trustee Daly  
Deputy Mayor Mitchell  
Trustee Sandoval - Recuse

**NAY:**  
NONE

**ATTORNEY REPORT**

Attorney Darwin stated in the Multi District Litigation (PFOS) there is a June 17, 2024 deadline for the Village to file its claim form for Dupont Litigation. The Mayor got a letter from Napoli Shkolnik saying that they have not received the completed forms yet. I know Karen DeStefanis was going to speak to the person who is assisting in Municipalities. I don't know if she has done that yet, but I would suggest that perhaps a conference call be set up with Napoli person who is assisting with Municipalities, I can be involved in that if you would like, Karen Destefanis and perhaps her representative, someone from the



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Board as well, maybe the DPW Super because he has been involved with this as well. The Village certainly doesn't want to miss this deadline.

Mayor replied no. We will set up a date.

Attorney Darwin stated I will coordinate that with you.

Mayor responded thank you.

Attorney Darwin stated regarding the Gardens at Harriman proposed Water Agreement. I spoke with their water and sewer Attorney Al Natoli and we reviewed some of the issues that we have been exchanging with each other. We had a zoom meeting with his team and myself. The way we left that meeting is, he is going to draft a proposed Water Agreement and send it out to me. Once I have that I will share that with the Board. I imagine there will be some back and forth for a period of time before we get to a point where we have a final agreement.

Trustee Daly asked after you leave can we still reach out to Dave and pay him something because he knows everything? Bringing a new person in can take a month or two.

Attorney Darein replied absolutely. I will always be available to provide whatever assistance I can.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** –

Irma Escallier – I wanted to let you know the ten items I presented for Harriman because you missed the 50 Items that Tell the Story of Southeastern Orange County. I do have some pictures. The items were: a Treasurer Ledger from 1929 before we got computers, Bonds that were sold – they were blue bonds and gold bonds. They were deemed for like a \$1,000.00 each. The market went well during those times. It worked favorably on both sides. I displayed photos and pictures, the Harriman Band Drum, a map of Turner, which you saw. I have all the homeowners' names. You can read them. And I presented a portrait of a boy, which is a picture of Mr. Harriman's four-year-old son. He is dressed in a lace outfit with an urban coat on. I don't know anybody who has had that for a four-year-old. He was born in 1883. He was named after his father. Edward Henry Harriman was his father and he was named Henry Neilson Harriman. He died just shy of his fifth birthday. Because they had a 40% mortality rate for children at that time because of listeria. There was no cure until the 1920's and it wasn't readily available the cure until the 1930's. So that was my presentation, and I was proud to do it.

Mayor stated I tried to make it but couldn't. Carol Schneider made it and she said it was a wonderful presentation by yourself and the others that were there.

Ms. Escallier responded Tuxedo has a Tuxedo.

Mayor asked will they be doing a follow-up anywhere?

Ms. Escallier replied they are going to do the whole County the next time, not just the Southeastern portion. That is what he is striving to do.

Trustee Daly asked is this something that they can put online so you can zoom into it and look at it?

Ms. Escallier replied they already have put it on Facebook.

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Trustee Daly stated so maybe we can put it on our website for our residents.

Mayor replied that is a good idea.

Ms. Escallier continued stating little Mr. Harriman is buried at the family plot in Arden and the year after he died his photo, which is the portrait of a boy, was exhibited in the National Gallery of Design. Just one year after. He was important to us.

Trustee Daly stated I bet you, not a lot of people know that Harriman used to be called Turner.

Ms. Escallier replied and before that it was Centerville.

Trustee Daly responded that I didn't know.

Ms. Escallier stated it was Centerville, then Turner. Some people called it Turner and some Turner's. Then Harriman.

Mayor responded thank you, Irma.

**MOTION** was made by Trustee Daly to Enter into Executive Session for Attorney Client Privilege discussion.

**SECOND** by Deputy Mayor Mitchell  
**ALL IN FAVOR**

At this time, the Village Clerk was excused from the meeting.

The following was given by Mayor Chichester:

**MOTION** was made by Deputy Mayor Mitchell to adjourn Executive Session and return to the Regular Meeting

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Daly  
**ALL IN FAVOR**

**MOTION** was made by Trustee Daly to adjourn Regular meeting at 8:40pm.

**SECOND** was made by Deputy Mayor Mitchell  
**ALL IN FAVOR**

Respectfully submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jane Leake, Village Clerk