

**TOWN BOARD PUBLIC HEARING 2017 BUDGET  
& TOWN BOARD MEETING  
November 7, 2016**

A Public Hearing of the 2017 Budget was held on Monday, November 7, 2016 in the Town Hall 284 Broadway Ulster Park, New York at 7:00 PM with the following persons in attendance:

**Supervisor Diane L. McCord  
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet  
Councilperson Wayne Freer  
Councilperson Leslie Kalmus  
Councilperson Kyle Barnett – Absent  
Brian Pickard, CPA**

**Recording Administrator Holly A. Netter, Town Clerk**

**PUBLIC HEARING 2016 BUDGET**

Supervisor McCord called the Public Hearing to order at 7:00 PM. Supervisor McCord gave Brian Pickard the opportunity to review the Tax increase for the 2017 Budget. Copies of the Budget were made available to the public. Brian Pickard explained the Town Board has previously approved a tax cap override at the October 26, 2016 Town Board Meeting. The Budget that was presented was a 3.715% increase over last year's tax levy. Brian gave a brief summary of the operating budget. We have lived under the tax cap for a long time; pension and health insurance costs have increased. The budget also includes a \$20,000 reserve for the Comprehensive Master Plan. We did a good job of keeping expenses to a minimum and things we were not able to control pushed us over the tax cap. The increase allowable was 1.08% which related to approximately \$37,000. Supervisor McCord said health insurance costs alone rose 12%. Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet said there are several employees who retired years ago and are part time and making far less than what the current wages would be for a fulltime employee in that position. We are correcting one of those positions by reverting it back to a full time position this year but there are several others that will be coming up in the future. Everyone has worked hard for weeks to maintain the lowest increase in the tax levy.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

**COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2017 BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR MCCORD. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

The Public Hearing ended at 7:10 pm.

A regularly scheduled Town Board Workshop Meeting was held on Monday, November 7, 2016 in the Town Hall 284 Broadway Ulster Park, New York at 7:30 PM with the following persons in attendance:

**Supervisor Diane McCord**  
**Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet**  
**Councilperson Wayne Freer**  
**Councilperson Kyle Barnett - Absent**  
**Councilperson Leslie Kalmus**

**Administrative Recorder: Holly A. Netter, Town Clerk**

Supervisor Diane McCord called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

**PUBLIC COMMENT – NONE**

**SUPERVISOR DIANE MCCORD MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2017 BUDGET. COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

**RELEVY SBL 56.52-1-18 – 124 CANAL STREET PORT EWEN**

A form now needs to be completed in order for the Assessor to place the amount on the taxes. The amount of \$4,779.69 will be relieved on SBL # 56.52-1-18 for the demolition and removal of the debris.

**UNION NEGOTIATION TEAM**

Supervisor McCord said Matt Ryan will be handling our union negotiations and she needed a volunteer from the Board to be on the negotiating team with her. Councilperson Wayne Freer volunteered.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION PROPERTY WATER STORAGE TANK – D'ANNA ESTATE PRICE NEGOTIATION**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON FREER TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:38 PM TO DISCUSS A NEGOTIATING PRICE FOR ACQUIRING PROPERTY 64.1-1-20. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON LESLIE KALMUS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED. WATER SUPERINTENDENT DON KIERNAN WAS INVITED INTO THE SESSION. COUNCILPERSON FREER TOLD TOWN CLERK HOLLY NETTER SHE WAS NOT NEEDED IN THE SESSION.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE AT 7:48PM TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION BY COUNCILPERSON FREER AND SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR MCCORD. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON FREER IN REFERANCE TO THE NEGOTIATION FOR SBL 64.1-1-20, TO SEND A LETTER ASKING THE EXECUTOR OF THE PROPERTY FOR A MEETING AND OFFER US A PRICE OF WHAT THEY FEEL IS A REASONABLE PRICE FOR THE PROPERTY. SUPERVISOR MCCORD SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

**PROPOSED MEETING CENTRAL HUDSON, BIRCHES/STEVE AARON AND TOWN OF ESOPUS**

Joseph Hestler from Central Hudson requested a meeting with our attorney, Central Hudson's attorney and Steven Aaron's attorney to see if they can get the Water Department Pump Station solved. Birches is in the arrears on payment to Central Hudson. Don Kiernan said he would like to be included in that meeting because we do not own the Pump Station. Councilperson Freer said "Why would you be invited if we don't own it". Kiernan replied this has been an ongoing issue since 2008. Supervisor McCord said she wanted Don to bring all of his paperwork to that meeting. The meeting will be held November 30, 2016 at 10 am. Councilperson Van Vliet and the Supervisor will be in attendance. No decisions will be made at that meeting.

**Street lighting brightness– Tilden St / Herriman**

Kathleen Barry has made a request to have the light on Tilden Street and Harriman dimmed. It seems to be unusually bright. The Board will look into it.

**Water Problem 263 Salem Street**

The owner has contacted Supervisor McCord several times on the quality of the water that runs from his faucet. Don Kiernan said he only heard from the gentleman once last year. The problem seems to correct itself after flushing the hydrant. Don Kiernan will look into the problem. The homeowner needs to contact the Water Department right away so they can look at it as soon as it happens.

**TEVAS 2016 CONTRACT**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE TEVAS CONTRACT FOR 2016. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON LESLIE KALMUS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – TIM KEEFE BUILDING INSPECTOR**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR MCCORD AT 7:46 PM TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING A PERSONNEL MATTER, EMPLOYMENT HISTORY, IN THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. THIS EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS TOWN BOARD MEMBERS AND TIM KEEFE ONLY.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:45 PM BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER AND WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON LESLIE KALMUS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

COUNCILPERSON FREER SAID THERE WAS NO ACTION TAKEN AT THIS TIME.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION - DEBBIE PUGLIESE FIRE INSPECTOR**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER AT 8:46 PM TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING A PERSONNEL MATTER AND EMPLOYMENT HISTORY IN THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON GLORIA VAN VLIET. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. THIS EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS TOWN BOARD MEMBERS AND DEBBIE PUGLIESE ONLY.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:45 PM BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER AND WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON LESLIE KALMUS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

NO DECISIONS WERE MADE.

Councilperson Van Vliet said after a thorough investigation they have come to a conclusion.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR DIANE MCCORD TO REINSTATE DEBBIE PUGLIESE TO HER DUTY AS FIRE INSPECTOR. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER AT 9:48 PM AND SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON LES KALMUS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectively submitted,

Holly A. Netter  
Town Clerk, RMC