

**TOWN BOARD PUBLIC HEARING 2019 BUDGET  
& TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING  
November 13, 2018**

A Public Hearing of the 2019 Budget was held on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 in the Town Hall, 284 Broadway, Ulster Park, New York at 6:45 PM with the following persons in attendance:

**Supervisor Shannon Harris  
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet  
Councilperson Kathie Quick  
Councilperson Jared Geuss  
Councilperson Chris Farrell**

**Also in attendance: Deb Kain, Bookkeeper**

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

**PUBLIC HEARING 2019 BUDGET**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON KATHIE QUICK TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2019 BUDGET AT 6:55 PM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Public Comment:**

**Jim Banks** asked if the Board would be going through the budget line by line. Supervisor Harris said, "This is the last step on a long journey". She explained that several public meetings relating to the budget were held and the items were reviewed line by line at that time.

Anyone who wished to be heard was given the opportunity.

**A MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON CHRIS FARRELL AT 6:58 PM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON KATHIE QUICK. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

**REGULAR WORKSHOP MEETING 11-13-2018**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR HARRIS TO OPEN THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING AT 7:00 PM AND WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON KATHIE QUICK. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Public Comment**

**Roxanne Pecora** said the headstones that were turned over last year need to be addressed at the Riverview Cemetery. (The Cemetery has not been turned over to the Town; therefore we have no authority to take action.) Once the Riverview Cemetery has been abandoned, the Town may be eligible for funds to make repairs to monuments imposing a danger.

**Updates:**

**Winter Wonderland Parade** will be held on December 1<sup>st</sup> starting at 5:30 beginning at the Medrex Property and heading south to Keyser's Funeral home. Santa will greet children at the Gazebo located on the MHVFCU property. The tree lighting will take place following the parade.

Councilperson Jared Geuss said the second draft of the **Comprehensive Plan** was received and distributed to the stakeholders for review. The CPC is on budget with time and money.

**Culvert Grant**

\$100,000 grant was received for the NEIWPC. A meeting will be set for part 2 of the culvert study. Part two of the initiative is to identify, design and implement the project. Two culverts have been identified, one County and one Town. Tighe and Bond prioritized what needs to be done and this will also help the Highway as well.

**Adoption of 2019 Budget**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON JARED GEUSS TO ADOPT THE 2019 BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF ESOPUS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON CHRIS FARRELL. A VOTE WAS TAKEN:**

<b>Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet</b>	<b>NO*</b>
<b>Councilperson Jared Geuss</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Kathie Quick</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Chris Farrell</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Supervisor Shannon Harris</b>	<b>AYE</b>

\*\* Councilperson Gloria VanVliet said the \$40,000 which was put into the budget for a full time position for the Buildings and Grounds department could have saved the taxpayers money if they had made it a part time position. She said in her opinion it was not the best budget the Board could put forth.

The decision had been made on November 5, 2018 to create a full time position based on a request from the Buildings and Ground Department in April. The need was confirmed based on the feedback from the Comprehensive Plan Community Survey. Additional man power is required in order for improvements to be made. There are currently 7 parks, street lighting, Town entrances, building maintenance and the Transfer Station that utilizes the departments' resources.

Councilperson Chris Farrell agreed with Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet questioning the process in which the funds were added to the budget so late into the process. The situation should have been handled differently. However, Chris felt the increase in labor was warranted based on improvements which need to be made and the prediction of having another cemetery abandoned to the Town in 2019.

Glen Kubista, Town resident, said he felt it should have been a part time position without benefits. Bernice McNierney said Dan Vedder needs people who are reliable and steady. For years he has been dealing with seasonal help who were not able to handle more involved projects.

Supervisor Harris said it was a strategic decision to make the position full time to attract a higher quality person and have a succession plan if something should happen to Dan. This is a reinvestment back into the Town to fulfill the community's expectations based on the Comprehensive Study.

**RESOLUTION**  
**TO INCREASE THE RATES FOR THE**  
**PORT EWEN WATER DISTRICT**

**WHEREAS**, the law requires the cost of the operation and maintenance of the Port Ewen Water District to be paid by revenue derived from the sale of the service,

**WHEREAS**, this Town Board has adopted a Water District budget for the year 2019, based on a rate of a minimum charge of \$16.76 for the first 0 to 4,000 gallons and a rate of \$4.19 per 1,000 gallons thereafter, based on the water meter.

**THEREFORE**, be it resolved that the Town Board increase the rate charged for Water Service from a minimum of \$ 15.36 for the first 0 to 4,000 gallons and \$ 3.84 per 1,000 gallons thereafter, based on the water meter, to a minimum of \$ 16.76 for the first 0 to 4,000 gallons and the rate of \$ 4.19 per 1,000 gallons thereafter, based on the water meter, with the new rate to be effective upon adoption of this resolution.

The Board was polled:

<b>Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Jared Geuss</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Kathie Quick</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilperson Chris Farrell</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Supervisor Shannon Harris</b>	<b>AYE</b>

All members were in favor. Resolution adopted.

**TBS / Dutchess Tekcon**

The discussion of the contract for TBS was continued from prior meetings. Further information is still needed before a decision can be made on the contract renewal. Town Clerk Holly Netter suggested a vendor sign-in sheet so we had a log of the vendors, dates of service and reason for the visit to refer back to. Building and Grounds need to oversee the reports for all service calls. TBS reports are being forwarded to the Supervisor. The conversation will continue once more information is received.

**Laura Wang Pan, HR Attorney**

Laura Wang Pan made the suggestion to remove the employee handbook from the General Code. However, there are some items that would need to remain. The Union Contract is separate from the Handbook and does not apply. Removal of the handbook will need to be done by Local Law.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON KATHIE QUICK AT 7:50 PM TO TAKE A SHORT RECESS AND WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION TO RESUME THE MEETING WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON KATHIE QUICK AT 7:55 PM AND WAS SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR HARRIS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Short Term Rentals/Airbnb-Dennis Doyle**

Dennis Doyle, UC Planning Director, gave a presentation of short term rentals (STR). Currently Esopus has between 20 – 40 STR and Airbnb. The presentation included regulatory strategies, community transparency, zoning and licensing. The County will help with statutory requirements and have sample zoning statutes. The reason to consider regulating the STR is to protect the quality of life for the residents. The County suggests a limit be set for the number of non owner units that can operate in the Town. Woodstock has approximately 500 STR's.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON JARED GEUSS AT 8:32 PM TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON KATHIE QUICK. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Holly A. Netter  
Town Clerk, RMC**

