

TOWN BOARD BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING

September 7, 2017

A Town Board Budget Workshop Meeting was held on Thursday, September 7, 2017 in the Town Hall 284 Broadway Ulster Park, New York at 9:00 AM with the following people in attendance:

Supervisor Diane L. McCord
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet
Councilperson Kathie Quick
Councilperson Wayne Freer
Councilperson Jared Geuss

Recording Administrator Holly A. Netter, Town Clerk
Brian Pickard, CPA

Supervisor McCord called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

Preliminary 2018 Budget was reviewed by Brian Pickard, CPA. The Department Heads and Advisory Board members met with Council to discuss their proposed budget. No final decisions regarding salaries were made.

Dan Vedder – Buildings and Grounds # 7110

Freer Beach parking lot needs repair over the next few years. A reserve line was requested for \$15,000.

The fence at **Ross Park** will be taken down around the ice rink and the plug will not be installed. New fence for the tennis court will be completed from the 2017 budget. Next year Dan would like to replace the fencing at **Cas Landi Park** in St. Remy Park. Fencing along 213 and the tennis court fencing will need to be replaced. The ride on jeeps are in bad shape and will be removed by the end of this season. Overall increase \$30,000; \$15,000 reserve for Front End Loader and \$15,000 for the blacktop for Freer Beach. Evan Lewis will be leaving at the end of this season.

Recreation Garage

Councilperson Jared Geuss was in favor of starting to clear the land utilizing Community Service. Jared also offered to be the liaison between the Board and Dan on this project. Councilperson Van Vliet said they need to do something to get the area cleared. The Highway Department will be available in October to assist Dan.

BUILDING # 1620

The roof has been leaking in the Court area. Dan said the roof has been an ongoing issue since he took over the maintenance of the building. Dan is currently dealing with a subcontractor from Albany who originally worked on the building and trying to get a permanent resolution to this issue.

SEWER # 8110

Don Keirnan, Water Superintendent, reviewed his budget. He said he was unsure what the legal costs would be for the acquisition of the new water tank. The existing tank will need to be relocated to the adjacent property. There is approximately \$120,000 set aside for the purchase of the property plus legal and engineering fees. The Town would have to obtain a bond for the rest of the money. The Town Board can redefine the purpose of the money through a Public Hearing. The tank is ceramic inside and out with a steel center. It will take approximately 2 months and the current tank can be used until the water is ready to be transferred. A new tank is needed because painting the tank has become cost prohibitive, 1.3 million. To date 847 new water meters have been installed. Don said within the next 10 years we will be buying water from the City of Kingston because it will be cost prohibitive to expand our plant. Personnel would be kept. The tank is a vital part of the system. The water district would have to contract with the City of Kingston.

Purchase of a generator will be needed. The current generators are from 1979. The Connelly generator will be the first to be replaced.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT – SAL MORRELLO #3620

Sal Morrello, Building Inspector, reviewed his budget. An increase of \$2,000 in the Building Inspectors salary was requested; \$58,000. The equipment increased to \$1,200. Safety lights for the vehicles will be ordered and installed. A clothing line was added for \$250 to allow for outerwear designated to the Building Inspector with Town Logo.

Highway – Mike Cafaldo 5132/5112

Councilperson Freer asked Mike about the \$4,000 increase for his salary. Mike said he was going to put himself in for a raise but he said "It doesn't matter, I don't know how it is going to affect me in the end". An Increase in salary for Karen was requested last year but the requested amount was not received. The minutes and salary request will be reviewed from last year to determine if an error was made. Karen has been with the Town for 20 years and they wanted to bring her salary in line with the other 20 year employees. Councilperson Freer said if

they take out Mike's salary increase, the budget will basically be the same as last year. Roofs will be painted on the Highway garage in 2018.

The allocation of the additional Chips funds was discussed to allow Mike to pave more roads. Line 575 needs to be increased to \$200,163.

Bridge of Valli Road has been "yellow flagged" and is not included in this budget. Costs were unavailable to Mike at the time of the meeting.

The auction of old equipment yielded approximately \$72,000. The chipper will be purchased in 2017 from these funds. This saves the finance charges for 5 years on the chipper. The pickup will remain in the budget for 2018 and will increase to \$36,000.

A budget adjustment will need to be made for the pickup truck and move the funds from the auction to the appropriate line so Mike is able to purchase the chipper from the auction revenue.

ASSESSOR # 1355

Joanna Mignone, Sole Assessor, said every year she brings a letter requesting an increase. This year she asked her salary to be increased to \$51,000. She felt comfortable with this salary knowing she was not being the lowest paid in the County with no respect. Joanna has taken over the position of Assessor and over the past few years the Board has increased her salary to compare with other Sole Assessors and the previous Assessor. Joanna said she would be satisfied with this increase and would not look for additional money in the future aside from the general increases that may be awarded to employees. Councilperson Freer said he didn't feel that it was unreasonable since she has now received all her certifications. Joanna said the prior Assessor made \$56,000. They will leave the request in until the final numbers are crunched.

Last year the revaluation overtime amount was decreased to \$4,500. Joanna said she needs to keep the \$6,000 in the budget for 2018 for the revaluation overtime to ensure proper coverage. Joanna said she was unaware that it was decreased for 2017. The Town Clerk, Holly Netter, suggested each department head receive a copy of the final budget so the department heads know what was approved.

Nick Pascaretti needs to be reappointed to the Assessment Board of review.

ZBA - Kathy Kiernan #8011

Minor adjustments were made to the ZBA budget. Legal contingency decreased to \$3,000, dues and training adjusted to \$500.00. It is important for the ZBA members to know there are funds available for training if they are interested in taking a class.

Town Board #1010

Comprehensive Plan reserves have not been used however, it is expected that in spring 2018 funds will be used once a consultant is hired. The original \$50,000 was to be budgeted \$20,000/ 2016, \$20,000/2017 and \$10,000 for 2018. \$30,000 is budgeted for 2018. This is a multiyear project. Since funds were not used, they will go back to the general fund and be used to offset the increase.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR MCCORD TO RECESS FOR LUNCH AT 12:12 PM AND WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR MCCORD TO RESUME THE MEETING AT 1:05 PM AND WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON GLORIA VAN VLIET. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

PLANNING #8020

No one came to represent the Planning Board to explain the requested increases. The Board asked to have the budget revert back to the 2017 figures with no increase without further explanation.

TOWN CLERK/REGISTRAR/RECORDS MANAGEMENT

A minor increase in the Records Management budget for refurbishment of minute books was requested. Town Clerk was asked to provide information to the Board regarding the salaries of other Town Clerks in Ulster County including compensation for Registrar and RMO.

DOGS #3510 - REVISIT

The Dog budget will need to be reviewed. The Board asked for a breakdown of the personnel information showing salaries and mileage. They also asked for the reason for the increase of the contractual line.

ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

The contractual line will be broken down to reflect Material/Supplies \$250, Mileage/Conferences \$500, Publicity \$250. No overall change to the budget. The members will be made aware of the opportunity for the training which will allow them to become a stronger group through networking.

RECREATION

The Board questioned why PEAA only got \$1,000 when they were budgeted for \$2,000. This year they asked for \$2,500. The number of children that attended the park program was unknown, details can be furnished by the bookkeeper.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - REVISIT

An itemized item sheet was not provided. The budget for 2017 was \$1,000. The Committee is asking for \$20,000 in 2018. The item will need to be revisited to see where the budget falls.

TRANSFER STATION #8160

Vents were repaired costing \$36,000 at the Transfer Station. The funds should not have come out of the Transfer Station. They should have come out of Landfill Maintenance. A budget adjustment is needed to place the funds back to the appropriate line. Lenny was given the approval to put in the footings this year and bollards in front of each leg for protection. The Board will see if the next carport can get up before the end of the year once the October numbers are available; remove the \$2,500 for next year and hope it gets done this year. Contractual will remain at \$145,000.

If the carport is installed before the snow, it will save the Town money. Drainage needs to be addressed from the run off of the new cover.

WATER CHESTNUT – Carol Tomassetti #7143

Carol Tomassetti reviewed the repairs and necessary maintenance the Water Chestnut machine will need in 2018. Overall the budget increased \$3,000. The preventative maintenance is necessary and beneficial.

SUPERVISOR # 1220

Although Supervisor McCord is not re-running, she asked for an increase to the Supervisors' Salary. Councilperson Freer thought the \$40,000 request was too much. He felt the job did not require as many hours. Less time can be spent through time management and allocation. A tentative salary of \$35,000 was discussed but will be revisited. The request to make the

Supervisors' secretary full time was denied. The concern of having a sole bookkeeper handling personnel and payroll needs to be discussed further. A part time person to be trained to act as a backup was also discussed. The Economic Development line will also need to be revisited.

COURT – 1110

A letter was given to the Board previously for the request of moving Marianne Wells, Court Clerk, from part time to full time. The matter will be further discussed. There seems to be a discrepancy on how the Judges feel about the request.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 3:53 PM BY SUPERVISOR MCCORD AND SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectively Submitted,

Holly A. Netter
Town Clerk, RMC