

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held at Town Hall on November 1, 2012 7:30PM

Present: John Burke, Supervisor
Timothy Arone, Marilyn Prestia and James Skoufis, Councilpersons
Absent: Frank Palermo, Councilman
Also Present: Robert Weyant, Highway Superintendent; Richard Vasquez, Police Chief; Lorelei Pitt, Budget Officer; Jennifer Bradshaw, Library Director; Dorothy Morris, Library Board; Richard Cataggio and Maria Hunter, Village Planning Board

I. Public Hearing:

a. FY2013 Preliminary Budget:

Town Clerk Potvin stated a public hearing is being held to entertain public comments on the FY2013 Preliminary Budget. The public notice was printed in the Times Herald Record on October 24, 2012 with the salaries of the elected officials posted as follows: Town Supervisor \$53,130; Town Clerk \$53,300; Superintendent of Highways \$72,355; Justices (2) \$28,635; Council (4) \$8,441; Tax Collector \$14,497.

Supervisor Burke stated no elected official is receiving an increase and that these salaries are the same as they were for 2012. He then asked if there were any comments to be made regarding the salaries of the elected officials as proposed. Robin Crouse thanked the Board for their efforts in putting the budget together and for not giving raises to the elected officials. She added that she feels the salary of the Supervisor should be reduced by \$30,000 since the incorporation of the Village several years ago transferred three major departments out of the position's responsibility.

With no further comments on the salaries of elected officers, Supervisor Burke stated that portion of the budget hearing was closed. He then stated comments can be received from the public on the 2013 Preliminary Budget as Budget Officer Pitt goes page-by-page. He requested that individuals state which specific line-item or department they wish to comment on when the page is being addressed. The following comments were received (NOTE - Comments are not in order received but grouped by individual making them):

John Smith, regarding the fund balances being used to reduce the tax levy in specific funds, asked if there is a way to determine what amount will remain in the fund balances after the deduction. Supervisor Burke stated once the fiscal year is completed that information could be calculated. Mr. Smith asked if there is a way to determine the percentage increase of the budget and Budget Officer Pitt stated that a home with a market value of \$280,000 will have approximately a 1.45% increase, however it would depend on which special districts, if any, that a home is located within. Supervisor Burke stressed that this figure is sole for Town taxes, noting that the first line on the tax bill is the County's tax levy.

Maria Hunter, regarding A3510.100 (Control of Animals), noted the budgeted amount is almost the same as 2011 and she asked if that is due to the position being reinstated as full-time. Supervisor Burke stated the position is being reinstated as full-time.

Robin Crouse, regarding A5540.400 (Dial-A-Bus) she asked that the ridership for 2012 has been and Supervisor Burke stated he does not have the exact numbers with him at this time but that a report is received quarterly. Mrs. Crouse suggested that the line-item be reduced to \$0 due to low ridership and does not feel we should be spending the money on a poorly used program. Regarding B1120 and DB1120 (Non-Property Tax Distribution) she asked if the amount budgeted acknowledges the threat made by the County Executive to reduce the Town's share of sales tax revenue to pay for the operation of the Valley View nursing home. Supervisor Burke stated if the County does go through with the County Executive's proposal, the Town Board will need to make tough decisions to make up the revenue shortfall, although he does believe the estimates are very conservative. Councilman Skoufis added that

he does not believe the County Executive has the support of the legislature to reduce the sales tax sharing.

Budget Officer Pitt noted the following changes to the preliminary budget for the Woodbury Common BID fund: SMB1001 (Tax Levy) increased \$46,361; SMB1980.400 (Payment MTA) increased \$85; SMB3020.100 (Dispatcher) decreased \$849; SMB3120.100 (Police) increased \$34,093; SMB3120.201 (Radios/Chelsea) decreased \$2; SMB9015.800 (Police Retirement) increased \$10,548; SMB9030.800 (FICA) increased \$2536; SMB9010.800 (Retirement Dispatch) decreased \$50.

With no further comments received, a motion was offered by Councilman Arone, seconded by Councilwoman Prestia, to close the public hearing.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Arone, Prestia, Skoufis
 NOES 0

Supervisor Burke noted that the Board will take action on the adoption of the budget at the next meeting (November 15) when a full Board will be present. He then explained in detail the process that is followed to formulate the budget. The process begins in mid-August with a memo to all Department Heads and continues with many meetings held through mid-October. The Board was very mindful of the 2% tax cap and he commended the Department Heads for the efforts they made to keep the budget as tight as possible. He then acknowledged the efforts of Councilwoman Prestia, Eileen Sutherland, Town Clerk Potvin and Budget Officer Pitt. The other Board members present also thanked those involved during the budget process.

II. Administrative Business:

a. Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion was offered by Councilman Arone, seconded by Councilman Skoufis, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held October 18, 2012.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Arone, Prestia, Skoufis
 NOES 0

b. Approval of Abstract:

Motion was offered by Councilwoman Prestia, seconded by Councilman Skoufis, to approve Abstract 22 containing vouchers #20122340 – #20122370 and totaling \$358,068.37.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Arone, Prestia, Skoufis
 NOES 0

c. Budget Modifications:

Motion was offered by Councilman Arone, seconded by Supervisor Burke, to approve a modification to the budget of the Town Clerk's Office by decreasing A1220.100 (Supervisor's Personal Services) by \$7000 and increasing A1410.100 (Town Clerk Personal Services) by \$7000.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Arone, Prestia, Skoufis
 NOES 0

Motion was then offered by Councilman Skoufis, seconded by Councilman Arone, to approve a modification to the budget Town Clerk's Office by decreasing A1410.444 (Schools/Dues) by \$200, A1410.425 (License of Dogs) by \$250, A1410.454 (Advertising) by \$10 and increasing A1410.430 (Transportation/Travel) by \$460.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Arone, Prestia, Skoufis
 NOES 0

Motion was then offered by Councilwoman Prestia, seconded by Councilman Skoufis, to approve a modification to the budget of the General Fund by decreasing A1620.419 (Earl Rez Dam) by

\$746, A1620.426 (Chemical Supplies) by \$2700 and increasing A1620.421 (CV Pool Maintenance/Repairs) by \$3446.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Arone, Prestia, Skoufis
 NOES 0

d. Acceptance of Resignation – Buildings/Grounds Custodial Worker:

Motion was offered by Supervisor Burke, seconded by Councilman Arone, to accept the resignation of Paul Jackson from the position of part-time custodial worker effective October 26, 2012.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Arone, Prestia, Skoufis
 NOES 0

e. Change of Job Status – Animal Control Officer:

Motion was offered by Councilwoman Prestia, seconded by Councilman Arone, to increase the position of Animal Control Officer from part-time to full-time effective November 1, 2012.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Arone, Prestia, Skoufis
 NOES 0

III. Old Business:

a. Receipt of Bids – Earl Reservoir Dam Resurfacing:

Town Clerk Potvin stated a bid opening was held on October 16, 2012 at 3PM and the public notice for the bid was printed in the Times Herald Record on October 2, 2012. The following bids were received:

Upstate Concrete, Monroe	\$134,700
CMC Construction, Slate Hill	\$187,660
Bibeau Construction, Nanuet	\$188,400
Jorrey Excavating, Middletown	\$290,000

Correspondence from Riddick Associates noted the low bid is more than triple the quote that was received in 2007. This increase may be partly from cost escalations in the last five years as well the specialty nature of the shotcreting work. Since the cost is more than the Town is prepared to spend, they are recommending that the bids be rejected at this time. Motion was then offered by Supervisor Burke, seconded by Councilwoman Prestia, to reject all bids received for the Earls Reservoir Dam resurfacing project.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Arone, Prestia, Skoufis
 NOES 0

IV. New Business: There was no new business to discuss.

V. Public Comment:

Councilman Skoufis thanked the Monroe-Woodbury Central School District for establishing the High School as a shelter during Hurricane Sandy. Supervisor Burke noted that cots should be delivered tomorrow and the shelter will be open throughout the weekend. Councilman Arone stated he is available to anyone that needs assistance with submitting claims through their insurance company. He also noted that about a week ago Smith Clove Elementary held their annual community day and he thanked the Town officials that participated. Councilwoman Prestia thanked all the Departments that worked diligently during Hurricane Irene. She also noted that the Orange County Office of Emergency Management is on Facebook© and provides up-to-date local information about shelters, dry-ice distribution, etc.

Supervisor Burke stated the Roselawn Bridge replacement project was completed quicker than anticipated and is now open. The quality of work was overseen strictly by Superintendent Weyant. He thanked the property owners for their patience during the construction and Superintendent Weyant for his time and effort to be sure the project was done correctly.

Rob Fugett, from Sugar Loaf, approached the podium to speak and Supervisor Burke reminded him that the agreement made between himself and Mr. Fugett was that since he is not a resident, he would meet with Supervisor Burke prior to the meeting to discuss his comments and the Board would determine if they were appropriate for the meeting. Since he failed to do this, he was not permitted to speak.

Robert Hunter asked what the scope of work was involved in the Earl Reservoir Dam Resurfacing project. Supervisor Burke stated the sides of the spillway need to be resurfaced and reinforced. This was not required by DEC and is there is not a structural issue but the Board felt it was a preventative measure to help protect the structure for longer life. He noted the Board has been building the funds to do the job for three or four years now but since it is not required, it felt the prices received were too high. Additionally, the work is only permitted during a specific time allowed by the DEC due to the snakes.

Robin Crouse stated she appalled by the way Mr. Fugett was denied the opportunity to speak this evening. She stated she is confused as to why non-residents are not allowed to speak, noting that she attends meetings in other municipalities and is never denied when she wants to speak. Supervisor Burke explained again the arrangement that was agreed upon by Mr. Fugett noting that he was told very clearly that if he wanted to speak he should meet with him first so that the Board can have the courtesy to know what he wants to discuss at the meeting. This Town Board will always let people participate, with restrictions from time to time.

8:40PM – Executive Session:

Motion was offered by Councilman Arone, seconded by Councilman Skoufis, to enter into an executive session pursuant to Article 7 of the Public Officers law to discuss one item regarding the contractual negotiations of the PBA contract.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Arone, Prestia, Skoufis
 NOES 0

There were no minutes of the executive session recorded.

VI. Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss or comments received, a motion was offered by Supervisor Burke, seconded by Councilwoman Prestia, to end the executive session and adjourn the meeting at 10:50PM.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Arone, Prestia, Skoufis
 NOES 0

Desiree Potvin, Town Clerk