

TOWN BOARD MEETING – 11/08/2016

Supervisor Edna Frasier and Board Members Steve Ramant, Ginger Kuenzel, Michael Cherubini and Marty Fitzgerald were all present.

Supervisor Frasier called the meeting to order at 5:50 pm to start the auditing of bills.

The Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget was opened at 6:15 pm. Supervisor Frasier explained that there are two main parts to the budget - revenues and expenditures.

On the revenue side there is income from sales tax, payment in lieu of taxes by Silver Bay YMCA, mortgage taxes and other smaller income amounts for the General Fund. Income for the Highway Fund comes from sales tax, County and State contracts and CHIPS. Income for the Sewer funds comes from user fees.

On the expenditure side there are a variety of expenditures for General, Highway and Sewer which are listed in the preliminary budget. Supervisor Frasier noted that hourly wages increased by 50 cents and salaries by 2% although not for Town Board members who have not had raises for several years. She also noted that a few changes were being made in the preliminary budget including adding back money for hand tools for the highway department, for truck maintenance and for personal services for a mechanic/CDL driver.

No public comments were offered and the public hearing was closed but the changes have to be put into the preliminary budget by the budget secretary. The Board will meet at 4 pm on Monday, November 14, 2016 to adopt the budget.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence was held for Rose Marie Frasier and George and Gloria Hawkins.

No guests indicated they wanted to speak.

A Motion to pay General, Highway and Sewer Claims was made by Councilwoman Kuenzel and seconded by Councilman Fitzgerald and approved by the Board.

A Motion to accept minutes as printed for 10/5, 10/11, 10/17, 10/18 & 10/19 of 2016 was made by Councilman Cherubini and Councilwoman Kuenzel and approved by the Board.

Regular Committee Reports:

1. Assessor & Justice (Cherubini/Kuenzel) – No substantial report.
2. Buildings & Grounds/Community Center/Enhancement (Fitzgerald/Frasier) - Supervisor Frasier noted rooms in the Community Center have been carpeted.
3. Finance & Insurance (Ramant/Cherubini) – No report.
4. Highway (Fitzgerald/Ramant) – Highway Superintendent Smith mentioned blacktopping is done, they will do a tool inventory and they are ready for winter roads.
5. Museum & Historian (Kuenzel/Ramant) – A letter from Senator Schumer on grants for museums will be forwarded to the historian and historical society.

6. Personnel (Cherubini/Kuenzel) – No substantial report.

7. Planning/Zoning/Stormwater (Fitzgerald/Ramant) – No report.

8. Recreation & Promotion & Youth (Ramant/Cherubini) – Councilman Cherubini reported on a Warren County Youth Forum Committee that he attended which had information on an “Alive at 25” program. The Justice can refer students to this program for troubled teenagers which can help them.

9. Sewer Districts #1 & # 2 (Frasier/Kuenzel) – Supervisor Frasier reported that 3 permit violations were received last month but now they have it basically under control. Councilwoman Kuenzel reported she and volunteer resident Jim Beaty went to the treatment plant to research information on the pumps for Sewer District #1 which are at the point where they are going to be wearing out. The recordkeeping now is good but originally a lot of data was not available and Jim has spent hours searching for available data.

10. Town Park & Beautification (Kuenzel/Ramant/Cherubini) – There are geese at the park and one was attacked by an eagle.

Unfinished Business

1. On a motion made by Councilman Fitzgerald and seconded by Councilman Ramant, the Board approved a request by the Hague Sno-goers to use a small part of the Highway Department property for “an 8’ x 40’ connex with a lean to off of it for storage of our equipment.” The one condition is that the Town will first check with their insurance company.

2. On a motion made by Councilman Cherubini and seconded by Councilman Ramant, the Board approved 4 - 1 (Kuenzel opposed) having the Town Supervisor approve anything posted or deleted from the Town website until the original website committee sets up a protocol or policy for website posting.

3. The Board heard a report that they would have to pay the forest manager to flag trees and would get money back when logs are sold when it is actually logged on the SDP sand pit property. Since that may be some time Kuenzel, Ramant and Cherubini were not for proceeding. Frasier and Fitzgerald were interested in having it done for a forest management issue but the Supervisor will write him and tell him not to proceed.

Communications & Petitions:

1. Information was distributed to Board members about the NYS Association of Towns meeting in NYC.

New Business

1. On a motion by Supervisor Frasier and seconded by Councilman Ramant, the Board approved a \$2700 transfer from contingency to another fund to replace the transmission on one of the trucks. All voting yes. Motion carried.

2. On a motion by Supervisor Frasier and seconded by Councilwoman Kuenzel, the Board approved dues of \$300 to the Adirondack Park Local Review Board. All voting yes. Motion carried.

3. Supervisor Frasier reported that ZEO Clark reported an issue of fallen trees in Hague Brook and they should be removed so there is not a problem of ice build up in the spring.

4. Councilman Ramant gave a report on \$139 time clocks that are activated by a finger print which would eliminate the need for time cards. They also would give a true reading for the actual time put in for retirement fund requirements. Every Highway, Community Center and Sewer District employee, whether salary or hourly, would need to use the new time clocks. In addition to the initial cost, there is a fee of \$29 per month to monitor all the clocks for up to 19 employees.

On a motion by Councilman Ramant and seconded by Councilwoman Kuenzel, the Board approved ordering and using this new system and get it up and running by January 1st. Use of signing in and out for all employees is already in the employee manual and will be used to show hours for the retirement system.

5. A letter was received by Michele Gautreau who cleans the Community Center about a food stain on the new carpet in the Board Room. She suggested that there should be rules that no food other than water be allowed in the courtroom and boardroom. The Board agreed to put up signs.

6. Councilman Ramant reported that he has checked with the cable company on service on the back roads which are still waiting for it. He said they will go forward and hope to have it done by spring but it is weather related.

7. Councilman Kuenzel asked about the signs for speed limits on Split Rock Rd. A survey is being made to see how many signs are needed. The Board agreed to keep Michele Denno, who made the original request, informed.

8. The following dates were announced: November 10 at 6:30 pm - Hague 2020 Forum; November 11 at 11 am - Veterans Memorial Service; December 3 - Holiday in Hague.

On a motion by Councilman Ramant and seconded by Councilman Fitzgerald the Board approved a motion to adjourn at 7 pm.