

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA
MINUTES - TOWN BOARD-BUDGET WORKSHOP –7 pm –October 6, 2011
Constantia Town Hall

Present: Charles Gilkey - Supervisor
Richard Colesante, John Metzger, Thomas Moran and Frank Tomaino - Council Members
Clare Haynes - Town Clerk
Nancy Butler - Supervisor's Clerk
Wayne Woolridge - Highway Superintendent

Others Present: Diane Avery, Mark Demma and Joseph LaVigne - North Shore Ambulance

CALL TO ORDER:

At 7:03 pm Mr. Gilkey called the budget workshop to order with the pledge of allegiance.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss 2012 budget issues.

DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Avery, Mr. Demma and Mr. LaVigne were in attendance to answer any questions as they pertain to the North Shore Ambulance budget. They have kept their increase at 2% to stay within the New York State guidelines.

The board asked if North Shore Ambulance could give a five year plan for their budget. Mr. Demma said that five years is too much, two to three years he could make better predictions. The board would like any kind of suggestions that they have to cut and or contain costs. With the new 2% tax cap each year will get more and more difficult to keep spending under this cap. The major places the town can create significant savings is with their contractual departments. The board will be looking at the fire departments budgets also. All areas of the town's budgets must be looked at carefully and they will be asked to think out of the box to help with decreasing their spending. Lengthy discussion followed. At 9:25 the representatives from North Shore Ambulance left the meeting.

Discussion continued on the fire contracts, Mr. Gilkey has asked Mr. Bader to get copies of contracts for both ambulance and fire departments from other municipalities for review and then suggest changes. The board asked Mr. Gilkey to contact and invite the Chiefs of both fire departments, Mr. Edward John Whitney for Constantia and Mr. Carl Avery for Cleveland along with Mr. Russell Raymond, Chairman of the Fire Commissioners to the next budget workshop, October 13th at 7pm. The discussion will be on the potential change of contract, boundaries and phased budget reductions.

On to raises, Mr. Colesante asked Ms. Butler to get a list together for raises that were given to personnel over the last three years for the next meeting.

ADJOURN:

At 9:25am Mr. Moran made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

Carried: Moran - Yes Tomaino - Yes Colesante - Yes Metzger - Yes Gilkey - Yes