

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA
MINUTES - TOWN BOARD-SPECIAL MEETING - BUDGET-9 AM – October 10, 2013
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

CALL TO ORDER:

At 9:04 am Mr. Gilkey called the budget workshop to order with the pledge of allegiance.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and review the proposed 2014 budget.

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Butler gave the board a revised budget along with a new tax cap printout. Ms. Butler also made changes to the park and recreation salaries as requested by Mr. Colesante. Mr. Colesante realizes that some of the percentages are high, but we need to be able to retain our people especially lifeguards. The board was in agreement with the pay rates for the job titles for park and recreation employees. General fund salaries sheet was approved at the last meeting.

Mr. Colesante has spoken to Mrs. Hardy on the change to her position, she felt she was treated unfairly. Mr. Gilkey showed the board a copy of the letter, with the letter was a job description for her job that she was asked to sign. Majority of the board feels that all positions should have a job description, this is something that needs to be addressed. Discussion followed, before this can be resolved the board needs to get something from Mr. Wheeler as to if he needs her or not. Mr. Gilkey will contact Mr. Wheeler and Mr. Colesante will get back to Mrs. Hardy.

TAX CAP:

Ms. Butler contacted Mr. Pitre from the NYS Comptroller's office in Syracuse. He was able to help Ms. Butler with the form that the state uses for the tax cap and make the necessary corrections. From these numbers changes were made and the newest tentative budget is \$14.00 under the tax cap amount. This is with general fund balance giving back \$175,000 and highway fund balance giving back \$69,100. Wayne would like to decrease this amount, but in order to do this the town board would have to override the tax cap. Every year there are unforeseen mandates that he tries to pay out of his existing budget, it is getting to a point that he will not be able to do this much longer. By giving back money each year it is less that he can put away to replace equipment or use for improving roads. Discussion followed, it was agreed that a plan needs to be put into place with facts and figures so when the town has to override the tax cap the board will be ready with answers to the taxpayers.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

The next meeting is scheduled for October 17th at 6 pm, Mr. Colesante will not be able to attend. A meeting was scheduled for October 16th at 9 am and the public hearing for the 2014 budget was scheduled for November 7th at 7 pm.

ADJOURN:

At 11:11 am the meeting adjourned.