

TOWN OF CON.STANTIA
MINUTES - TOWN BOARD-SPECIAL MEETING - BUDGET-7 PM – October 23, 2014
Constantia Town Hall

Present: Charles Gilkey - Supervisor
Richard Colesante, John Metzger, Thomas Moran, Chad Whitney - Council Members
Clare Haynes - Town Clerk
Wayne Woolridge - Highway Superintendent
Nancy Butler - Bookkeeper to the Supervisor

CALL TO ORDER:

At 7:00 pm Mr. Gilkey called the budget workshop to order with the pledge of allegiance.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the 2015 budget.

BUDGET:

New tentative budget was given to the board with changes previously discussed, along with a tax cap worksheet. With this budget and additional changes Ms. Butler has made, the town is currently under the tax cap. The board was also given the new calculated estimate fund balance for both the general and highway.

Ms. Butler and Mr. Woolridge have been discussing numbers making sure the highway will stay within budget this year. Ms. Butler has given the board a tentative budget with the general fund giving back \$135,000 to the taxpayers, the highway fund will not give anything back. With unexpected revenues plus lower expenses the highway fund has \$150,000 that can be used as a down payment in 2014 on a new snowplow truck that is needed and then use the capital reserve to finish paying for the truck in January of 2015. Mr. Woolridge is aware that this shows a higher increase in the highway fund, but feels this is the best way to spend taxpayer's money. Ms. Butler added that the general fund will be decreasing so hopefully the taxpayers will see this and understand that one is offsetting the other. Mr. Woolridge would like an honest opinion from the board, all agreed this is the time to do it. Mr. Metzger made the comment that most towns have to borrow money, Constantia has not had to do this.

The board went thru the budget and noted the following changes to be made:

General Fund:

Expenses:

A1110.13 Justice Clerk #1 PS - should be decreased to show a 2% increase
A1110.14 Justice Clerk #2 PS - should be decreased to show a 2% increase
A1310.42 Payroll Service CE - move the \$248.00 increase to A7510.4 Historian CE
A7110.2 Parks Eq - decrease to \$1,000.00

Revenues:

A2610 Fines & Forfeited Bail was \$20,000.00 decrease to \$15,000.00
A3005 Mortgage Tax was \$50,000.00 decrease to \$35,000.00

Highway Fund:

Appropriations:

DB9030.81 Social Security and DB9030.82 Medicare, Ms. Butler will look at both of these accounts and make necessary changes both are a little low and should be increased.

Constantia and Cleveland fire protection: Cleveland asked for a 1% increase while Constantia stayed the same. This was because Cleveland asked for a three year contract, after discussion it was decided that as in the past both fire protection areas will receive the same amount. SF2-3410.4 Constantia and Cleveland will stay the same at \$86,910.00. The three year contract will not be considered at this time.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for October 30, 2014, and the public hearing for the preliminary budget is November 6th at 7pm in the Constantia Town Hall.

ADJOURN:

At 8:56 pm the meeting adjourned.