

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA
MINUTES - BUDGET MEETING-TOWN BOARD-OCTOBER 8, 2015
4:00 p.m. Constantia Town Hall

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

Others Present: Wayne Hall – Code Enforcement Officer

CALL TO ORDER:

At 4:00 p.m. the budget meeting of the town board was called to order with the pledge of allegiance.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the 2016 budget.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE:

Mr. Hall was asked to attend today's meeting to discuss the raise that he requested when he completed his budget worksheet. Mr. Metzger stated that payroll is a sensitive topic so the board wanted to get Mr. Hall's input as to the increase he requested. Mr. Hall when filling out the paperwork saw that there was a significant decrease in payroll in the Code office, did not realize his requested increase would turn out to be that high of a percentage. The old Code Enforcement Officer worked 30 hours per week that is where the savings comes from. The board thanked Mr. Hall coming in to answer questions, they will continue to work on the numbers. Mr. Hall left at 4:10 pm.

OTHER TOPICS:

Mr. Bader emailed a new Intermunicipal Agreement Providing Cooperative Highway Services that was requested of him at the last town board meeting. Mr. Woolridge would like to get this approved if there are no questions. Mr. Moran has had a chance to read the new agreement and made the motion to accept the Intermunicipal Agreement Providing Cooperative Highway Services, seconded by Mr. Colesante.
Carried: Moran – Yes Whitney – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Mosley – Yes

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Butler contacted Mr. Parker about the 2016 budget and what he feels should be budgeted. His response:

For the Bernhards Bay Water District, our current agreement (\$42,500) should take us to short term loan closing with EFC. We also have \$7,500 of \$50,000 grant that is still available. I don't think you need to budget anymore for this project, but I don't believe you have received the grant, so I'm not sure how you want to handle that in the budget. Mr. Colesante reported that the grant is a little tenuis, the paperwork went to the granting agency. There is a dispute with division of budget saying this can't pay for engineering services. This is okay because we can use for the grant for construction, the town needs the 10 points the grant gives us for funding. Mr. Mosley contacted Senator Richie's office they call the granting office weekly for updates. After attending the Cleveland Village meeting last week, it looks like they will not be doing the \$3.8M project likely to do a smaller project. Mr. Colesante is hopeful that in a few months' time they will notify the funding agency what they will be doing.

For the sewer project, I would like to see \$25,000 budgeted. This would allow us to provide funding assistance and do district formation/SEQR if we are able to secure affordable financing. The board members do realize that if a district is formed, all monies spent will be reimbursable to the general fund but it is unlikely that a sewer district will be formed. No more additional monies will be budgeted for sewer at this time.

A miscellaneous engineering line item of \$5,000 may not be a bad idea as we have previously assisted with drainage studies, an evaluation of highway garage roof, etc. Mr. Woolridge thinks this might not be a bad idea, he has a lot of engineering that will be needed in the next year, maybe this line will not be needed for the general fund, but for the highway. Mr. Woolridge will need engineering for the Holly Hole Rd tube that needs to be replaced and also for the pit on Roosevelt Rd. DEC is requiring the pit be surveyed and engineered so a highway engineering line is not a bad idea.

Discussion on website – Mr. Colesante will speak to Mr. Baxter about the possibility of updating the website.

The board started on page 9 with highway. The next big purchase will be for a gradall, this will cost in the area of \$300,000. When asked how he was planning on paying for this, it will come out of capital reserve. The capital reserve at the present time has been zeroed out by the purchase of the new snowplow but will be working to add more to this account. The major change to the budget is DB5112.2 Improvements CO will be decreased by \$112,000, this amount will be added to DB5130.2 Machinery Eq to pay for the two new loaders. The loaders were an unexpected purchase but the trade in for the old ones was a good deal with extras, broom and forks wanted to wait but could not pass up the deal.

Mr. Metzger asked if the fuel tank could be revisited at highway garage. Mr. Woolridge is willing, he will work with Mr. Hall to move forward. Mr. Woolridge is not sure if LaValley still has the system available, it was a used system. The board asked Mr. Woolridge to get an estimate at how much the fuel island would be for the next meeting.

Salaries were discussed, Mr. Woolridge originally put in for no increase, but would like to change that to a 3% increase.

ADJOURN:

At 6:10pm Mr. Whitney made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

Carried: Moran – Yes Whitney – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Mosley – Yes