

**TOWN OF HECTOR
BUDGET WORKSHOP
October 16, 2018**

Members Present:

Alvin J. White, Supervisor
William Preston, Councilman
Robert Barton, Councilman
Elizabeth Martin, Councilwoman
Jessica Rodgers, Councilwoman
Justin Boyette, Councilman

Others:

Jane M. V. Ike, Clerk
Carl Langenfeld

Called to order at 6:08pm by Supervisor A. White, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor A. White reviewed several budget amendments that needed to be done.

RESOLUTION #180 – offered by Boyette, seconded by Martin

Resolved to approve and authorize the Supervisor to make the following Budget Amendments:

Transfer from A1990.4 Contingency \$600.00 to 1220.4 Supervisor's Contractual; and \$100.0 to A1010.4 Town Board Contractual; transfer from DA599 Fund Balance \$9764.00 to DA9040.8 Workmen's Comp; transfer from SW1990.4 Contingency \$7000.00 to SW8340.2 Equipment Meters; and \$12500.00 to SW8340.4 Transmission & Distribution Contractual. Ayes 6, Nays 0

Councilman Boyette shared some information he received from Jenny Scarbrough regarding her conversation with Randy Williams at Dandy – they have no design set in stone and are receptive to community input; it will not be a truck stop; willing to come to a community meeting.

2019 Tentative Budget:

General Fund Town Wide: Appropriations and revenues reviewed line by line. Budget appropriations overall for entire budget are down \$30,000; estimated revenues went up.

Carl Langenfeld asked if the budget would be within the 2% tax cap; New York State has the highest taxes in the country; hoping you can find a way to reduce.

Supervisor White explained that he was working on getting more accurate budgeting practices in place for both revenues and expenditures. The Tax Cap puts pressure on growing communities; would help if the County had not taken away a portion of the sales tax. Estimated tax rate is up slightly at 10 cents per 1,000 of assessed value. Cancer Insurance coverage mandate for fire fighters is driving up costs; 2019 budget includes approximately \$15,000 for this unfunded mandate.

Discussion regarding training costs; court bailiff; change in salary line items for Bookkeeper and Park Manager; anticipate hiring a new Park Manager in 2019. Carl Langenfeld asked if one person was still doing 2 full time jobs (bookkeeper and park)? Smith Park has never been full time. Councilwoman Rodgers suggested we look for someone educated in the field when searching for a new manager.

Discussion continued regarding Assessment contract with county; Computer Support contracts. Discussion regarding contingency and the amount to budget; allowed up to 10% of budget. Discussion regarding Dumpster Day – all volunteer event currently; discussion relating to adding another day only at Reynoldsville and paying the Highway men to work. Cemeteries: Town is currently mowing in Mecklenburg Cemetery; Jones Cemetery has asked for some help and Logan Cemetery may disband if they cannot find more people to help.

General Fund Part Town:

Carl Langenfeld asked questions regarding our Code Officer and his working for another town; is he still full time; less hours here? No answers given.

Comprehensive Plan will need to be reviewed and possibly updated in 2020. Stream Testing and the Cayuga Intermunicipal Group discussed.

Revenues reviewed; discussion of distribution of sales tax; fund balances in B and DB discussed.

RESOLUTION #181 – offered by Preston, seconded by Boyette

Resolved to set November 8, 2018 at 7:00pm for a Public Hearing on Local Law #2 of 2018 Tax Cap Over-ride. Ayes 6, Nays 0

Discussion of tax increases and overall reduced appropriated fund balances. Discussion of the need to use a more accurate budgeting approach; trying to stay away from deficit budgeting; tax cap levy increase allowed is 2%; most of increase is coming from Fire Departments; currently over tax cap by \$13,358.83

Carl Langenfeld suggested we not pave a ½ mile of road and stay within the tax cap. Supervisor White explained that there is no real reason to stay within the tax cap. 2019 Tentative total appropriations are \$4,332,355.89; tax levy is \$2,438,279. Discussion of effect of tax rates.

RESOLUTION #182 – offered by Preston, seconded by Martin

Resolved to make the following one-year fire contract numbers preliminary for 2019:

District #1 – Mecklenburg Volunteer Fire Company – \$134,640.00

District #1B – Valois Logan Hector Vol. Fire Company – \$228,000.00

District #1C – Village of Burdett Vol. Fire Department – \$294,710.44

District #1D – Village of Trumansburg Vol. Fire Co. – \$18,014.00

Further resolved to make the following two-year fire contract preliminary for 2019:

District #1A – Village of Odessa Vol. Fire Department – \$11,169.00 for 2019 and \$11,281.00 for 2020

Further resolved to make the following one-year ambulance contract numbers preliminary for 2019: Trumansburg Ambulance District - \$37,907.00; Mecklenburg Ambulance District - \$42,512.00

Further resolved to make the 2019 Tentative Budget as amended the 2019 Preliminary Budget and set the Public Hearings for Fire, Ambulance and Budget for November 8, 2018 at 7:00pm.

Roll Call Vote: Barton – Aye; A. White – Aye; Martin – Aye; Boyette – Aye; Preston – Aye; and Rodgers – Aye
Ayes 6, Nays 0

The budget workshop schedule for October 23, 2018 is cancelled.

Motion by Martin, seconded by Preston to adjourn at 9:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane M. V. Ike, Clerk