

**Public Hearing Cont.- 2014 Budget
Special Town Board Meeting
November 18, 2013
7:00 p.m.**

Present: Supervisor Zimet, Councilwoman Kitty Brown, Councilman Kevin Barry.

Absent: Councilman Jeff Logan, Councilwoman Jean Gallucci.

At 7:06 p.m. a motion was made by Councilman Barry to open the Public Hearing on the 2014 Budget. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

No one from the public came forward to speak.

At 7:07 p.m. a motion was made by Councilman Barry to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 7:07 p.m. a motion was made by Councilman Barry to open the meeting with the pledge. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Public Comment:

None

Budget Discussion:

Rail Trail line A7110.4 was increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000 for maintenance and stabilization of the bridge over the river. It also allows for access management clearing.

Purchasing line A1345.4 was decreased from \$14,939 to \$11,357 as a result of double budgeting for bookkeeper and courts.

Highway Supt. Chris Marx indicated that he was waiting for clarification on a very old Rail Trail contract so he knows exactly what the Highway is responsible for. This project meets many of the criteria that would make it eligible for the NY Rising projects.

At 7:16 p.m. Councilman Logan arrived.

Library line A7410.4 was increased by \$75,000 to \$396,000, as per voter referendum.

Supervisor Zimet indicated that she had prepared a draft of the final budget based on the Board's previous discussions. More requests have since come in. Due to the lateness of these submissions, Councilwoman Gallucci expressed to her over the phone that she did not feel it was appropriate to include these. Department heads can come before the Board in December and if need be, money can be taken from contingency.

Rescue Squad/Ambulance line B4540.4 was increased by \$25,000 to be taken out of the fund balance so as to not raise taxes. There was a discussion relative to an additional amount of revenue found in their budget. Councilman Logan is fine with the \$25,000 increase as long as it is a one-time payment. The Rescue Squad's budget includes an expense of \$30,000 for the purchase of a new vehicle, which would come out of a reserve fund, which is separate from their budget lines and reflected as a deficit in their budget. This would result in only a \$20,000 loss, which the Town can split with the Village. Councilman Barry suggested budgeting the \$25,000 and then decide later how it will get spent. More work has to be done. Councilman Logan suggested the Rescue Squad have a financial liaison in order to provide the needed financial information to the Town and Village. Councilwoman Brown indicated that she was opposed to this increase because she is concerned that it will carry over every year. She is in favor of an additional \$10,000, not \$25,000.

A motion was made by Councilman Barry to include the \$25,000 in line B4540.4. Seconded by Supervisor Zimet. Councilman Logan made a friendly amendment to make this a one-time expense, contingent that the Village is fully committed to matching the funds. All aye votes cast, Councilwoman Brown voted no because the request is based on a mathematical error. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown to increase *Budget line A1340.1* by \$6,240 to \$61,550, for an additional 10 hours/week for help for the bookkeeper. Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Logan to increase *Programs for the Aging line A6772.4* by \$5,000 to \$23,240 for a Senior Coordinator. Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Barry to increase *Wetlands Inspection line B8090.410* by \$2,000 to come out of the Fund balance. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown to increase the *Safety Inspection line B3620.1* by \$974 for additional hours for the Zoning Officer. Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown to increase the *Master Plan Consultant line B8091.4* from \$21,750 to \$26,000, due to the fact that the consultant will not start work until 2014 not 2013 as previously thought; to be paid from the Fund balance. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Justice Request:

Tabled, needs more information.

A motion was made by Councilman Logan to decrease *Recreation Activities line A7150.485* by \$750 and increase the *Dog Park line A7190.4* to \$2,000, which includes the \$750 stipend and \$1,250 for repairs. Seconded by Supervisor Zimet, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Councilman Barry suggested the Town Board send a letter to the County and ask them to start distributing sales tax to the Town of New Paltz based on the aggregate assessed value instead of just the assessed value of the Town outside the Village. Based on his calculations, that would mean a difference of \$70,000 to \$80,000 more revenue for the Town. He will draft a letter.

Fire Department Budget:

The Town is in debt in the Fire line because the previous administration did not budget enough money for the contract. This year's budget includes enough money for the contract and to pay back the deficit.

A motion was made by Supervisor Zimet to adopt the 2014 Town Budget as amended. Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, motion carried. Councilman Logan thanked Supervisor Zimet and Councilwoman Gallucci for putting together a budget that was on time and incredibly accurate.

At 8:30 p.m. a motion was made by Councilman Barry to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosanna Mazzaccari
Town Clerk