

October 25, 2016
2017 Budget Hearing
5:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Gerald L. Deming, Council Members: Lynn Parnell, Amos Smith, Norman Gates and Frank Rose Jr.

Absent: None

Others: Henry Fuller, Kirk Richenberg, George Worden Jr. (High. Supt.), Sam Curran and Justin Bennett (Baldwin Business Services)

Supervisor Deming opened the Budget Hearing at 5:02 p.m. and invited Councilman Rose to lead with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Deming stated that the Budget Hearing was scheduled to present the upcoming figures for the Town of York. Mr. Deming introduced Sam Curran and Justin Bennett of Baldwin Business Services, the Town's Accounting Firm, to give an overview of the budget and to receive public comment and questions on it.

Mr. Bennett began by stating that the proposed 2017 budget will continue with a stable tax rate and will remain under the 2% cap once again. The Board has proposed a 2% wage increase for town employees across the board. In the General fund under Buildings contractual, they reduced that line item by \$5,000. In Refuse & Garbage we increased by \$5,000. Supervisor Deming stated due to the fact we have yet to sign a new contract, we are unsure at this time what the new rate will be. Mr. Bennett reported that the 2017 budget will reflect a reduction in State Retirement in the amount of \$6,080, based on the initial figures from NYS Retirement directly.

Mr. Bennett stated in the Highway Fund, we had considerable revenue under services for other governments, which helped the budget immensely (work for the County). In General Repairs (contractual) this line item was increased from \$45,000 to \$86,000, to utilize funds for additional oil and stone in order to complete more roadwork. Under Machinery equipment, we have allotted additional funds for the purchase of a truck, of which \$82,000 of it is from reserve to offset it. In Snow removal contractual we reduced it by \$10,000, it stayed consistent with State Retirement also going down. Councilman Smith asked what happens if we go over budget in snow removal. Mr. Bennett replied we can alter monies from another area, usually the General Fund. Supervisor Deming added that's where official transfers take place.

Mr. Bennett reviewed the last two years fund balances and projected numbers for 2017:

2015-	\$ 176,622.00
2016-	\$ 296,844.00
2017-	\$ 153,711.00

Mr. Bennett clarified due to so much revenue from county work, the fund balance is quite healthy, and is actually closer to \$200,000.

Supervisor Deming reported that the Town signed a three (3) year contract with the York Fire Department, expiring December 31, 2018, but for 2017 a 2% increase was agreed upon for fire protection.

Mr. Bennett stated that the Light District was straight forward and will remain the same at \$20,000. Consolidated Water District will also remain constant, but the Board did post under Transmission & Distribution (Personal Services)- SW8340.1 additional funds from \$64,000 to \$89,975 for a potential new employee if needed once the cheese plant is operational. Monies were also added in Water equipment (SW8340.2) for purchase of a truck and trailer. McVean Road water is quite straight forward as well.

Mr. Bennett outlined the sewer districts and their appropriations. In the Retsof Sewer District, Sewage Collecting system-equipment (SS8120.2), the Board increased the line item from \$5,000 to \$18,000 and in Sewage treatment and disposal-equipment (SS8130.2) from \$ 4,000 to \$30,000 for the proposed upcoming sewage equipment purchases (camera) and upgrading of electric. Mr. Deming stated the total amount anticipated for the truck, trailer and camera will be \$ 68,000, and will be split between the water and sewer districts.

Mr. Bennett stated in York Sewer #1 and #2, monies are allocated in the Sewage Collecting system-equipment line item and Sewage treatment and disposal-equipment line, for upgrading of electric and purchase of a camera. Purchase of the truck will be on a separate line item. Mr. Bennett added, most of the purchases have funds coming from the fund balance to spend down the purchase of the truck, trailer and camera equipment.

Councilman Smith asked how we currently conduct review of our lines, which Mr. Worden replied we have to hire out when we are in need of review. If we were able to purchase the camera equipment, no delays would be necessary, we would have immediate action. Mr. Smith questioned if training would be required. Mr. Worden responded it would, but believes it to be quite easy to run.

Mr. Richenberg asked what those current costs are under in the budget now. Mr. Worden replied in each of the individual districts, it would be under Contractual. Mr. Richenberg further questioned that the Board is proposing to keep that line item as is, even though we didn't spend all of last year's budget ? Supervisor Deming replied the Board is keeping the line item as is. Mr. Richenberg stated that it looks as if both lines have gone up in Sewage Collecting systems, one from \$9,000 to \$ 22,800 in the Retsof Sewer District. Mr. Worden commented some of that contractual may be for sludge removal. Mr. Richenberg asked, so the biggest increase was for the camera and electric ? Supervisor Deming answered Yes, split between each of the sewer districts, by way of the number of customers per district.

Mr. Fuller asked the Board if Mr. Worden draws a salary from water and sewer. Supervisor Deming responded that Mr. Worden does receive a stipend of \$6,000, which is split between sewer and water.

Mr. Richenberg stated that the Board seems to be reading from additional sheets along with the budget, as it pertains to assessments and tax rates and asked if it could be added to the budget for the public to review and compare, and it would also make it easier to follow along. Supervisor Deming stated the additional sheets were board worksheets, but will include that last page in future year's budgets.

Mr. Bennett stated that the Fire tax rate is down from 85.60 to 84.50. Mr. Deming added, the monies previously in the budget for the ambulance fund have now been removed. We no longer contract with the county, it is provided by the county directly for the residents. Mr. Richenberg asked, won't they be sending us a bill? Mr. Deming answered they will definitely not be sending us a bill. Mr. Deming reported that the light district went down slightly from 12.20 to 12.10.

Mr. Richenberg asked, in the General fund, an increase of \$10,000 was put in for the Attorney, will this line item continue to increase each year? Supervisor Deming replied he does not anticipate increasing each year but for the upcoming year at least due to upcoming projects ahead of us.

Mr. Richenberg asked for clarification on Other Health contractual, A4989.4, what does it cover? Supervisor Deming replied the line item covers random drug testing, and it will remain the same as last year. Mr. Richenberg asked what is classified as celebrations? Supervisor Deming answered that the majority of that line item is used for the York/Leicester Fire Works display (\$1,000), with remaining monies to be used for other activities as need be.

Mr. Richenberg asked if Baldwin Business Services is up this year for service contract. Mr. Deming replied each year they must be approved.

Councilman Smith asked for explanation in Sewer District #2 (Piffard) under Administration contractual. Actual in 2015 was \$83.00, the 2016 budget reflected \$250, with 2016 estimated at \$2,266 and now for 2017 back again at \$250. Supervisor Deming reported that money was misapplied and had to be moved into another account, which it has. Mr. Richenberg asked if the line item is correct now, which Mr. Deming replied it is at \$250 for 2017.

Mr. Richenberg asked about the Medical Insurance line item and that the number has remained the same. Supervisor Deming stated on the tentative budget we estimated but after review of upcoming rates, we actually has a decrease, due to the fact we are now ready to employ a new person, we are not sure if the new hire will want to accept the town insurance. Mr. Deming followed up by saying, we budgeted \$31,000, but a 10% increase may take place. Mr. Deming added, an HRA is part of the employee's benefits. Any remaining monies each year gets put back into the budget. The majority of the employees do not fully use the allotted HRA offered to them. Mr. Richenberg

commented, we can't plan for it can we?, which Mr. Deming replied correct, we can't, we never know from year to year what will be used.

Mr. Richenberg asked the Board to explain Rental of Real Property (A2410), decreasing from \$5,000 to \$2,500. Supervisor Deming stated this line item is for renting of the town hall building. The Board was very conservative with this number for 2017.

Mr. Richenberg asked for further explanation pertaining to the truck and trailer for water. Mr. Worden reported that the town is trying to upgrade our fleet at this point, currently we have older trucks in place. The trailer will be used to house the camera and supplies needed to go with the Gen Set, plus fittings for pumps.

Mr. Richenberg stated that last year's budget had numbers in it for two trucks. Mr. Worden replied if we decide to hire a new employee they will need a vehicle to drive. Mr. Richenberg asked if the costs are spread out throughout water and sewer. Supervisor Deming answered Yes, all costs are divided between the districts. Mr. Richenberg asked if the truck will be purchased in 2016. Mr. Worden stated that the details have actually not been brought before the Town Board as of yet. Mr. Richenberg stated he is a bit surprised that nobody asked if the truck was needed if we didn't have one for the last two years...why now. Councilman Rose replied we have nothing in the current fleet to do the smaller area roads and parking lots. We have had to use 10-wheel equipment, this truck would work very well and when Mr. Worden checks the roads it is much less wear on them.

Mr. Richenberg questioned in Highway, Misc. Revenue from Other Governments-water (DA2389) the \$40,000 figure. Supervisor Deming stated that we have to reimburse the Highway department for assisting water and sewer. Mr. Richenberg asked how we keep track of this each year. Supervisor Deming replied the Board sets a number each year for the budget, there is no actual way to track. Mr. Richenberg questioned, as the water and sewer districts grow will the \$40,000 figure also increase. Supervisor Deming answered he does not anticipate further increase. We have replaced all of the old lines, so hopefully we shouldn't have any major breaks to contend with.

Mr. Richenberg commented with the 5:00 p.m. hearing time, is the board trying to discourage residents from attending? Supervisor Deming replied not at all, whether the time is 7:30 p.m. or 5:00 p.m. people unfortunately do not attend.

After no further comment or questions...

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Rose to close the Budget Hearing at 5:46 p.m. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine M. Harris, Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING
October 25, 2016
6:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Gerald L. Deming, Council Members: Lynn Parnell, Amos Smith, Norman Gates and Frank Rose Jr.

Absent: None

Others: Henry Fuller, Kirk Richenberg and George Worden Jr. (Highway Supt.)

Supervisor Deming opened the Special Town Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Supervisor Deming stated that the purpose of the meeting is to render a decision on the 2017 Town of York budget.

2017 BUDGET

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mrs. Parnell to approve the 2017 Town of York budget as presented. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

OTHER

1) Vacancy notice:

RESOLUTION offered by Mrs. Parnell and seconded by Mr. Smith authorizing Clerk Harris permission to advertise for interested residents to fill several vacancies, effective January 1, 2017. The positions available are:

York Planning Board	(2)
York Zoning Board of Appeals	(2)
Board of Assessment Review	(1)

Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

** Terms are for 5 years.

2) Highway position:

Mr. Worden requested of the Board permission to enter into Executive Session to review what the committee had discussed after conducting interviews for the upcoming new position at the Highway Department.

6:05 p.m.

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mr. Smith to enter into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel matter, to include Town Board, Mr. Worden and Clerk Harris. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

6:14 p.m.

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Gates to end Executive Session. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

Supervisor Deming reported no action was taken in Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION offered by Mrs. Parnell and seconded by Mr. Gates to adjourn the Special Town Board Meeting. Voted on and approved, Yes-5, No-0.

Special Town Board Meeting closed at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine M. Harris, Clerk