

TOWN BOARD

The Town Board, Town of Highlands, held a Budget Workshop on Thursday, October 21, 2010 at Town Hall, 254 Main St, Highlands Falls, NY at 7:30pm.

PRESENT:	Edward Magryta	----	Supervisor
	Holly Gokey	----	Council Member
	Mervin R. Livsey	----	Council Member
	Laurie R. Tautel	----	Council Member (Left at 9:30pm)
	William Edsall	----	Council Member
	Kelly Blauvelt	----	Comptroller
	June Patterson	----	Town Clerk

Supervisor Magryta opened the budget workshop at 7:30pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

Ambulance:

Supervisor Magryta said that at the last meeting, Capt. Stroppel presented his budget to the Board. The Supervisor asked the Board if they had any questions for Capt. Stroppel.

The Board had no questions.

Supervisor Magryta asked Capt. Stroppel if he would be able to work with only one (1) more EMT instead of the two (2) he has requested in the budget.

Capt. Stroppel said that he would be happy to get one (1) more EMT. Capt. Stroppel also informed the Board that, since switching billing companies, revenue is up.

Supervisor Magryta said that he would like the Board to consider appointing one (1) paid EMT, but budget for two (2). The Supervisor said that if revenue is good, then the second EMT could be appointed at a later date.

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Dial-A-Bus:

Colleen Solan, Manager, presented her budget to the Board.

The Board discussed riders, revenues, part-time drivers verse full-time drivers and increasing Ms. Solan's hours.

Justices:

Justice Donaldson presented his budget to the Board. Mr. Donaldson informed the Board that the Court obtains grants each year to help pay for projects that are done.

The Board discussed the Court's revenues and salaries.

Recreation:

Comptroller Blauvelt explained to the Board that Recreation pays for t-shirts, trophies, etc. and then is reimbursed by the participants. Ms. Blauvelt said that there needs to be an expense line and a revenue line for this, which will be zero in the end.

Sewer:

Doug Willis presented his budget to the Board, which is basically the same as last year. Mr. Willis informed the Board that his machines are approximately 25 years old and he cannot foresee what will break.

Mr. Willis also advised the Board that he doesn't believe that the other operator at the plant is planning to stay on too much longer and it would be in the Town's best interest to look into training someone to take his place.

Fire District:

Supervisor Magryta attended the Fire District budget public hearing and they have approximately a 5.6% increase from last year.

Assessor:

Jean Talman presented her budget to the Board. Ms. Talman's requested 2011 budget is \$57,899.

The Board discussed a re-val and possibly setting up a reserve fund to pay for the re-val.

Supervisor Magryta asked Comptroller Blauvelt to look into setting up the reserve fund.

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IT:

Roger Reynolds presented his budget to the Board. Mr. Reynolds budget for 2011 is approximately \$70,000.

Building:

John Hager presented his budget to the Board. Mr. Hager has requested a part-time Code Enforcement Officer be hired.

Council Member Edsall does not agree with hiring an additional person.

The Board discussed e-code with Mr. Hager.

Library:

Council Member Livsey said he has received communications from some people who don't think it is fair that the Library did not attend a budget workshop to discuss their budget.

Supervisor Magryta said he met with the Library representatives and discussed the budget. The Supervisor decided that it would be no benefit for them to come to a budget workshop. The Supervisor asked if the Board would like them to come in to discuss their budget.

Council Member Livsey said he would like to wait for Council Member Tautel to be here to make a decision on the Library.

Supervisor said that the meeting on Thursday can be earlier if the Board would like.

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gokey to adjourn the Budget Workshop. Workshop adjourned at 11:10pm.

MOTION CARRIED: 4-eyes (Magryta, Gokey, Edsall, Livsey)
0-nays
1-absent (Tautel)

Attest,