

## TOWN BOARD

The Town Board, Town of Highlands, held a Budget Workshop on Thursday, October 6, 2011 at Town Hall, 254 Main St, Highland Falls, NY at 7:30pm.

PRESENT:	Holly Gokey	----	Council Member
	William Edsall	----	Council Member
	Laurie R. Tautel	----	Council Member
	Kelly Blauvelt	----	Comptroller
	June Patterson	----	Town Clerk
ABSENT:	Edward Magryta	----	Supervisor (Arrived as meeting was being adjourned)
	Mervin R. Livsey, Jr.	----	Council Member (Had to leave because of Ambulance duty)

Council Member Gokey opened the budget workshop at 7:30pm.

Comptroller Blauvelt informed the Board that the Zoning Board has two Public Hearings on October 17, which is the same day the Board has scheduled a workshop.

Council Member Edsall said that Council Member Livsey asked him how he felt about televising the workshops. Mr. Edsall does not like to put out the other Boards and he doesn't know if the workshops should be televised.

Council Member Tautel is fine with moving to the Library to avoid a conflict.

Council Member Edsall would like to discuss this later in the meeting, but he said he is fine with the location change.

Comptroller Blauvelt gave an overview of the 2012 budget and said that there is a tax decrease of approximately 9%.

Comptroller Blauvelt explained about the Tax Cap, gave the Board the calculations used and explained that the cap this year is \$3,547,008. The Comptroller said that the Board can vote to override the tax cap, which would need to be done yearly and is subject to mandatory referendum.

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Comptroller Blauvelt explained that the amounts for Retirement, Social Security, Unemployment Insurance, Health Insurance/Buyout and the MTA tax are all numbers that are functions of salaries and are subject to change.

Comptroller Blauvelt said that the Crystal Lake Water/Sewer charges are now generated by the Village and that there is no budget for this.

Comptroller Blauvelt said there are two bonds. One is for Water with a principle of \$28,000 this year and the other one is for Sewer with a principle of \$80,000 this year. The Comptroller said that there is \$10,000 in that budget line for Bond Counsel.

Council Member Tautel made a motions seconded by Council Member Edsall to adjourn the budget workshop. Workshop adjourned at 8:10pm.

**MOTION CARRIED: 3-eyes (Gokey, Edsall, Tautel)**  
**0-nays**  
**2-absent (Magryta, Livsey)**

Supervisor Magryta came in and explained that he was at an award ceremony at West Point.

Attest,