

## **TOWN BOARD**

The Town Board, Town of Highlands, held a budget workshop and regular meeting on Monday, September 8, 2014 at Town Hall, 254 Main St, Highland Falls, NY at 6:00pm.

PRESENT:	Mervin R. Livsey	----	Supervisor
	William Edsall	----	Council Member
	June Gunza	----	Council Member
	Adrienne T. Voltaire	----	Council Member
	Kelly Blauvelt	----	Comptroller
	Justin Rider	----	Counsel
	June Patterson	----	Town Clerk

Supervisor Livsey opened the budget workshop at 6:00pm.

### **SEWER**

The Board reviewed the budget with Mr. Held and Ms. Blauvelt.

Personal services went down because an extra employee will not be needed next year.

Mr. Held explained about the pumps that need to be replaced and also said he would want to re-build old ones. Mr. Held asked for a vehicle and a clothing allowance.

Council Member Edsall said there is a healthy reserve fund for sewer.

Ms. Blauvelt said there is almost \$100,000 in the reserve fund.

Ms. Blauvelt said she would like to raise the utility line a little. Ms. Blauvelt also said she would like to put \$10,000 in the reserve fund.

The Board was okay with both of those things.

### **POLICE**

This budget was reviewed.

Ms. Blauvelt said she switched some numbers that were put in the wrong spot. Ms. Blauvelt said the reserve fund should be \$20,000 and the equipment line should be \$44,000.

Supervisor Livsey asked about the \$40,000.

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Chief Quinn said it was for a new police vehicle.

The Board discussed a new vehicle and the unfunded apparatus line with Chief Quinn.

Council Member Gunza suggested budgeting for a new car and putting one-half of the cost of a new vehicle in the reserve fund.

The Board agreed to put \$5,000 in the equipment line and \$39,000 in the reserve fund.

The Board continued to review the budget.

Chief Quinn said the personal services line is going up quite a bit to prepare for the new contract.

Ms. Blauvelt informed the Chief that the 2014 raise has to go in the 2014 budget because it is a 2014 expense.

The Board continued reviewing the budget.

## **DOG CONTROL**

Chief Quinn said Detective Bailey has raised the personal services to give them more hours.

The Board discussed this budget.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

This budget was discussed briefly.

Supervisor Livsey said he will speak to Goosetown to see what they are offering.

## **ATTORNEY**

Supervisor Livsey received an email from Mr. Rider stating that his fee will not increase.

## **LEGAL**

Ms. Blauvelt explained the different lines and review this budget with the Board.

**B-FUND LEGAL**

Ms. Blauvelt explained this and review with the Board.

**\*\*\*\* REGULAR MEETING \*\*\*\***

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Kinney asked about Mine Road being blocked.

Supervisor Livsey stated that Col Rideout decided the road was not safe and had it blocked. The Supervisor found that certain military personnel were accessing the road, so he had barriers put up on the Town side.

**MINUTES**

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to approve the minutes from the August 25, 2014 Town Board meeting.

**MOTION CARRIED: 4-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza, Voltaire)  
0-nays  
1-absent (Stradley)**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Supervisor Livsey announced that there will be a Homecoming parade on Main Street on September 14.

Supervisor Livsey said O'Neill Football will play Saugerties on September 19 and encouraged anyone who could attend to do so.

Supervisor Livsey informed everyone that the Town of Newburgh will be hosting a free rabies clinic at the Town of Newburgh Highway Dept.

Supervisor Livsey said the Orange County Federation of Sportsman Club will hold their dinner on September 13 at Kuhl's Highland House.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS, REQUESTS & RESOLUTIONS**

**Accounts Payable:**

Supervisor Livsey said the total amount paid was \$57,961.94.

**Budget Transfers:**

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to transfer \$562.50 from Ambulance Training to Ambulance Equipment.

**MOTION CARRIED: 4-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza, Voltaire)**  
**0-nays**  
**1-absent (Stradley)**

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to transfer \$900 from Water Dist 2 – Water Hook-up Revenues to Water Dist 2 Other Expenses.

**MOTION CARRIED: 4-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza, Voltaire)**  
**0-nays**  
**1-absent (Stradley)**

**Highway Surplus:**

Supervisor Livsey said he was asked by Mr. Patterson to declare the old vehicle lift as surplus so he could put it, for sale, on Auctions International.

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to declare the old vehicle lift surplus and allow Mr. Patterson to sell it on Auction International.

**MOTION CARRIED: 4-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza, Voltaire)**  
**0-nays**  
**1-absent (Stradley)**

**BOARD REPORTS**

**Council Member Voltaire:**

Council Member Voltaire expressed her concern over the way people drive through the School zone on Mountain Ave.

**Council Member Gunza:**

Council Member Gunza stated that the Chief is doing paperwork to get a free license plate reader from Orange County.

**Council Member Edsall:**

Council Member Edsall said he spoke to John Hager about the progress on the drop boxes. Mr. Edsall said the Old Oak Inn is being worked on and that drop box should be removed in the near future.

Council Member Edsall stated that he has had no response on his email about the telephone poles being removed and asked if the next step would be to contact the Public Service Commission.

Mr. Rider said that would be the way to go. Mr. Rider said he will prepare a letter for Supervisor Livsey's signature.

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

Supervisor Livsey reported that the Ambulance Corps has been busy.

Supervisor Livsey stated that he met with Mayor Flynn and Chief Quinn to discuss the feasibility of one police force.

Supervisor Livsey thanked Ed Stanley for working on the garden at the triangle in Fort Montgomery.

**ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS & CONCERNS**

**Property Maintenance:**

Supervisor Livsey said there are two properties, 90 Firefighters' Memorial Drive and one on Canterbury that have property maintenance issues. The Supervisor said he spoke to Mr. Rider and the Town has a procedure to demolish a building, but not to make the banks responsible for clean-up.

Mr. Rider stated that the Property Maintenance Code doesn't not allow the Town to do the work and put the cost on the taxes. Mr. Rider advised the Board that they should update the Property Maintenance Code.

Mr. Rider said there is a current issue that has a potential risk of a rodent infestation with could make the building unsafe and the Town could follow that section of the code.

Mr. Rider said the property at 90 Firefighters' Memorial Drive has a potential violation notice and the Town needs to do their due diligence to inform the property owner.

Supervisor Livsey would like to put in motion the amendment to the code.

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Mr. Rider said he would prepare an introductory Local Law for the next meeting. Mr. Rider recommended that the Board overhaul the Property Maintenance Code.

Council Member Edsall said David Church will be back from vacation soon and he would like him to look at the Village Code.

Mr. Rider said Mr. Church understands Zoning and Planning codes, but he can't see him reviewing the entire code.

Council Member Edsall asked about the property maintenance at 90 Firefighters' Memorial Drive.

Mr. Rider said the Town needs to make an effort to make contact with the owner and Mr. Hager said he would make some calls.

**Chief Quinn:**

Chief Quinn said the grant for the license plate reader includes the installation. The Chief said he will need a resolution from the Board to accept the money.

**Special District Budgets & Tax Rolls:**

Mr. Rider said the rolls are due to the Town Clerk on September 15. Mr. Rider said a public hearing should be held sometime in October.

Supervisor Livsey said a public hearing can be held for the 2015 Budget and those three Rolls on October 27.

Mr. Rider explained publishing rules and said the Supervisor should announce the public hearing at the first October meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ADJOURN**

Council Member Edsall made a motion seconded by Council Member Voltaire to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

**MOTION CARRIED: 4-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza, Voltaire)  
0-nays  
1-absent (Stradley)**

Attest,