

**Tentative Budget** meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Chester was held **October 5, 2010** at 7:30pm in the Town of Chester Municipal Center, Chestertown, NY.

Roll Call: Frederick H Monroe, Mike Packer, Edna Wells, and Steve Durkish. Karen DuRose - absent. Gary Clark - Highway superintendent

Councilperson Wells reported on the youth committee meeting on Monday night. Youth board would like to be able to review and make recommendations for the hiring of a youth director. Former Youth Director Nichole Howe resigned as of September 30, 2010. It was also brought up to consider reimbursement/pay for the people who do the ski program and soccer program. Suggested that when the advertisement for youth director is published that along with application, applicants include a letter stating what plans/program ideas they are considering.

Rates for Gore Mtn ski program have increased.

Supervisor Monroe will review bill for Loon Lake Constable expenses. (gas, winter storage, and acid wash total \$2,032.75).

**2011 Tentative Budget review:**

**NOTE: there was a "glitch" in the computer program - so some line items were not correct - Supervisor will review budget and make corrections. Changes will be made and review at October 12 meeting.**

The projected combined tax rate for General and Highway Fund for the 2011 Tentative Budget is \$1.252 per thousand. \$.442 per thousand for General Fund and \$.810 per thousand for Highway.

Board reviewed the budget notes and brief discussions on various issues:

1. Retirement contribution is up \$60,000.
2. County plowing and sanding may remain the same as 2010, which was below 2009 by \$9,700.
3. Health insurance - MVP has notified Supervisor that renewal rates, if done in December would be 27% increase or if in January would be 35%.  
Negotiations with the union in respect to cheaper plans.
4. 2% pay raises
5. Discussion on purchase of new grader, present grader was purchased in 1985. Would have to be a bid - not under state contract.  
Supervisor Monroe explained that changes in budget can be made so grader could be purchased and not bond.  
Tax rate on highway would increase about \$.05 to \$.15. The Board would rather not bond more equipment. Loader purchased in 2010 was bonded.
6. Discussion on purchase of new bobcat for parks department.
7. Discussion on condition of compactor at transfer station.
8. Discussion on increasing fees at transfer station, by \$1.
9. Decrease in revenues mortgage tax. Sales tax is up a little.

10. Star program aid has been omitted.
11. Discussion Occupancy tax money - consider using the same type of form that Warren County uses for Chamber or other organizations to fill out and submit request for Occupancy tax money and do this at a certain time of the year. Also if all money isn't used it can be "rolled over" to the next year. Some money could be held back for capital projects or for other events.
12. Reviewed Loon Lake Park District budget. Discussion on growth of milfoil and how well the program went.

Further discussion will be done at the next regular town board meeting (October 12), at which time date for public hearing will need to be set. Request to have John West attend meeting.

Motion by Mrs.Wells, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr.Durkish the Town Board went into Executive session at 8:25pm to discuss CSEA collective bargaining. Motion by Mrs.Wells 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr.Packer Town Board resumed regular session at 8:45pm. No action taken.

Motion by Mr.Monroe meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

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Town Clerk