

Special meeting of the Town of Chester Town Board was held at 7:00 PM on October 1, 2014 at the Town Municipal Center, 6307 State Route 9, Chestertown, New York. The purpose of the meeting was to review the preliminary budget.

Roll Call.

Present were Frederick H. Monroe, Edna Wells, and Karen DuRose. Absent were Mike Packer and Steve Durkish.

Mr. Monroe opened the meeting at 7:00 pm, and began by explaining that this was a difficult year in view of the fact that we have to hire an engineer for the dam project on Loon Lake. This project is a mandate, so we have no choice in the matter. The prepared budget does exceed the tax cap, with a 7.3% increase, but the actual rate is only \$0.11 per thousand increase over last year. (For example, a house assessed at \$100,000 would see an \$11 increase).

He stated that the bookkeeper had informed him of some grant reimbursements that had come in, with about \$40,000 for the General fund, and close to \$20,000 for the water districts. He would like to budget to make a war chest for replacement of the trash compactor at the landfill. Our current compactor is about 24 years old, and has its own issues. Therefore, he would like to use some of the unappropriated surplus to start a Capital Reserve Fund of about \$20,000 toward the cost of replacement of it. The total cost to replace it would be about \$63,000.

If nothing in the presentation changes, the General Fund tax rate will be \$0.244 per thousand. The Occupancy tax amount would be \$35,600, but that can only be used for Capital projects related to tourism or for tourism promotion. We have asked Town of Horicon to increase their aid for the Health Center by at least \$1000, which Supervisor Simpson agreed to do. Additionally, the sidewalk repairs at the Health Center were estimated at \$13,000, so we will be asking for some contribution from them for that project, as well.

Discussion took place regarding the Occupancy tax money. \$5,000 will be designated for Summerfest, \$1,000 for the Website, \$2,500 for the Pug Parade, and \$500 for the Krazy Downhill Derby. Fireworks from Occupancy Tax will be increased from \$4,000 to \$5,000. Mr. Monroe also wants to designate money from the 1st Wilderness Corridor Grant for Dynamite Hill for a Mighty Mite Ski Tow, putting \$14,000 into Occ. Tax toward it, under a new code, A6410.23. The Rotary is also looking to contribute to a project, so the Ski Tow is a perfect one for them to aid in doing. All in all, Mr. Monroe wants to restructure the budget so that Occupancy Tax comes out to about \$35,600. The Fireworks and Ski Tow will total \$19,000 and the remaining money will just have to be apportioned between the Chamber and the Business Alliance based on the balance of \$16,000. Some day in the future, maybe behind the backstop at Dynamite, the town could put in a swing set and a slide for the kids to play on. The Town just does not have money or a good spot at Dynamite to install a \$75,000 playground.

Repair of the tennis courts and a new net might be something that the Grant from Kathy Varney could go toward, as Pickle Ball has become very popular out there, and is certainly a good source of exercise.

Supervisor Monroe then reviewed the following notes:

**2015 BUDGET NOTES
AS OF 10/1/14**

The projected combined tax rate for General and Highway Fund in 2015 would be \$1.45 compared to \$1.34 in 2014, \$1.31 in 2013, \$1.28 in 2012, \$1.281 in 2011, \$1.195 in 2010, \$1.05 in 2009, \$1.320 in 2008, \$1.28 in 2007, \$1.196 in 2006, \$1.123 in 2005, \$1.478 in 2004, \$1.396 in 2003, \$1.962 in 2002 and \$2.291 per thousand in 2001

GENERAL FUND REVENUES

| | | |
|--------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1001 | Real Property Taxes - General Fund | \$.244 per thousand tax rate |
| 1113 | Occupancy Tax | \$ 35,600 |
| 2210.2 | Horicon - Aid for Health Center | \$ 6,000 |
| 2210.3 | Horicon - Reimburse Meal site worker | \$ 2,600 |
| 2350 | Horicon contrib. to Youth Budget | \$ 6,340 |
| 2351 | Program for Aging - other gov't | \$ 3,171 |
| 2401 | Interest revenue | \$ 1,300 |
| 2610 | Fines, Forfeitures & Bail | \$ 125,000 |
| 3001 | Per Capita Aid | \$ 18,055 |
| 3005 | Mortgage Tax (\$147,476 in 2006) | \$ 80,000 |
| 3040 | Star Aid (\$1,000 in 2009) | \$ 0 |
| 3040.3 | Star Program Aid (\$1,200 in 2009) | \$ 0 |

GENERAL FUND EXPENSES

3% personnel wage increase - non-CSEA. Employees are contributing an additional \$240 per year to health insurance.

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|-----------|---|-----------|
| 1355.4 | Includes Assessor. (\$25,750 by Warrensburg, \$30,900 by Chester) | \$ 43,000 |
| 1450.4 | Elections | \$ 3,600 |
| 1620.2 | Includes town hall roof & energy saving equipment (biomass boiler project) | \$ 40,000 |
| 1620.40 | Includes concrete work on South ramp | \$ 83,000 |
| 4068.4 | Bti | \$ 15,000 |
| 4540.40 | Ambulance contract | \$ 75,000 |
| 4560.2 | Health Center sidewalk reconstruction | \$ 11,000 |
| 5410.2 | Replace Sidewalks - Chestertown & Pottersville (material & force account.) | \$ 10,000 |
| 6410.23 | Mighty Mite Ski Tow (Occ Tax) | \$ 14,000 |
| 6410.4 | Chamber of Commerce | \$ 9,200 |
| 6410.499D | Picnic pavilion at beach (Occ. Tax) | \$ 6,000 |
| 6772.1 | Meal site worker. (½ paid by Horicon) | \$ 5,356 |
| 7110.2 | Sidewalk plow for Bobcat (\$2,500) & 1-ton dump truck (\$15,000 net after trade.) | \$ 17,500 |
| 7140.22 | Tennis court work & nets | \$ 7,000 |

| | | |
|---------|---|-------------|
| 7310.12 | Youth program director | \$ 5,358 |
| 7510.2 | Historian books, archival supplies & window shades. | \$ 1,000 |
| 8160.2 | Garbage compactor capital reserve | \$ 20,000?? |
| 8160.4 | Garbage contractual | \$ 75,000 |
| 8810.4 | Includes \$2,000 headstone repair | \$ 4,000 |

HIGHWAY REVENUES (DA)

| | | |
|------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1001 | Property taxes | \$1.203 per thousand tax rate. |
| 2302 | County snow & ice contract | \$195,415 |
| 3501 | CHIPS | \$178,000 |

HIGHWAY EXPENSES (DA)

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| 5112.20 | Highway paving & reconstruction | \$388,000 |
| 5130.20 | Pick up truck (\$27,000) & hand tools | \$ 32,000 |
| 9710.61 & .71 | Sand Pit Bond payments | \$ 19,334 |

CHESTERTOWN WATER REVENUES (CW)

| | | |
|--------|-----------------------|-----------|
| CW1001 | Real Property Tax | \$ 36,189 |
| 2140 | Metered water sales | \$ 48,000 |
| 2142 | Unmetered water sales | \$ 1,693 |

CHESTERTOWN WATER EXPENSES (CW)

| | | |
|---------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| 8310.1 | Water Superintendent | \$ 8,657 |
| 8310.12 | Assistant Water Superintendent | \$ 1,500 |
| 8320.44 | Tank inspection & painting | \$ 40,000 |

POTTERSVILLE WATER REVENUES (PW)

| | | |
|------|--|-----------|
| 1001 | Real Property Tax | \$ 22,105 |
| 2140 | Metered water sales Note: Increase water rents? | \$ 24,000 |
| 2142 | Unmetered water sales | \$ 990 |

POTTERSVILLE WATER EXPENSES (PW)

| | | |
|---------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| 8310.10 | Water Superintendent | \$ 7,034 |
| 8310.12 | Assistant Water Superintendent | \$ 1,500 |
| 8320.40 | Contractual | \$ 17,500 |
| 8340.20 | Pump | \$ 10,000 |
| 8340.22 | Chlorinator | \$ 3,000 |

LOON LAKE PARK DISTRICT REVENUE (SP)

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|------|-------------------|------------|
| 1001 | Real Property Tax | \$ 114,875 |
|------|-------------------|------------|

LOON LAKE PARK DISTRICT EXPENSE (SP)

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|--------|--|-----------|
| 7110.1 | Boat wash attendants | \$ 13,000 |
| 7110.2 | Engineering for Loon Lake Dam | \$ 51,000 |
| 7110.4 | Includes work on solutions to milfoil problem. | \$ 50,000 |

SCHROON LAKE PARK DISTRICT REVENUE (SX)

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|---------|-------------------|---------|
| SX 1001 | Real Property Tax | \$9,216 |
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SCHROON LAKE PARK DISTRICT EXPENSES (SX)

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|------------|---|----------|
| SX 7110.4 | Chester share Park District op expenses | \$ 2,216 |
| SX 7110.41 | Schroon Lake Milfoil Project | \$ 7,000 |
| SX 9730-6 | Principal on Starbuckville Dam BAN | \$ 0 |
| SX 9730.7 | Interest on BAN | \$ 0 |

NORTH CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT (SB)

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|----------|------------------|-----------|
| 3410.4SA | North Creek Fire | \$ 30,000 |
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RIVERSIDE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT (SA)

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| 3410.41 | Riverside contract | \$ 7,000 |
| 3410.42 | Chestertown contract | \$ 5,000 |

10/1/2014 4:20 PM

Mr. Monroe will speak with Kathy Varney regarding the Tennis Court repairs, and if they can be covered by the Grant, the amount reserved under A7140.22 can be removed from the budget.

Discussion took place regarding pricing for removal of some of the Pine trees at the Loon Lake Beach. If that can be done in 2015, a new picnic area can be planned for 2016.

Mr. Monroe also stated that although the budget is showing \$40,000 under A1620.2 which includes Town Hall roof and energy saving equipment, i.e. the Biomass boiler project, the figure is still unknown, but he has learned that the state is going to pay 75% on the boiler project.

Ed Bartholomew had spoken with Mr. Monroe, and stated that Vermont Wood Pellet is still interested in coming to this area. The only other major supplier of wood pellets around here is Curran Renewables up in Malone, and they are overwhelmed. This could present a great opportunity for this area.

RESOLUTION #115: APPROVE CHANGES TO TENTATIVE BUDGET.

Introduced by Mrs. Wells, seconded by Mrs. DuRose, approve changes to tentative budget.

AYE 3 NO 0

RESOLUTION #116: AUTHORIZE CLERK ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR BTI FOR 3 YEAR CONTRACT.

Introduced by Mrs. DuRose, seconded by Mrs. Wells, authorize Town Clerk advertise for bids for Bti for a 3 year contract. Bids to be opened at the November meeting (date to be determined).

AYE 3 NO 0

RESOLUTION #117: APPROVE 2013 AUDIT OF BOOKS FOR COURT, TOWN CLERK AND BOOKKEEPER.

Introduced by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mrs. Wells, approve the 2013 audit of books for the Court, the Town Clerk and the Bookkeeper.

AYE 3 NO 0

Discussion on location of Street lights.

RESOLUTION #118: AUTHORIZE JASON MONROE INSTALL STREETLIGHTS AT LOCATIONS OF HIS DISCRETION.

Introduced by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mrs. Wells, authorize Jason to install the streetlights at whatever locations he decides.

AYE 3 NO 0

On a motion by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mrs. DuRose, meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Town Board