

**Village Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes of March 30, 2010**

Present: Trustees Horylev, Speer, Gates and Lee
Village Manager Janet SurrIDGE
Treasurer Maryalice Edwards
Village Clerk Shari Pearce
Superintendent Mike McHenry
Asst. Superintendent Keith Brown
Code Enforcement Officer Mike Lissow

Absent: Mayor Gurrslin

Guests: Jim Bimmler

Proposed Budget 2010-11

Trustee Gates gave a few opening remarks about the budget and the strategies the team used to estimate revenue & expenses. The following discussion took place.

- 30 Mariah Street – Discussion took place regarding selling the property or demolishing the structure for additional parking. It was noted the parcel would only provide six additional parking spaces. The board also agreed the demolition costs would be very expensive. Trustee Horylev remarked he feels we will never have the opportunity to secure additional parking spaces for the Central Business District. If we sell it, the additional parking could help any business that wanted to be involved in new development. Mrs. SurrIDGE suggested to the board to target the sale for a commercial business only. General Discussion followed.

Resolution to authorize Mrs. SurrIDGE to pursue a sale of 30 Mariah Street for Commercial Use and to obtain an opinion from a real estate agent on a market value and asking price. Motion made by Trustee Gates, seconded by Trustee Lee. Carried unanimously 4-0.

- Snow Blower – Trustee Speer asked Mr. McHenry to explain the reason for a new snow blower in this budget year. Mr. McHenry explained to the board they currently borrow the school district's snow blower. This would be a convenience for the department to not have to work around the school's schedule. He also noted this is a reconditioned piece of equipment, not a new piece. The equipment would be used in conjunction with the trackless sidewalk plow during the winter. This price of \$6,800.00 is well below what a new snow blower would cost. The board is in favor of purchasing the snow blower; however, this purchase will be reviewed after we determine the overall state of the budget.

- NYS Retirement Cost - General discussion took place regarding the significant cost increase of \$52,000 the Village will need to pay the retirement system this coming year. Mrs. Surridge stated the Comptroller is giving all government agencies an option of amortizing the payment versus paying the entire amount in one fiscal year. She is not suggesting this, but it is an option. The board concluded they will pay the full amount in this year's budget.
- Unexpected DPW Building Maintenance Cost- Trustee Speer questioned if \$3,000.00 is enough to have budgeted for unexpected building cost. Mr. McHenry stated we have the capital fund as a back up or the emergency fund if a major repair is needed. He is comfortable with the figure.
- Garage Addition – this item will be discussed at a future meeting.
- Rent increase to Community Center: Trustee Horylev suggested a 1.5% rate increase to all tenants. Mrs. Surridge relayed to the board that the costs for running the Community Center has not increased. After a general discussion, the board concluded to not raise the rents for this budget year.
- Planning and Zoning Board Salaries – A discussion took place regarding a salary increase for the board members. It was noted that this would be the third year with no increase. After discussion, the board decided to increase the salary by \$10.00 per meeting for the members and the chairpersons.
- Sales Tax – The board had a dialog on increasing the sales tax projection from \$975,000.00 to \$1,000,000.00. With the economy still struggling, the board concluded they will remain at \$975,000.
- Long Term Health Care Costs – Trustee Speer is concerned on the long term health care costs and the enormous impact this could have on the Village as employees start to retiree. He feels we need to start planning to protect our employees and financial situation. Mrs. Surridge suggested we set up a reserve account for the purpose of long term health care. We currently have \$38,725.64 set aside in a savings account for health care.

Resolution to create a reserve account in accordance with Section 6 (d) of the General Municipal Law for the purpose of financing long term health care and to authorize the treasurer set up the account and transfer \$38,725.64 into said account. Trustee Speer made the motion, seconded by Trustee Lee. Carried unanimously 4-0.

The board also discussed creating a long term health insurance committee to plan for future health care costs and develop a formal plan of action.

- Trustee Salaries: Trustee Gates proposes a 2.5% increase to the trustee's salary, which equates to \$115.00 annually each. He noted the trustees have not had a raise in two years. He feels the Trustees should be about half the salary of the Mayor. This increase would bridge the gap. Trustee Speer was not in favor of an increase, he feels these are tough times and every department needs to sacrifice.

Resolution to approve a wage increase of \$115.00 per year for the Village Trustees. Trustee Gates made the motion, seconded by Trustee Lee. Carried 3-1 (Trustee Speer opposed, he stated we are asking all the departments to concede items in their budget. They are doing without and the board should echo those thoughts and respond with a no wage increase.)

- New DPW employee – Mr. McHenry explained to the board the job description of the proposed new laborer for the department. The employee will not start until January 2011.
- Workers Compensation Refund Check – There was a detailed discussion on what the money should be used for. The board determined until the Worker's Comp Reserve Fund reaches its goal of \$200,000, the refund checks should be deposited in that fund. There was also a discussion on after the goal is met, what should the money be earmarked for.
- Sewer Fund – Trustee Speer remarked on the proposed sewer increase of \$21.00 annually. He has looked at what other Village's charge and even with the increase we still have a very low rate. After discussion, the board concluded the proposed \$21.00 increase will remain in the budget.
- Village Board Goals - A lengthy discussion took place on the board compiling a list of short and long term goals that they can refer to throughout the year. Trustee Speer remarked he feels the board sometimes can get sidetracked on different items. The board members will submit their goals to Mrs. Surrige and she will report back to the board on the results.

Resolution to set the Public Hearing for the 2010-11 Budget for April 13, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. Trustee Speer made the motion, seconded by Trustee Lee. Carried unanimously 4-0.

The Village Board took a short break at this time. Treasurer Maryalice Edwards left the meeting.

Hovey Street: The management team along with Village Board members will meet with Mr. John Steinmetz to discuss the impact that the directional change could have on the Village.

A motion was by Trustee Gates to enter into executive session at 6:20 p.m. to discuss personnel matters. Seconded by Trustee Lee. Carried unanimously 4-0.

A motion was made by Trustee Lee to exit out of executive session at 6:45 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Speer. Carried unanimously 4-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Shari Pearce, Village Clerk