

A Public Hearing to discuss the 2002 Preliminary Budget was held Thursday, November 15, 2001 at 6:30 p.m. at the Brighton Town Hall, Paul Smiths, NY, with the following:

PRESENT: Supervisor Christopher Leifheit
Council Members: Alicia Bodmer
Linda Dobson
John Quenell

OTHERS PRESENT: Elaine Sater-Town Clerk and Donald Oliver-Superintendent of Highways

RESIDENTS: There were 4 residents present

ABSENT: Council Member Roger Smith

Public Hearing was **Called to Order** by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit **at 6:31 p.m. for the Purpose of public input on the 2002 Preliminary Budget for the Town of Brighton.**

Public Notice was published in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise on Wednesday, November 7, 2001 and posted at the three local post offices and local businesses and on Town Clerk's Sign Board at the Town Hall.

The Floor was opened for discussion and this is a summary of the discussion:

Tom Willis-Garondah Road-Rainbow Lake:

Comment: When sending out the budget requests to Town Officials don't send the salary (.1) portion, it is a bad practice to let people set their own salaries, it is the Board's responsibility to set salaries for the town and there should be a set process to do it

| Account | Title | Amount | Question | Answer |
|---------|--------------------------------|----------|---|---|
| A1220.1 | Deputy Supervisor | \$0 | Isn't a salary required for Deputy Supervisor? | No, the position is required, not the salary |
| A1310.1 | Bookkeeper PS | \$8,000 | Why does this position get such a large increase? Does it bother the Board the Bookkeeper's salary is the same as the Supervisor's? | Bookkeeper asked for an increase and gave good reasons to the Board |
| A1320.1 | Budget Officer | \$350 | This was taken out last year, why is it being put back in? | Comptroller's Office recommended it; the Bookkeeper will get it. |
| A1330.1 | Tax Collector CE | \$4,500 | This should be PS (Personnel Service) not CE (Contractual Expenses) | |
| A1330.4 | Tax Collector CE | \$1,900 | Why is this a large increase? | Cost of mail increase and mileage to take deposits to the bank |
| A1670.4 | Central Mail | \$700 | Why isn't this increased also? | No need to increase |
| A3510.1 | Dog Control PS | \$2060 | Does this reflect a cost of living increase? Why doesn't everyone get it? | Yes, Dog Control Officer asked for it |
| A3620.4 | Safety Inspector | \$9,000 | Is number given to you by Mike Adams (Santa Clara Supervisor)? | Yes, Code Enforcement Salary plus mileage |
| A5010.4 | Superintendent of Highways | \$31,000 | Is there a good reason for this salary increase? | Yes, had no help during the summer and no vacation for over a year |
| A5132.4 | Town Garage CE | \$55,000 | Is this for down payment on new garage? | \$5,000 is for expenses and \$50,000 is for planning new garage |
| A6460.4 | Agency HUD | \$5,000 | Aren't we finished with HUD yet? | This is to pay for past expenses |
| A7140.4 | Playground/Rec. Center CE | \$4,500 | What is the difference between this account and A7310.4? | This one is for expenses at the park, A7310.4 is for programs outside the town (Civic Center etc) |
| A8160.4 | Landfill CE | \$2,000 | What is this for; isn't landfill completed? | This is to cover town trash pickup |
| A8810.4 | Cemeteries CE | \$2,000 | Is this for cemetery survey? | Yes it is |
| A9010.8 | State Retirement | \$2,100 | Can this number be pined down; Board has struggled with it in the past? | Yes, State has sent annual fee amount |
| A9060.8 | Hospital and Medical Insurance | \$64,800 | This reflects a 20% increase; do you have final figures? Could the employees start paying part of this expense in the future? | No final figures, this is an estimate based on insurance company input |
| A3410.4 | FREMSA | \$1,250 | Does this reflect what FREMSA asked for? | Yes it does. Changed to General Fund from Special District |

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|----------|--------------------------------|----------|--|---|
| A2401 | Interest & Earnings | \$7,750 | Does this take into consideration that interest rates are down? | Yes it does, upfront taxes collected will support this |
| A3001 | State Aid Per Capita | \$9,000 | This should be more with census numbers increase | |
| A3820 | Youth Program | \$0 | This used to be collected by the Town; will it be again? | With a new person on the board, hopefully this will be requested again |
| DA5130.2 | Machinery EQ | \$50,000 | What is this for? | This is to pay for the new Snowplow, the rest will be financed |
| DA5130.4 | Machinery CE | \$13,000 | What is this for? It is a new line item. | The amounts in DA5130.2 for 2001 should be in this line, its not a new line |
| DA9060.8 | Hospital and Medical Insurance | \$31,120 | Increase to \$11,000 per person per year; was there any discussion during contract negotiations this year? | No, this was not discussed |
| A2401 | Interest and Earnings | \$6,000 | Is this based on what's in the Highway fund? | Yes, it is. |

On the last page showing Appropriations and Revenues by Fund:

The amount of Unexpended Balances \$136,000 seems to be more than just from the 2001 fund balances. Yes, this amount is taken from previous year fund balances also

The revenue amount for lighting should show \$700 so this amount is not reflected in the "Amount to be Raised by Taxes" since only the people on Easy Street (Route 86) pay for this amount

The "Amount to be raised by Taxes" is \$472,994, this is the most the tax levy has been in 5 years, but it's only a modest increase.

The board needs to face medical insurance increasing costs and set a salary increase policy

Art Robertson-Split Rock Road: There is no title at the top where the Highway Fund begins to show that this is what this is.

What is the increase in General Fund A5132.4 for? This is to plan a new Town Garage complex.

DA5130.2- what is this increase for? It is to make an initial payment on a new Snowplow. Probably will be financed over 5 or 6 years. The Snowplow should last 15 to 20 years. Equipment for the highway will need to be replaced over the next six years so money is being set aside for this purpose in DA885, Equipment Reserve \$30,000.

There were no more comments from the public.

Motion to Adjourn the Public Hearing was made by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit at 7:12 p.m., second by Alicia Bodmer; Aye 4, Absent 1 (Smith)

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine W. Sater
Brighton Town Clerk