

**A Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Brighton was held on Tuesday, October 18, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. at the Brighton Town Hall, 12 County Route 31, Paul Smiths, NY, with the following:**

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Robert Tebbutt

Council Members: David Knapp, John Quenell, Steve Tucker and Lydia Wright

**ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Nik Santagate - Justice, Elaine Sater - Town Clerk

**GUESTS:** None

**RESIDENTS:** There were 2 residents present

**Meeting was Called to Order** by Supervisor Robert Tebbutt at 6:00 p.m. Purpose of the meeting is to discuss the Tentative 2006 Budget.

**Public Notice** was posted on the Town Clerk's signboard on Tuesday, October 4 and faxed to the Adirondack Daily Enterprise. Notices were posted at the three post offices and at local businesses on Wednesday, October 5.

**1. GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS FOR SALARIES:** Supervisor Robert Tebbutt said there was announcement by the Social Security Administration that they would be giving a 4.1% increase in Cost of Living. Salaries will be revisited to add this rate. Lydia Wright said the **A1110.1 Justice salary** was going to be looked at again. John Quenell said the **A1130.1 Court Clerk salary** was being increased by hours. Discussion was held concerning the Justice salary. Raw data from the 2002 Compensation Report was used. Lydia Wright calculated a salary of \$10,190 as her recommendation. John Quenell calculated a salary of \$7,270 as his recommendation. Supervisor Robert Tebbutt recommended the board increase the salary by \$1,000. The board agreed to a \$1,000 increase to \$7,984 for a salary before the 4.1% cost of living increase.

**2. CSEA CONTRACT:**

**Motion was made** by Supervisor Robert Tebbutt, **second** by John Quenell, **to Wit:**

**Authorization for Supervisor Robert Tebbutt to write a letter to the CSEA contract representative in response to a letter received with the following offering:**

**Para 1 - A .52 cent an hour raise (based on the 4.1% Cost of Living allowance) for 1 year.**

**Para 2 - No medical after retirement**

**Para 3 - No extra vacation**

**Para 4 - No extra on call pay, follow Article 10, para #2**

**Roll Call Vote: Aye 5 (Knapp, Quenell, Tebbutt, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0**

**3. GENERAL FUND AND HIGHWAY APPROPRIATIONS:**

**a. A6772.41 Saranac Lake Adult Center \$500:** Lydia Wright received a letter from the Saranac Lake Adult Center asking for \$500. This amount is already in the budget.

**b. A1010.4 Town Board Contractual \$1000:** Lydia Wright received information on the cost of training: Albany for New Officers school is \$461 per person, New York City Association of Towns annual meeting is \$569 and Local Government Day is \$60; she recommended \$2,000 to include new officers. John Quenell recommended people pay for their own training. Discussion was held and this account was increased by \$200 to \$1,200.

**c. A9010.8 (\$6,569) and DA9010.8 (\$8,361) State Retirement:** John Quenell said he received more current figures and recommends increasing General to \$6,975 and Highway to \$8,877.

**d. A9060.8 (\$57,434) and DA9060.8 (\$52,815) Hospital & Medical Insurance:** John Quenell called the broker and discussed the increase in insurance costs; they recommend using 15% for the General Fund and 15% to 18% for the Highway. He recommends increasing General fund to \$58,076 and Highway to \$53,907. Discussion was held

concerning ways to decrease the cost of insurance by using employee co-pays. This will be looked at next year when the CSEA contract is negotiated again.

- e. **A1330.4 Tax Collector Contractual \$1,900: David Knapp** said he received email; the Tax Collector said increases she requested are for a copier cartridge, attendance to NYS Tax Collector school, and purchasing stamps in December for mailing tax bills. This account was left at \$1,900.
  - f. **A8810.2 Cemeteries Equip \$0:** Supervisor Robert Tebbutt asked Steve Tucker if he agreed to reduce this account to \$0. Steve Tucker said yes.
  - g. **A3620.4 Code Enforcement Contractual (\$15,600): David Knapp** said the Year-to-Date as of September 30 expenses in this account are already at \$15,014. The 3% Cost of Living was calculated but the expenses of phone and mileage were not addressed. Discussion was held on mileage costs. This amount is paid to Santa Clara not to the individual. This will remain at 3% increase.
4. **NEXT MEETING:** Supervisor Robert Tebbutt said that General Fund Appropriations have to be reworked before they can be discussed. He set another meeting for Tuesday, October 25 at 6 p.m. at the Town Hall.
5. **OTHER FUNDS:**
- a. **FIRE DISTRICT SF3410.4 \$63,763: John Quenell** said this is based on the contact
  - b. **STREET LIGHTING SL5182.4 \$700: John Quenell** said this is for the Easy Street Lighting District and recommended leaving this the same based on usage.

**John Quenell** said there are fund balances appropriations to be used against these accounts that will be discussed at the next meeting.

6. **INSURANCE:** Supervisor Robert Tebbutt asked John Quenell to look into some insurance issues concerning the CPA/Bookkeeper. Discussion was held concerning the lack of insurance carried by the bookkeeper. Supervisor Robert Tebbutt said he would like to propose that the bookkeeper become an employee of the Town as in the past. This would automatically make the position covered under the Town's blanket insurance policy for employees at \$50,000. The bookkeeper would receive the same amount of money already paid out to him. The Town would have an increase in FICA of \$380.
- Lydia Wright** asked why the Town could not get a bookkeeper who was already insured. **Supervisor Robert Tebbutt** said he did a lot of research when he hired this bookkeeper. He cut the cost to the Town in half when he hired a CPA. If the bookkeeper were to purchase his own insurance he would pass the cost onto the Town and it would still cost the town a great deal of money. He was contracted because he worked for a firm, now that he is no longer with the firm he should be an employee.
- John Quenell** said the Board would have to agree to a Budget Amendment to change the line item in the 2005 Budget. A salary line of A1310 .1 would have to be added to the 2006 budget. Discussion was held on whether the bookkeeper should be an employee or left as a contractor. **Supervisor Robert Tebbutt** said he would look into the right way to make this decision.

**Motion to Adjourn at 7:26 p.m. made by John Quenell, second by David Knapp, Aye 5**

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine W. Sater  
Brighton Town Clerk