

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING - TOWN OF BRIGHTON - FRANKLIN COUNTY, NY**

**October 23, 2008**

Page 1 of 2

**A Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Brighton was held Thursday, October 23, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. at the Brighton Town Hall, Paul Smiths, NY, with the following:**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

**Meeting was Called to Order** by Supervisor David Knapp at 6:03 p.m.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

**PRESENT:** Supervisor David Knapp

Council Members: Jeffrey Leavitt (entered meeting late), Steve Tucker and Lydia Wright

**ABSENT:** Council Member Sheila Delarm

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Richard Meagher - Budget Officer, Andy Crary - Superintendent of Highways, Doug Tichenor - Assessor, and Elaine Sater - Town Clerk

**RESIDENTS:** There were 5 residents present

**NOTICE OF MEETING:** Notice of this meeting was published in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise on October 9 and 14. Notice was posted on the Town Clerk's Sign Board and at local post offices and businesses.

**1. TENTATIVE 2009 BUDGET REVIEW - Richard Meagher, Budget Officer:**

- a. **APPROPRIATIONS GENERAL FUND:** Provided a draft preliminary budget showing a 5.3% Cost of Living increase to all salaries. Increased the Health Insurance by \$5,000. Assessor salary was reduced by \$725. Assessor asked for funding to pay a share of the Harrietstown's Assessor Clerk and Assistant Assessor. The Assistant Assessor position is currently vacant and will not be filled. The expense (.4) line will be reduced by \$3,580. People can call Harrietstown to get information for Brighton from the Assessor Clerk. He can no longer keep his files at home due to the sensitivity of the information he has to keep. He can work for Brighton out of the Harrietstown Office if the Town will share the cost of the Assessor Clerk. The cost of the BAR members comes out of the expenses (.4) line. Increasing the amount they are paid can be set at the Organizational Meeting in January. Cost for assessment cases can come from the Contingency Fund. Deputy Supervisor's pay will be reduced from \$750 to \$682 to stay in line with the 5.3% COL increase for all employees. The Preliminary Budget will reflect \$440,155 in Appropriations with these changes.
- b. **APPROPRIATIONS HIGHWAY FUND:** Overall salaries were figured on three employees. These will be increased by 2.3% to raise it to 5.3%. If the salaries were based on 2.5 employees the budget can be reduced by almost \$15,000 to \$79,638. DA5110.1 would stay at \$49,034 and DA5412.1 would be reduced to \$30,604. Overtime DA5148.1 would stay at \$1,456. For capital improvements (DA5112.2) \$50,000 will be rolled over to next year to pay for paving. The machinery equipment DA5130.2 includes a chipper and armwar. Expense (.4) lines were increased by 15% to cover increases in fuel prices that has caused everything to increase. State retirement is lower well as the Self Insurance rate. Health Insurance will stay the same until a new policy is in place because the cost is unknown. Total Appropriations will be \$306,185 with the lower amount for salaries.
- c. **REVENUES HIGHWAY FUND:** The Snow and Ice Agreement with Franklin County was received and will be \$38,757, an increase of about \$7,600. Interest and Earning are reduced due to the economy. Discussion was held on what the CHIPS funding will be for 2009. It is expected to decrease as did the 2008 funds (\$26,819). This amount will be decreased by \$3,508 to \$32,200 which is 15% increase over the 2008 budget of \$28,000. The revenues will be increased to \$75,457.
- d. **FUND BALANCES:** There should be about \$193,000 in General Fund and \$155,000 in Highway Fund at the end of the year. The Highway Fund Balance could be increased by \$5,000 to keep the tax payers portion down. Due to only paying two employees there is excess in the fund balance for the Highway Fund.
- e. **EXEMPTIONS:** A new requirement this year is for a report of all the exemptions for the Town be attached to the Budget. The Town's taxable assessment dropped from about \$210 million to about \$198 million. Total exemptions are about \$52 million.

**RESOLUTION #96**

**PRELIMINARY 2009 BUDGET**

**Motion made** by Supervisor David Knapp, **second** by Lydia Wright, **To Wit:**

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING - TOWN OF BRIGHTON - FRANKLIN COUNTY, NY**

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Page 2 of 2

**WHEREAS**, the Budget Officer Richard Meagher, after input from Town Departments, has created a Tentative Budget for 2009, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Clerk distributed the Tentative 2009 Budget to the Town Board on September 30, 2008, as noted in the October 9, 2008, Regular Board meeting minutes, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board has reviewed the Tentative 2009 Budget and made changes,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board adopts the Preliminary 2009 Budget as revised to reflect an overall increase of 3.5% to the amount to be raised by taxes, and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following salaries be set for certain Town Officials: Supervisor \$11,380, Council Members (4) \$2,755 each, Town Clerk \$9,582, and Superintendent of Highways \$39,528.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye 5 (Delarm, Knapp, Leavitt, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0**

**RESOLUTION #96 declared duly adopted.**

**2. PUBLIC HEARING FOR PRELIMINARY 2009 BUDGET**

**Motion made** by Supervisor David Knapp, **second** by Jeffrey Leavitt, **to hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, November 6, at 6 p.m. for public input on the Preliminary 2009 Budget. Aye 5 (Delarm, Knapp, Leavitt, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to Adjourn at 7:35 p.m.** made by Supervisor David Knapp, **Second** by Jeffrey Leavitt, **Aye 5 (Delarm, Knapp, Leavitt, Tucker, Wright) Nay 0**

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine Sater  
Brighton Town Clerk