



The Town of Franklin

P.O. Box 209, Route 3, Vermontville, NY 12989 • 518-891-2189 • Fax: 518-891-6389 • www.townoffranklin.com



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Town of Franklin Board Meetings

BUDGET WORKSHOP AND SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING
September 27, 2010 - 7:00 PM

Board members present:

Supervisor Arthur P. Willman, Jr.
Councilman Allen Berg
Councilman Clifford Smalley
Councilman Donald Hamm
Councilman Bradley Merrill

Others Present:

Highway Supt. Jacques DeMars, Budget Officer Richard Meagher, Town Clerk Sandra Oliver, Les Parker, Ed Martin, Donald Goff

BUDGET WORKSHOP - GENERAL AND FIRE PROTECTION FUNDS

1. CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Arthur P. Willman, Jr. called the Budget Workshop to order at 7:00 PM, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, the Clerk called the roll, introduced guests and declared the full board was present.

2. 2011 TENTATIVE BUDGET REVIEW

Budget Officer Richard Meagher presented the General Fund 2011 Tentative Budget to the Board. He explained the tentative budget was assembled from input gathered from department heads. He reviewed the General Fund portion of the 2011 Tentative Budget line by line, and following discussion, adjustments were made. Mr. Meagher then reviewed the Fire Protection Fund portion of the tentative budget, and no adjustments were made. The Highway Fund will be reviewed and discussed on Monday, October 4th at 7:00 PM. Mr. Meagher then left the meeting.

3. ADJOURN WORKSHOP AT 9:27PM

Motion to adjourn Budget Workshop (B.Merrill-C.Smalley m/s/p) ALL AYE

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

Supv. Willman called the Special Board meeting to order at 8:46 PM.

2. NEW BUSINESS

1. FUEL BIDS: A. CODES OFFICER. A classified ad was published in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise for the part-time position starting January 1, 2011. Thus far, two resumes have been received. After some discussion, the Board will make a decision at the November monthly meeting.

B. DOG LICENSING. Commencing January 1, 2011, the Town will be responsible for licensing dogs as the State is relinquishing responsibility. The Town Clerk requested reconsideration of the proposed fees for licenses (\$5 for altered animal, \$15 for unaltered). She suggested \$3.50 for altered dog and \$12.50 for unaltered. The Board will review the proposed draft law at a later meeting.

C. INFRASTRUCTURE.

1) Town Hall. The new Town Hall furnace will be installed September 28 and 29th. This will be paid for by a grant from the NY Power Authority, and Supv. Willman stated he received permission from the Power Authority to use the funds to replace windows and doors

2) Cemetery Shed Roofs. Coun. Berg asked whether roofs would be replaced at the cemeteries in Vermontville and Merrillsville, and Supv. Willman replied he wanted to wait to see how much money remained in the General Fund. He would like to use the General Fund to replace roofs and perform a survey of the Rec Park. Certainly, in 2011 the Town will replace the roof.

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. FIRE/RESCUE.

1) Ambulance and Rescue. The Saranac Lake Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc. will be completely independent of the Saranac Lake Fire Department within the next month. It will take some time before it will receive payment from insurance companies. The Village has unilaterally determined to base its apportioned costs to participating municipalities on assessed value rather than on percentage of use. The charge to the Town for 2011 is \$35,329.89 (a residence assessed at \$150,000 will be paying \$23.70 per year for ambulance service). In addition, the Saranac Lake Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc. has requested an additional payment in 2011 of \$2,450. In the past, the Village has contributed \$50,000 to the Fire Dept. and Rescue Unit over the years totalling \$150,000 and was placed in a "reserve account." That \$150,000 is not noted in the Village's budget, and its contribution has dropped by \$27,500. Village Manager Sweeney maintains the Village has fulfilled its obligation and is no longer required to contribute \$50,000 to the Rescue Unit.

2) Fire Protection. The Bloomingdale Volunteer Fire Department will not be seeking an increase in charges in 2011.

B. ASSESSMENT. Assessor Doug Tichenor is in process of cross-checking the collected data with his records to ensure accuracy. Thereafter, he will be mailing assessment notices.

C. LAND INVENTORY. Supv. Willman requested a motion to table this matter until February 2011. Motion to table (B.Merrill-D.Hamm m/s/p) ALL AYE.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS.

Q/C: These Town Hall doors must be 60 or more years old.

A: Supv. Willman indicated he was seeking three estimates for window and door replacement, and thus far, had received two.

Q/C: Good job on this budget. It's the best in years.

Q/C: Once the rescue squad is operational, will the payment to the Village disappear?

A: It should.

Q/C: The Village owns the building, and the Rescue Squad will be paying rent.

Q/C: FREMSA tried for years to obtain figures and an audit of the fire department. Will you be able to?

A: The towns are not happy with this new contract.

Q/C: The Village may have tricked the towns but it's probably not illegal. The Village needs the surrounding municipalities to pay for its rescue and fire and new firehouse.

A: In 2012, the Town of Franklin should not have to deal with the Village over rescue.

ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM. Motion to adjourn (B.Merrill-C.Smalley m/s/p) ALL AYE

Respectfully submitted, Sandra J. Oliver, Town Clerk

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