



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

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING ON 2013 PRELIMINARY BUDGET And MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING

November 14, 2012 - 6:30 PM

Board members present:

Supervisor Arthur P. Willman, Jr.
Councilman Allen Berg
Councilman Clifford Smalley (6:35 PM)
Councilman Donald Hamm
Councilman Bradley Merrill

Others Present:

Budget Officer Richard Meagher, Highway Supt. Jacques DeMars, Town Clerk Sandra Oliver, Doris Hamm

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2013 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

1. CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Arthur P. Willman called the public hearing to order at 6:30 PM; the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the Town Clerk called the roll, introduced guests and stated the full board was present. The Clerk showed Proof of Publication of the notice of public hearing and that the Rules of Procedure for public hearings were posted on the wall.

2. MINUTE OF SILENCE: Supv. Willman requested a minute of silence in memory of Donald Vorrath, former Highway Superintendent.

2. REVIEW OF 2013 PRELIMINARY BUDGET: Budget Officer Meagher reviewed the 2013 Preliminary Budget noting the tax levy increase is 1.88%, under the 2% tax cap. The Town's fund balances are in fine shape. He noted the 73% increase in retirement contribution for Mr. Tichenor, the increase in health insurance costs and the increase in ambulance rescue service, which will stabilize in the future. The Town's overall assessment valuation rose by \$400,000 owing to some new housing which entered the assessment roll.

With gratitude expressed by the Board, Mr. Meagher then left the meeting.

4. ADJOURNMENT: 6:45 PM.**MONTHLY TOWN BOARD MEETING****1. CALL TO ORDER**

Supervisor Arthur P. Willman called the meeting to order at 6:46 PM; the Pledge of Allegiance and roll having been performed, Supv. Willman requested a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss the progress of negotiations with the Teamsters Union. Motion (C.Smalley-D.Hamm m/s/p) ALL AYE.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION. The Board discussed the progress of negotiations with the Teamsters Union. No action was taken.

3. RECONVENE BOARD MEETING. At 7:40 PM, the board meeting resumed. Motion (A.Berg-B.Merrill m/s/p) ALL AYE.

4. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS. None.

5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS

The following claims were submitted for approval and payment on Abstract 11 of 2012:

General Fund	Vouchers 192 - 211	\$3,849.75
Highway Fund	Vouchers 113 - 126	\$34,463.24
Prepay General	Vouchers 31 - 34	\$1,441.30
Motion to pay claims (A.Berg-C.Smalley m/s/p) ALL AYE		

6. MINUTES

The minutes of the October 9 General Fund Budget Workshop, the October 10 monthly Board meeting, the October 15 Highway Fund Budget Workshop and October 23, 2012 Special Board Meeting were accepted as presented. Motion (C.Smalley-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE.

7. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT.

Balances as of October 1, 2012

General Fund	Checking	\$10,026.17
	Savings	\$ 107,098.23
	CLASS	\$107,319.75
	Historian	\$3,037.38
Spec Sav Rec Pk	\$625.00	
Spec Sav Cemeteries	\$200.00	
Highway Fund	Checking	\$88,948.48
	Savings	\$193,449.19
	CLASS	\$538,330.20
	Cap. Proj. Hwy.	\$46,522.20
Landfill	Checking	\$8,733.15
	CLASS	\$ 34,059.53
Fire Protection	Checking	\$685.34
	CLASS	\$685.30
Capital Project Building		\$5,438.47

Supv. Willman noted that some of the bank statements did not arrive in time, and interest on the accounts will be included in next month's report. Motion to accept Supervisor's Report (C.Smalley-B.Merrill m/s/p) ALL AYE.

6. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

for the month of October 2012

8 dog licenses	\$56.00
2 Building Permits	\$60.00

Total	\$167.00
<hr/>	
Paid to Supervisor	\$151.00
Paid to NYS Ag&Mkts (dogs)	\$16.00

Total \$167.00
 Motion accept Clerk's report (B.Merrill-C.Smalley m/s/p) ALL AYE.

8. CODES REPORT:

The Clerk reported that two building permits were issued during the month of October for a total of \$60.00.

8. HIGHWAY REPORT

A. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT. Highway Superintendent Jacques DeMars reported progress of the Department for the period covering October 10 to November 14, 2012:

- Shouldered paved portions of Plank and Cold Brook Roads
- Started ditching and adding gravel to Thatcherville Road.
- Department clearing debris and cutting trees due to recent high winds
- Plow routes being marked for hazards
- Sand hauling was suspended due to lack of salt. Salt now available, and hauling will recommence shortly.
- Ditches and culverts being cleared.
- Chevron signs installed on Alder Brook Road near sharp curves
- Reinstalled signs on Cold Brook Road following paving
- Construction signs removed (Plank and Cold Brook Roads)
- CHIPS paperwork completed and mailed; electronic check expected Dec. 21st
- Road inventory prepared and mailed
- Overweight permit renewals mailed for Units 2, 3 and 9; new permits received
- Two trucks have been dressed for winter
- Unit 3 currently being worked on - rust ground off frame and painted.
- Brian Snickles appointed Deputy Highway Superintendent.

Motion accept Highway Report (A.Berg-C.Smalley m/s/p) ALL AYE

B. HIGHWAY COMMITTEE. No report

D. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS ON HIGHWAY MATTERS None

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. OPEN FUEL BIDS

The request for bids for fuel having been duly published in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise, only one bid was received, from HomEnergy, Saranac Lake, submitted with three options:

1. State Bid price or Nov. 8, 2012 (changes weekly)

Unleaded gas \$3.1099 per gal
 On-Road diesel (Reg) \$3.4903
 On-Road diesel (Premium) \$3.6622 (winter blend)
 Propane \$1.3512
 #2 Fuel Oil \$3.4552

State Bid Price for Nov. 14, 2012 (changes weekly)

Unleaded gas \$3.1517 per gal
 On-Road diesel (Reg) \$3.4613
 On-Road diesel (Premium) \$3.6332 (winter blend)
 Propane \$1.3512
 #2 Fuel Oil \$3.4552

2. Fixed Price (remains the same and does not vary)

Unleaded gas \$3.3470 per gal
 On-Road diesel (Reg) \$3.6790
 On-Road diesel (Premium) \$3.8490 (winter blend)
 Propane \$1.5900
 #2 Fuel Oil \$3.5484

3. Daily Discounted Price as of Nov 14, 2012

Unleaded gas \$3.3365 per gal
 On-Road diesel (Reg) \$3.6615
 On-Road diesel (Premium) \$3.8334 (winter blend)
 Propane \$1.4720
 #2 Fuel Oil \$3.5060

RESOLUTION NO. 72: ACCEPT BID OF HOMENERGY SERVICES, SARANAC LAKE, FOR 2013 FUEL

WHEREAS, requests for bids were published and only one bid was received, and WHEREAS, HomEnergy Services' bid contained several pricing options, including the State Bid Price option; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board hereby awards the bid to supply fuel to the Town of Franklin in 2013 to HomEnergy Services, 33 Depot St., Saranac Lake, NY, on the State Bid Price option.

Those voting aye:

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

Those Voting nay:

None

Those Absent:

None

Those Abstaining:

None

B. OPEN BIDS FOR SURPLUS 1984 TRAILER.

The 1984 Eager Beaver trailer was advertised for sale in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise. Two bids were received:

Kyle Bearce

Bay Pond Condominium, Paul Smiths: \$1,700

Cliff Cochran

Kiwassa Road, Saranac Lake: \$2,101

The Board determined it would accept Mr. Cochran's bid. Motion (D.Hamm-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE.

RESOLUTION NO. 73: ACCEPT BID OF CLIFF COCHRAN FOR 1984 EAGER BEAVER TRAILER WHEREAS, the 1984 Eager Beaver Trailer was declared surplus equipment by the Town Board on September 12, 2012 by Resolution No. 61, and a request for bids was published in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise; and WHEREAS, two bids were received, and the higher bid from Cliff Cochran, Kiwassa Road, Saranac Lake, was considered best; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board hereby agrees to sell the 1984 Eager Beaver trailer to Cliff Cochran, Saranac Lake, for \$2,101.00; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Bill of Sale will include "as-is" language specifying no warranties are made.

Those voting aye:

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

Those Voting nay:

None

Those Absent:

None

Those Abstaining:

None

C. 2013 PRELIMINARY BUDGET Coun. Merrill indicated his opposition to mid-term salary increases for all elected and appointed officials. He requested a motion to eliminate the increases from the proposed budget; however, no second was offered. The motion did not pass. Supv. Willman requested a motion approving the Preliminary Budget without alteration. Motion (A.Berg-D.Hamm m/s/p) ALL AYE.

RESOLUTION NO. 74: ADOPT 2013 BUDGET WHEREAS, a duly-noticed public hearing on the 2013 Preliminary Budget was held on November 14, 2012, and public comments received; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board hereby adopts the 2013 Preliminary Budget as the 2013 Budget for the Town of Franklin.

Those voting aye:

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

Those Voting nay:

None

Those Absent:

None

Those Abstaining:

None

D. REAPPOINT THOMAS BARTISS TO BOARD OF ETHICS. Mr. Bartiss' term on the Board of Ethics expired September 30, 2012. He has indicated his willingness to serve in the unpaid position for another 3-year term until September 30, 2015. Motion (C.Smalley-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE.

RESOLUTION NO. 75: REAPPOINT THOMAS BARTISS TO 3-YEAR TERM ON BOARD OF ETHICS WHEREAS, the term of Thomas Bartiss on the Board of Ethics expired September 30, 2012; and WHEREAS, Mr. Bartiss has served with honor on the Board of Ethics and has indicated his willingness to serve another 3-year term in the unpaid position; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Thomas Bartiss is reappointed for another 3-year term to the Board of Ethics, term to expire September 30, 2015.

Those voting aye:

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

Those Voting nay:

None

Those Absent:

None

Those Abstaining:

None

E. TOPSOIL FOR NEW FIELDS AT RECREATION PARK Supv. Willman requested and received two proposals for \$7,000 of topsoil for the new fields at the Rec Park, from Trudeau Sand & Gravel and Leavitt Farms. After some discussion, the Board determined it would accept the Leavitt Farms bid for topsoil to be picked up in spring 2013:

Motion (C.Smalley-B.Merrill m/s/p) ALL AYE.

RESOLUTION NO. 76: ACCEPT BID OF LEAVITT SAND & GRAVEL FOR TOPSOIL WHEREAS, prices for new topsoil were solicited, and two bids were received; and WHEREAS, the bid of Leavitt Sand & Gravel for blended topsoil (66.7% topsoil and 33.3% sand filler) for \$23.50 per yard was less expensive; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby accepts the bid of Leavitt Sand & Gravel for topsoil to be picked up in spring 2013 at \$23.50 per yard.

Those voting aye:

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

Those Voting nay:

None

Those Absent:

None

Those Abstaining:

None

11. OLD BUSINESS

A. ADIRONDACK LEADERSHIP EXPEDITIONS. A telephone tree and email alert system has been set up to alert Onchiota residents of escapes. Anyone wishing to be included on either the telephone tree or email alert should contact Supv. Willman.

B. MERRILLSVILLE GARAGE REPAIR. Overhead Door of Plattsburgh will install a new door at the Merrillsville Garage shortly. Locks and keys have already been purchased.

C. VERMONTVILLE GARAGE REPAIR. The soffit work has been completed at the Vermontville Garage and the salvageable areas have been painted. Materials have arrived for the side walls. Supv. Willman reported Doug Snickles indicated the poor condition of the front and rear vestibules. The door sills have warped to such a degree that the doors do not close and heat is lost. Coun. Hamm recommended purchasing metal energy-rated doors and to pay for same with the remainder of proceeds from the NY Power Authority grant. (In addition, Supv. Willman was informed by Friends of the North Country that the remainder of the old HUD grant funds, approximately \$3,500, is now the Town's to use as it pleases.) Coun. Hamm will confer with Doug Snickles and report to Supv. Willman.

D. HUD GRANT APPLICATION UPDATE. Supv. Willman learned at the most recent Town Supervisors' meeting that grant award results will be made in early December. To that end the Clerk recommended that a new Town policy be instituted if it receives grant funding: the Town should record any legal instruments between it and the homeowner. It had been the practice of the Town to record the instruments in the first round of grant awards in the 1990's. Thereafter, the Town mailed Discharges of Mortgages to homeowners with instructions for the homeowner to record same. Very few did, and as a consequence the mortgages remain open. The Board agreed the Town should record the documents.

E. JAWS OF LIFE FOR BLOOMINGDALE VFD. Supv. Willman reported the truck has been outfitted and the BVFD is working with the tools. The Town owes \$5,000 for the equipment, which will be paid in January 2013.

F. OIL-WATER SEPARATOR. No progress to report thus far. In 2013 Supv. Willman and Hwy. Supt. DeMars will travel to Champlain to inspect its installation.

G. DEFIBRILLATORS FOR TOWN HALL AND GARAGE. Coun. Merrill researched the matter and will distribute materials to the Board at the next meeting. All were in favor of purchasing the type of defibrillator that requires little training. Because the Town Hall hosts gatherings of the public, a defibrillator will be purchased for it first.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS.

A. AUDIT. No audits; no report.

B. CEMETERIES. Coun. Merrill delivered signs with Cemetery Rules. One set has been posted at the Vermontville Cemetery and the others will be posted at Merrillsville and Franklin Falls.

C. RECREATION. No report.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board of Assessment Review for a term starting October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2015. The position has been published in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise. No applications were received. The Board will re-advertise. Motion to readvertise position (C.Smalley-A.Berg m/s/p) ALL AYE.

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, November 15th - Food Pantry

Thursday, November 22nd - Happy Thanksgiving

Tuesday, November 27th - 55+ Club meets

Saturday, December 8th - Children's Christmas Party at Town Hall - noon to 3:00 PM

Wednesday, December 12th - Monthly Town Board meeting

14. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS. The Town Clerk reported she had spoken with Donna Buckley, secretary of the 55+ Club. The seniors now wish to meet at the Town Hall during the day. Discussion ensued with alternatives being proposed.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss or conduct, the meeting adjourned at 8:46 PM. Motion (A.Berg-B.Merrill m/s/p) ALL AYE

Respectfully submitted, Sandra J. Oliver, Town Clerk

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