

Budget Workshop Meeting 3
Catskill Town Hall
October 19, 2022 6:00 pm

PRESENT: Dale Finch, Supervisor
 Jared Giordiano, Councilman
 Patrick McCulloch, Councilman
 Dawn Scannapieco, Councilwoman
 Paul Vosburgh, Councilman
Also Attending: Kirsten Bulich, Finance Clerk

Supervisor Finch opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Bulich stated she checked on the PILOT and is comfortable at \$12,000 if the board wishes to raise. PILOT increased to \$12,000. All ok.

Code – Supervisor Finch stated wages will be tackled when we get to wage stuff. Software ok, fuel increase to \$1,200, mileage left as is, subscriptions was a shift of cost, education stayed same, miscellaneous left as is.

Registrar – ok.

Planning – discuss wage later. Can adjust but close.

B Fund - \$193,000 fund balance.

Legal Service – leave.

Other P.S. – leave at \$5,000.

Advertising – ok.

Other Professional – reduce to \$15,000.

Councilman McCulloch stated we need a health officer. Money left in. Will try to find someone.

Revenue – Looking at subdivision revenue. Leave zero for now. Building Permits increased to \$100,000.

DA Bridges – leave. Money used as tipping fee for cleanup day. Councilman Giordiano would like two clean up days.

The Town Board began their Committee Meeting at 6:30 pm. All present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A motion to open the public hearing was made by Councilwoman Scannapieco second by Councilman McCulloch. The Clerk read the notice:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE the Catskill Town Board will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 19, 2022 at 6:30 pm at Catskill Town Hall, 439 Main St., Catskill to hear comment and concern regarding Local Law 2 of 2022 “Overriding the Tax Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2023”. By Order of the Catskill Town Board, Elizabeth Izzo, Town Clerk

Supervisor Finch asked if anyone had any comment. With no comment a motion to end the public hearing was made by Councilman McCulloch second by Councilman Giordiano. Public hearing ended 6:31 pm.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution # 89-2022 on motion of Councilman Giordiano second by Councilwoman Scannapieco to waive a performance and surety bond for residential properties, one, two or three family, for ground mounted solar systems or roof top solar system applications. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes *Councilman Giordiano had an issue with ground mounted solar systems and the amount of energy they can generate. Issue was discussed by the board before adoption.*

Resolution # 90-2022 on motion of Councilman Giordiano second by Councilwoman Scannapieco adopting Local Law 2 of 2022 Overriding the Tax Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2023. Adopted: 5 Yes

Resolution # 91-2022 on motion of Councilman McCulloch second by Councilwoman Scannapieco hiring Tom Dengler as Winter Seasonal Laborer, for wingman for snow plowing, for the Highway Department effective October 17, 2022 at a rate of pay of \$25.00 per hour. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

Resolution # 92-2022 on motion of Councilman Vosburgh second by Councilman Giordiano scheduling a public hearing for Local Law 3 of 2022 Zoning Amendment Chapter 160-17 (a) adding Public Utilities as a Special Permit in the Industrial Zone for Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 6:30 pm at Town Hall. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

Councilman McCulloch exited the board room.

Resolution # 93-2022 on motion of Councilman Giordiano second by Councilman Vosburgh accepting the conveyance of property of the Pump Station in Leeds, NY Parcel ID 138.15-1-14 from the IDA. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (McCulloch)

Resolution # 94-2022 on motion of Councilman Vosburgh second by Councilman Giordiano authorizing the Town Justice apply for a grant through the Office of Court Administration. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (McCulloch)

Resolution # 95-2022 on motion of Councilman Giordiano second by Supervisor Finch changing the employment status of Justin Ball from PT Intermittent EMT to PT Intermittent Paramedic effective October 17, 2022. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (McCulloch)

Resolution # 96-2022 on motion of Councilman Vosburgh second by Councilwoman Scannapieco authoring the purchase of a 2022 Crestline Type 3 Chevrolet 3500 Gas Chassis Ambulance in the amount of \$176,300 to replace the ambulance involved in the accident and considered a total loss. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (McCulloch)

Resolution # 97-2022 on motion of Councilman Giordiano second by Councilwoman Scannapieco accepting the grant from Greene County Legislature ARPA fund and requesting the disbursement of the remainder of the funds for projects related to the Robert C. Antonelli Senior Center in the amount of \$85,849.30. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (McCulloch)

Supervisor Finch stated he has flooring samples for the center and siding samples for Town Hall and would like everyone's input.

Councilman McCulloch re-entered the meeting.

Resolution # 98-2022 on motion of Councilman Vosburgh second by Councilman McCulloch authorizing the Supervisor sign the proposal with Landmark Flooring Concepts for replacement of the floor at the Robert C. Antonelli Senior Center in the amount of \$70,653.14. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

Short Term Rentals – Supervisor Finch referenced an email from Matt Carlile wishing the board would set the fees for short term rentals. Councilman Vosburgh would like to subscribe to a service which would allow the CEO to know where all STR are and send a mass application out. Discussion about fee and who would inspect. *Resolution # 99-2022 on motion of Councilman Vosburgh second by Councilman McCulloch to set the Short-Term Rental (“STR”) fee at \$500 initial fee and \$200 renewal fee. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes*

Budget Workshop resumed.

Highway – Wage 3%. Motor Fuel increased \$5,000 summer \$10,000 winter. General supplies – same. Road Materials – same. Uniforms – ok. CHIPS – good. Machinery – leave. Conversation about next equipment purchase which will be an excavator. Supervisor Finch stated we will need to have a conversation with Shawn about his ideas. Machinery & Equipment reduced \$169,500. Repairs and Maintenance increased to \$40,000.

DB Revenue – Sale of equipment changed to zero. CHIPS should be higher. Supervisor Finch stated this has no effect on the levy. Councilman McCulloch stated we do not need \$340,000 as Shawn will not spend every penny at once. Councilman Vosburgh stated equipment can be bought with CHIPS money. Discussion about reducing Machinery & Equipment. Councilman McCulloch was not comfortable reducing without Shawn being here.

Ambulance Short-term debt reduced to zero and money moved to the ambulance equipment line, increased to \$30,000. All else on page looks good.

Cementon Sewer Expense – combination of three different debts. Discussion about money for fund balance in case something breaks. Conversation needed with Joe about maintenance of plant.

Leeds Fire – the number is 166. We need to contact Athens and discuss the contract. The number in the budget reflects a 5% increase. Councilman Vosburgh stated he is ok with that number but no more.

Kiskatom Fire – district so not our decision.

Palenville Fire – same, district and not our decision.

Hydrant fees – same, ok.

Lighting – talk about LED later and then we will need to see if price reflects.

Fund Balance – Councilman Vosburgh stated to use \$175,000. Supervisor Finch stated \$100,000 from A Fund and B Fund. Kirsten will run the numbers while we go into executive session to discuss a legal matter. *Motion by Councilman McCulloch second by Councilwoman Scannapieco to enter executive session to discuss a legal matter. All in favor. Executive session began 7:40 pm.*

Motion to end executive session and continue the meeting made by Councilman Giordiano second by Councilman McCulloch. Meeting resumed 7:48 pm.

Wages & Health Insurance – Supervisor Finch stated Torchia recommends \$1.9 million fund balance or a four month which would be \$1.3 million for the A Fund. The B Fund \$68,000. Take no more out of the B but take another \$50,000 out of the DB Fund and hope the short-term rental revenue comes in. The revenue from the Champlain project will not be seen until 2024.

DB use of Fund Balance -\$197,000.

Wages – reviewed the wage structure. Councilman Vosburgh stated it is 3% plus the next step using the employee's hire date. Councilwoman Scannapieco stated it should be their anniversary date for the step. Councilman McCulloch stated 3% first year and step on anniversary. Councilman Vosburgh stated everyone gets a raise and then gets increased a different time of year.

Councilman Giordiano stated someone with 15 years' experience should not make same as someone with 3 months experience. Councilwoman Scannapieco stated it is a mess but it needs to be corrected. We have people starting at step 10. Councilman Giordiano stated it will fix new hires moving forward. Supervisor Finch stated employees may get more than 3%. We worked the numbers and slotted people. In the end beneficial for employees. Councilman Vosburgh stated for now it is a good start. Councilman Giordiano stated to calculate the whole step and then there may be fund balance at the end of the year. Councilwoman Scannapieco stated moving forward with new hires we need to talk about experience and job likeness; no experience step one.

Supervisor Finch reviewed the sheet. Assessor no change. Clerk no change. Senior Center clerk slotted in. Code Enforcement Clerk down 3%. Court Clerks slotted in. CEO, big difference off his ask. Councilwoman Scannapieco stated this chart puts you in a box. Clerk Finance, still room in situation. We can slot the position up a grade and will look at in future. The stipend was reduced to \$5,000.

Health Insurance – Councilman Giordiano stated we have not had union contract negotiations yet. Councilman McCulloch stated it is too late in the year to change insurance carriers for employees. Should have looked at this in August. He will not vote on changing insurance companies now. Supervisor Finch stated open enrollment in the post office has not even started yet. Councilwoman Scannapieco stated it is just how it works. Supervisor Finch stated we should change Highmark as there are only three employees in that plan. He is concerned about getting the right plan for the employees. Councilman Giordiano stated we are not changing plan for retirees. Councilwoman Scannapieco stated to talk to insurance companies and see the options for the unions. Supervisor Finch stated we are the only municipality who offers a choice on healthcare plans. He is inclined to stay with PHP.

Motion to enter an executive session to discuss a personnel matter was made by Councilman Vosburgh second by Councilman Giordiano. Executive session began 8:26 pm.

Motion to exit executive session and resume the meeting was made by Councilwoman Scannapieco second by Councilman McCulloch. Executive session ended 8:42 pm.

Supervisor Finch asked for a motion to appoint Jay Lesinger as Planning Board member and Laurie Schmidt as Alternative Planning Board Member. *Resolution #100-2022 on motion of Councilman McCulloch second by Councilman Giordiano to appoint Jay Lesinger as member of the Planning Board filling the unexpired term of Heather Bagshaw and Laurie Schmidt as Planning Board Alternate Member. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes*

With no further business a motion to end the meeting was made by Councilman Giordiano second by Councilwoman Scannapieco. Meeting ended 8:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk