

DEPARTMENT HEAD/BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING – October 5, 2017

The Town Board of the Town of Catskill held their Department Head meeting and the first Budget Workshop meeting on Thursday, October 3, 2017 at 9:30 am. The following members were present:

Doreen Davis, Supervisor; Jared Giordiano, Councilman; Patrick McCulloch, Councilman; Paul Vosburgh, Councilman;

Absent: Robert Antonelli, Councilman

Also Attending: Audre Higbee, Assessor; George June, Ambulance Administrator; Elliott Fishman, CEO
Kirsten Bulich, Finance

CODE

Mr. Fishman stated there are 84 sewer permits and 21 connections to date. The IDA will need a demo permit and an asbestosis analysis before demolition of the Quality Inn can commence.

ASSESSOR

Ms. Higbee gave a solar update in regards to the project in Palenville. They are in the process of discussing a PILOT program. They wish her to sign a NDA. The Town Attorney is reviewing. She is coordinating with the school and the county regarding the PILOT.

TENTATIVE BUDGET REVIEW

Town Board – reduced \$10,000 with the retirement of a council person.

Justice – it was stated they have no interest in attending a budget review. There was discussion regarding their 27% increase in the clerk's salaries. Supervisor Davis stated this would move them to a grade 6 which is on par with finance. We have a pay schedule. Michael Richardson gave his recommendation for all grades for 2018. The percent increase will be 2%.

Discussion moved to the Justices' salaries. Councilman Vosburgh stated the one justice received a \$6,000 increase last year. Supervisor Davis stated there is no benchmark. Councilman Vosburgh questioned raising to \$25,000 for a part time job. Supervisor Davis stated her instinct is to not increase it to \$25,000 either.

Review of Page 9 – no changes.

Review of Page 10 – Finance, 2% increase. Sr. Clerk consistent. PT bookkeeper to \$15.54. Supervisor Davis stated to keep the updated 2018 job rates. The board decided to keep the Personnel Coordinator stipend as is.

Ms. Bulich stated she received the contracted fee from PKHB. Payroll's number is exact. PKHB budgeted at \$40,000. \$250 keep in for education.

Tax – Board will confirm with the ROT regarding no raise and will talk to Michael Richardson regarding elected officials.

Assessor – 2% increase. Everything else fine.

Town Clerk – no changes. Cut and dry.

Town Attorney – reduced to \$40,000.

Ambulance –

Supervisor Davis requested a motion to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel issue. Kirsten Bulich and Clerk Izzo were asked to remain. Motion by Supervisor Davis seconded by Councilman Giordiano. Executive session began 10:25 am. Motion to exit executive session and resume the meeting was made by Councilman Giordiano seconded by Councilman Vosburgh. Meeting resumed 10:31 am.

Currently in contract negotiations. The increase in salary is based on a market adjustment. Supervisor Davis stated we are behind in terms of other municipalities and GCEMS. The labor pool is limited. Councilman Vosburgh asked if the step could be in two years. Councilman McCulloch stated to discuss with the union. Ambulance Administrator salary \$63,240 per Michael Richardson's recommendation. Mr. June stated his number is for market adjustment. Councilman McCulloch stated to split up between 2 years.

Ms. Bulich asked about weekend hours. Another line will be created to split out and create a shift differential.

There is \$38,000 budgeted for a new vehicle for the Ambulance Administrator. Supervisor Davis asked for a list of building improvement projects.

The number for Digitech is based on volume and it is holding steady. Mutual aid stays the same.

With no further business a motion to adjourn the department head/budget workshop meeting was made by Councilman Giordiano seconded by Councilman Vosburgh. Meeting ended 11:12 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk