

Budget Workshop Meeting
Catskill Town Hall
October 13, 2021 6:00 pm

Attendance: Dale Finch, Supervisor
 Jared Giordiano, Councilman
 Patrick McCulloch, Councilman
 Dawn Scannapieco, Councilwoman
 Paul Vosburgh, Councilman

Also Attending: Kirsten Bulich, Finance
 George June, Ambulance Administrator

Supervisor Finch opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

AMBULANCE:

Supervisor Finch stated the salary budgeted is \$69,503. Mr. June has two numbers. The straight 2% which is historically what the board authorizes but he would like 2.5%. Councilman Giordiano stated it should be 3%. The inflation rate will be over 4%. Councilman McCulloch stated 3% should be for everyone not tied to a collective bargaining agreement. Discussion ensued about part-time and full-time employees' salaries. Councilman Vosburgh stated he is good with the 3% for now and if need adjusting, can do it. Supervisor Finch stated he is ok for now and then we will see where we end up on the 19th or 20th. *Ambulance Administrator salary increased 3%.*

PT Clerk – Mr. June stated the number is based on the hourly rate of \$16.91 with 15 hours. Supervisor Finch stated the board needs to decide if the increase in pay is for everyone at 2.25%. Councilman Giordiano stated 3% is not a large increase. *PT Clerk salary increased 2.25%.*

Mr. June then reviewed the other positions. He stated the FT-2 position has been filled. Leave the FT-1 at \$48,207 as this slot receives a stipend for being the ALS Coordinator. Councilman Giordiano asked why there is no deputy. Mr. June stated he would like to have help. He had a meeting with Councilors' McCulloch and Scannapieco to discuss. He would like to see shift supervisor implemented first and then see what a Deputy Chief should do. Supervisor Finch would like to see someone in charge on weekends and when George is not there. We should evaluate as a pilot program. Mr. June stated the job title needs to be created and then we go from there. The rest of ambulance budget was reviewed. *EMT PT was reduced to \$187,000. Overtime was increased \$15,000.*

Mr. June would like to add a line for Medical Director. Currently it has been done pro bono but he would like \$2,500 as compensation. The two other towns that use the medical director have a stipend for the position. He would not be an employee but a 1099. *All were ok creating a line for Medical Director with \$2,500.*

Ambulance expenses reviewed. Ambulance replacement has \$15,000. Mr. June stated this will be allocated this year to refurbish the 2016 so it cannot be moved to reserve. The rest of the expense budget was reviewed. *Labor screening was increased \$250. Central Garage chargebacks kept as is. Building maintenance was reduced to \$24,000. Motor fuel was increased to \$30,000. Billing-* Mr. June stated this is a percentage of the revenue from Digitech. ALS Mutual Aid – Mr. June stated we are

paying for Paramedics to go to Delaware County on a daily basis. The call volume is back to normal. Supervisor Finch stated to leave as is. There was a discussion about not billing but the legislature never moved forward. Councilman Vosburgh stated we should not pay them. Mr. June stated we should look at our contract and see if it is up to date.

Mr. June stated he received a price for the video-doc from AT & T. Councilman McCulloch stated to move the money to implement now. Councilman Vosburgh stated people are going back to their doctors and hospitals. Mr. June gave the board the shift supervisor job description developed by labor management. This resides in the EMT job description so that job description will need to be revised. Supervisor Finch stated to run this by HR.

Ambulance Revenue – Ambulance recovery kept where is. Everyone was in agreement.

Mr. Izzo mentioned to the board the COLA rate for 2022 will be over 5% and to remember when reviewing salaries to base them on the inflation rate. Mr. Izzo asked about the amount received in COVID funds and what those funds can be used for. Ms. Bulich stated those funds are in a special account. The Town received \$382,000. Discussion about how to use those funds continued. Mr. Izzo asked if the Town will be above the tax cap. Supervisor Finch stated yes.

Review of the budget continued:

Finance – Sr. Clerk salary discussed. Councilman Giordiano is ok with the proposed amount. Supervisor Finch asked why it can't be same as code. Councilman McCulloch stated the employee has been here 10 years and not 5 months. This is a grade 6 and code is a 5. Supervisor Finch stated it should be the same as code. Councilman Vosburgh agreed with Councilman McCulloch and Giordiano. Code is just coming into the door and he should be happy with 52. Councilwoman Scannapieco stated it should be based on job title. HR and Finance can meet and we can create a schedule including grades and steps. Supervisor Finch felt the board was cherry picking. Councilman Giordiano disagreed. Supervisor Finch mentioned part time employees with no benefits. Councilwoman Scannapieco stated to move forward with what is in the budget and in January review the budget schedule and to have in place for the next budget season. She also stated men tend to get paid more than woman. *Sr. Clerk salary – leaving as is. All were good with that.*

The rest of the Finance budget was reviewed. *Payroll was increased \$600 for the board to have the option of online paystubs for employees.*

Tax Collector – Councilman Giordiano stated the Deputy Tax should be more than \$3,000. Discussion about moving money from Tax Collector Clerk to Deputy Tax Collector. *All were in agreement to keep the Tax Collector Clerk at \$2,000 and increase the Deputy Tax Collector to \$4,000. ROT salary kept at 2.5% increase.*

Assessor – Assessor salary remains as is. Assessor Clerk increase 2.25%. The remainder of the budget was reviewed. Councilman Giordiano asked about revaluation. Supervisor Finch stated maybe when the PILOT comes in we can look at.

Town Clerk – salary ok. Reflects amount for cemetery records. All else good.

Town Attorney – no change.

Central Operations – postage increased. Telephone keep amount.

Central Garage – will be discussed tomorrow with Highway.

Senior Center – Now have a clerk so hours will increase to 1300 and keep 104 hours for Jim to open and close the center as needed. The rest of the budget was reviewed. Councilman Vosburgh to get quotes to replace the floor.

With no further discussion. Motion to end the meeting was made by Councilman Vosburgh second by Councilman Giordiano. Meeting ended 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk