

Budget Workshop Meeting 3
Catskill Town Hall
October 19, 2021 6:00 pm

PRESENT: Dale Finch, Supervisor
 Jared Giordiano, Councilman
 Patrick McCulloch, Councilman
 Paul Vosburgh, Councilman

Also Attending: Kirsten Bulich, Finance

Supervisor Finch opened the meeting with a Pledge of Allegiance. Shawn Conklin and Joe Valentine of Webjogger were present to discuss the Town's IT service.

Quote 2390: Mr. Conklin stated this first quote has to do with the firewalls. The firewalls are near their end of life support. Ideally they would be replaced next year but an extension of the service contract for one year can be done if necessary. In 2023 however the service contract will not renew. The lifespan is 7 to 9 years. At a minimum, renew the subscription in 2022 but we suggest replacing in 2022 as in 2023 the server infrastructure will age out and we don't want the town burdened with two large projects. Councilman Giordiano asked about cloud hosting. Mr. Conklin stated they can review numbers. Some people can migrate out. The server runs out in June of 2023 so next year will be a good time to have this conversation to move to cloud services.

Quote 2387: Mr. Conklin stated this is what is being provided to the Town now from Webjogger, Microsoft and Datto. Supervisor Finch asked if we own our phone system. Mr. Conklin stated yes. Councilman Vosburgh asked about the expense of management of the phone box. Mr. Conklin explained the box and cost for management of the phone system. Supervisor Finch asked about Datto. Mr. Conklin stated this is a town appliance fee to store backups. Supervisor Finch asked to look at fiber optics versus a T1 line as cable wants to quote fiber optic. Mr. Valentine stated our phone system is SIP so if we change voice carriers we could use our current phone system at no new infrastructure cost. Councilman Vosburgh wanted to know about voice phone. Mr. Valentine explained we would need new handsets and a line for every single phone. Supervisor Finch asked about cost of fiber optic. Mr. Conklin explained the cost.

Quote 2388: Mr. Conklin mentioned future items for years 2023 and 2024 to keep the board apprised for budgeting purposes.

Quote 2389: Mr. Conklin reviewed the present recommended change in service to the town such as the advanced security email system. Conversation about purchasing new computers now. Mr. Conklin explained to buy new now would be cost prohibitive. Supervisor Finch mentioned the issue with the TimeClock + and if it is a system error or employee error. Mr. Valentine explained the largest trouble to date had to do with seasonal changes. Highway employees' hands' with working in the cold would not be able to be scanned as their hands change so they would have to have their prints done twice a year. Ms. Bulich stated the only issue now is when it is off-line however she has the ability to restart from her computer. She stated the issue at the Senior Center is the computer and not the TimeClock. Councilman Vosburgh asked about passwords changes. Mr. Conklin explained the complexity requirements. Mr. Valentine explained the reasoning of not changing your password frequently from a cyber security viewpoint.

Mr. Conklin asked about the new software for the Code office. Supervisor Finch stated once the choice is narrowed down, we will include you in the discussion. Mr. Valentine stated early access for new software allows them to see the tools that will be needed for support.

Supervisor Finch recapped the firewall quote. Mr. Conklin stated a decision needs to be made in January of 2022 to either replace or renew as it will not be able to be renewed again as it is reaching its end of support. Supervisor Finch thanked them for coming to the meeting. Discussion about how much money is left in the IT line and use of that money to pay for the firewall or reserve for 2023 expenses was discussed. The decision is to keep IT line at \$42,000 which is the same as now.

Franchise fee – left as is.

Highway line 5130.2 reduced to \$22,500. Revenue line sale of equipment increased to \$30,000. DB Fund balance \$50,000. Councilman Giordiano stated accounting needs to look at the numbers for the number of the property tax cap.

Code: Councilman Giordiano questioned the need for two fire inspectors. Supervisor Finch stated to keep as is to have available to us. Ms. Bulich asked about the one Fire Inspector line and keeping rate at \$25. All were in agreement to keep at \$25. Overtime was discussed. All were in agreement to reduce to \$4,500. Discussion about replacing code vehicle. Subscriptions, remove \$1,000. Professional Services remove \$2,000. Miscellaneous – leave as is. Supervisor Finch stated all else looks good.

Registrar – ok as is.

Plan/Zone – Councilman McCulloch stated to put in a line for another clerk. Supervisor Finch wants hours added to current line. Hours increased to 1,286. Zoning – legal service left as is. All else good.

Councilman McCulloch mentioned the possible need for a different Health Officer. Councilman Vosburgh asked about worker's comp. Ms. Bulich stated this is split between A, B and DB funds. Bridges – no change.

Leeds Sewer – Supervisor Finch stated to use the \$290,500. O/M increased to \$42,000.

Leeds Fire District – Councilman McCulloch stated he is against the \$149,000 number. Councilman Giordiano is good with 5% increase. Councilman McCulloch is good with that percentage. Councilman Vosburgh stated we need to pay to support them to fight fires for the residents. Councilman McCulloch stated they can't fight fires over one story. Supervisor Finch stated we need to give them enough money to open their doors and 5% won't work. Councilman McCulloch stated they are already threatening to walk out if they don't get the whole amount. Supervisor Finch doesn't agree with bumping those 5% each year. Discussion about the number of years for the contract. Settled on a four year contract with an 8% increase this year at \$117,705.96.

Supervisor Finch stated Michael Torchia will be at the meeting tomorrow. With no further business a motion to end the meeting was made by Councilman Vosburgh second by Councilman Giordiano. Meeting ended 8:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk