

Budget Workshop Meeting  
Catskill Town Hall  
October 20, 2022 6:00 pm

|          |                    |              |
|----------|--------------------|--------------|
| PRESENT: | Dale Finch,        | Supervisor   |
|          | Jared Giordiano,   | Councilman   |
|          | Patrick McCulloch, | Councilman   |
|          | Dawn Scannapieco,  | Councilwoman |
|          | Paul Vosburgh,     | Councilman   |

Supervisor Finch opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Finch discussed the wage chart. Councilman Vosburgh inquired about the prior step and additional step. Supervisor Finch stated the start is 3% and gave an example using an employee. Councilman Giordiano stated it should be 3% and then the step at their anniversary and questioned that some employees should be a higher step as they have been here longer. Councilwoman Scannapieco stated step one is first year no experience and it is extrapolated out from there. Discussion ensued about where employees were slotted in, the steps left, what happens after having no more steps such as longevity bonuses every five years. Supervisor Finch stated he is comfortable where we are. Councilman Vosburgh stated the point of doing steps is different for someone here two to three years and someone here eight to ten years. Supervisor Finch stated when an employee steps out, you look at longevity and that is what is unfinished work.

Supervisor Finch believes employees are in the right grade using workload level and questions how much money should be between grades and to create a gap as some employees who have been here a long time feel less appreciated. He can explain to each employee why he feels they are in the grade they are in and thought it fair. Next year it will self-correct. Councilman McCulloch stated we can take the next couple of weeks and straighten out so we can move on. Supervisor Finch stated we still need to look at a little closer to see where we end up. He emailed HR to let her weigh in.

Supervisor Finch reviewed healthcare. Highmark is the same as PHP. MVP is slightly less and a little better copay. There are two people in Highmark and those people will move to PHP. Next year we will look at plans.

Leeds Fire – Supervisor Finch stated he spoke with Athens and they have a 5% increase in their budget. He does not want to pin Leeds at 5% and we should talk to them ahead of time. Councilman Giordiano stated they are supposed to come to us. Councilman McCulloch stated a letter was sent in July and he is available next week to hear them out. Supervisor Finch stated he is ok with a 5% increase and it should be enough money to operate.

Supervisor Finch stated the tax rate in the Village will be 7.27% and outside the Village 3.81% which is a \$26 \$27 increase on a \$100,000 assessed value. He does not want to raise taxes as need to but we cannot use more fund balance.

Supervisor Finch stated all PT elected officials will be getting a 3% increase, FT elected officials a 3% increase and the Supervisor 9%. There was discussion about the increases. Supervisor Finch polled the board regarding the increase.

Supervisor Finch, yes; Councilman Vosburgh yes; Councilman Giordiano no; Councilman McCulloch no; Councilwoman Scannapieco yes.

Supervisor Finch asked for a motion to move the 2023 Tentative Town Budget as the 2023 Preliminary Budget and schedule a public hearing thereon. *Resolution # 101-2022 on motion of Councilman Giordiano second by Councilwoman Scannapieco to adopt the 2023 Tentative Budget as the 2023 Preliminary Budget and schedule a public hearing on said budget for Tuesday, November 1, 2022 at 6:30 pm at Catskill Town Hall. 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 7:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo  
Town Clerk