

LUMBERLAND TOWN BOARD 2011 BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES –
OCTOBER 20, 2010

The Town Board of the Town of Lumberland held a 2011 Budget Workshop Meeting on Wednesday, October 20, 2010, at 6 p.m. at the Municipal Building in Glen Spey, N.Y. Supervisor Nadia Rajsz opened the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Those members present were: Supervisor Nadia Rajsz

Councilman/Deputy Supervisor Joseph Carr

Councilman Jay Shafer

Councilman James Akt

Councilman William J. McKerrell

Also present were Town Clerk Virginia Horn and Sophia Martyneec.

Councilman McKerrell made a motion to close the 2011 Budget Workshop Meeting at 6:11 p.m., seconded by Councilman Akt, all in favor, so carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman McKerrell made a motion to go into Executive Session at 6:11 p.m. to discuss personnel and pending litigation, seconded by Councilman Akt, all in favor, so carried.

Councilman Shafer made a motion to close the Executive Session and reopen the 2011 Budget Workshop Meeting at 6:45 p.m., seconded by Councilman Carr, all in favor, so carried.

The Board members reviewed the Preliminary 2011 Budget. Supervisor Rajsz reported that on the first page the \$55,000 listed was monies from the fund balance for projects that would not be funded by raising taxes, noting that there is a zero increase to the budget.

Sophia Martynec discussed the proposed changes to the proposed 2011 budget appropriations, noting the amount to be given to the Fire Dept. Supervisor Rajsz stated she would like to discuss this appropriation with the Board members, noting that the Fire Dept. goes above and beyond and she would like to see the proposed \$180,000 for the Fire Dept. be changed to \$185,000 for next year's budget. Supervisor Rajsz stated that she personally felt the Fire Dept. feels a disconnect between the Town and the Fire Dept., noting that she felt the Fire Dept. felt the Town Board does not support them. Supervisor Rajsz requested they give the Fire Dept. \$185,000 next year. Councilman Shafer stated that they would be giving the Fire Dept. an \$8,000 increase from this year by going to \$180,000. Supervisor Rajsz noted that the Town gave the Fire Dept. \$172,000 this year and their budget ran \$190,000. Councilman Akt reported that the Fire Dept. also has other departments to respond if needed. Councilman McKerrell questioned why is it always a question if the Park spends money but not a question when the Fire Dept. spends it? Councilman Shafer stated he felt they were showing support by giving them an \$8,000 increase, noting they are not giving anyone in the offices a raise. Supervisor Rajsz stated the workers are getting paid and the Fire Dept. volunteers do not get paid. Councilman Akt stated that the problem is the former Town Boards gave too much over the years, noting that within the last 10 years the amount given to the Fire Dept. has doubled. Councilman Carr stated that the Fire Dept. has not given a full report on how they spend the taxpayers money. Councilman Shafer recommended giving them a 2 year contract for \$180,000 and \$185,000. Councilman McKerrell noted they could take monies out of the fund balance to help pay for the Fire Dept. radios when they are needed. Supervisor Rajsz stated it would need to be put into the contract that the Town will financially support in some manner the purchase of the mandated radios. Councilman Carr reported that the Fire Dept. is now set up to be eligible for federal grants.

Sophia Martynec questioned the \$35,000 in the Central Communications line on the budget? Supervisor Rajsz will check with the bookkeeper. Martynec questioned the increase to street lighting? Councilman Akt reported it was due to the increase from the utilities. Martynec also questioned the increase in the disability insurance costs? Supervisor Rajsz reported that the increase is a projected percentage for a mandated increase.

Councilman Shafer questioned what the status of the medical insurance was? Supervisor Rajsz reported they will be discussing insurance options with the employees tomorrow. Supervisor Rajsz noted the different options for the different plans available, noting that Nancy Yoder is coming in on Friday to discuss the options with the retirees. Supervisor Rajsz reported they can set up a fund to help with the copay for the hospital, noting that the present insurance will be increasing after the first of the year and they will have to set money aside for those that will have a break in coverage between plans.

Sophia Martynec stated that, when the County Manager was here, it was stated that we can't keep buying benefits the way we have been. Supervisor Rajszyk reported they have discussed all the options available. Martynec noted that the cost for medical for the employees is more than the amount given to the Fire Dept., noting that taxpayers get more benefit for the Fire Dept. service for the money. Martynec questioned why some part time employees got medical benefits? Supervisor Rajszyk reported that was the former policy by former Town Boards, noting they have discussed this and are working on it to change. Councilman Akt stated that after listening to the County Manager and Legislator talk they blamed the old regime for not running the County right but it is still not being run right now. Martynec stated that the Town Board members are doing a meticulous job on keeping the budget down. Councilman Akt stated it will take a long time to get back to where we should be.

The Board members agreed on the proposed 2011 Preliminary Budget figures. Supervisor Rajszyk stated she will talk to the Fire Dept. , and requested the Town Clerk check the salary page. The Town Clerk verified the Special Meeting date will be Wednesday, November 3, 2010 at 7 p.m. with the Public Hearing for the 2011 Budget at 7:15 p.m.

The Board members agreed there were no further changes to the 2011 proposed Preliminary Budget.

The Town Clerk reported her deputy will be going into the hospital next week and she has contacted Nicole Bury, our part time per diem clerk, who will be helping out in the office until the deputy can come back to work.

Supervisor Rajszyk reported she has the representative from J.P. Morgan coming in on Friday regarding getting a credit card machine for the offices.

Councilman McKerrell reported that Ketchum Fencing has stated that the Park needs to buy the base for the basketball court which is a little over \$300. Councilman McKerrell noted he has 5 quotes and the Board members agreed to put this on a resolution for the November meeting.

Councilman Shafer reported the Highway Superintendent reported that the bid for anti-skid sand from Redard & Sipple was submitted in tonnage and not cubic yard as specified so the Highway Superintendent did not award them the bid.

Councilman Carr made a motion to adjourn at 7:51 p.m., seconded by Councilman McKerrell, all in favor, so carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia V. Horn

Town Clerk