

LUMBERLAND TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

& 2011 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 3, 2010

The Lumberland Town Board held a Special Meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the 2011 Budget Public Hearing at 7:15 p.m., on Wednesday, November 3, 2010, at the Town Hall in Glen Spey, N.Y. Supervisor Nadia Rajsz opened the meeting at 7:01 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call was administered to those members present:

Supervisor Nadia Rajsz

Councilman/Deputy Supervisor Joseph Carr

Councilman Jay Shafer

Councilman James Akt

Councilman William J. McKerrell

Also present were Virginia Horn, Town Clerk, Historian Frank Schwarz, Sophia Martynec, Oxsana Krupka, Ann Steimle, Tax Collector Phyllis Knapp, Linda Shafer, Melissa Worzel, Daniel Vail, Herb Baxter, Wayne King and Lewis Powell.

Supervisor Rajsz reported copies of the proposed 2011 budget were available for anyone wishing to review it, noting that the last two pages of the budget were the tax exempt properties listing that totals over \$80 million, of which included are the churches, camps and cemeteries. The Town Clerk noted she did not include the listing with the copies of the budget but it will be available for anyone wishing a copy.

Supervisor Rajsz reviewed the figures on the 1st page of the proposed 2011 budget, noting the total is the same as last year with no increase. Supervisor Rajsz reported the Board met with the Fire Dept. and they have a verbal agreement that the Fire Dept. will get \$180,000 next year and \$185,000 the year after. Supervisor Rajsz reported the \$55,000 listed from the capital reserve fund is for projects that need to be done but will not be funded by increasing taxes. Supervisor Rajsz reported there was \$205,000 in the capital reserve fund.

2011 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING – 7:15 P.M.

Councilman Shafer made a motion to close the Special Meeting at 7:15 p.m., seconded by Councilman McKerrell, all in favor, so carried. Councilman Shafer made a motion to open the 2011 Budget Public Hearing at 7:15 p.m., seconded by Councilman Carr, all in favor, so carried.

OPEN FLOOR TO PUBLIC FOR 1ST TIME

Sophia Martynec questioned the previous \$8,027 that was in the fund balance and no longer there but taken from the insurance costs? Supervisor Rajszycki reported that the Board members have been looking at the cost of medical benefits for the employees and have looked at different plans. Supervisor Rajszycki reported there will be a meeting this Friday with the employees to go over the medical benefits plans, and by changing the plan now being used the Town could save as much as \$70,000. Councilman Shafer reported that if they stay with the existing plan it will cost the Town \$276,000, whereas, if they change plans and save a significant amount of money they could use a portion of that to set up a fund to help with the cost of deductibles for the employees. Supervisor Rajszycki noted they will not know how much the existing plan would increase next year until next month.

OPEN FLOOR FOR 2ND TIME

Lewis Powell questioned what last year's amount was that the Fire Dept. got? Sophia Martynec noted they got \$172,400 this year. Powell questioned if the new contract for the Fire Dept. was for 5 years? Supervisor Rajszycki reported they will be doing a 2 year contract, noting they have a verbal agreement of \$180,000 for 2011 and \$185,000 for 2012. Supervisor Rajszycki reported that the Board has agreed to negotiate, if the need arises, with the Fire Dept. for the following year. Councilman Shafer noted that they know the Fire Dept. is facing having to purchase new radios for \$35,000, which may happen within the next couple of years. Powell questioned Steimle if she has a copy of the Fire Dept.'s budget? Steimle reported she has given a copy of all the Fire Dept.'s bills to the Town Board. Councilman Shafer reported the Fire Dept. will still have to have fund raisers to help meet their bills. Councilman Carr reported that the new radios are mandated by the State.

Ann Steimle reported she missed the last Town Board meeting and questioned why the one budget line item went from \$10,000 this year to \$35,000 next year? Supervisor Rajszycki reported that line was for the Contingency Fund which is for any unforeseen expenses. Steimle questioned the line item for Parks, noting it was raised from \$2,000 to \$9,000? Supervisor Rajszycki noted that \$2,000 was moved to that line from Sullivan First and Councilman Shafer noted they will need to hire someone to clean the bathrooms at the park and the ball field.

OPEN FLOOR FOR 3RD & FINAL TIME

Sophia Martynec commended the departments that didn't raise their budgets and the Town Board for keeping the budget down. Martynec stated it is a testament to the Board members

hard work that they managed to keep the budget from increasing and not raising taxes, and as a taxpayer she appreciated it. Supervisor Rajsz stated that it was a difficult decision to not give any raises, noting that the County budget is still not done so they will not know what increases will come from the County. Supervisor Rajsz stated she is grateful to the employees for their understanding. Supervisor Rajsz also Thanked the Fire Dept. for their understanding in the Town's efforts to keep the budget down.

Councilman Akt made a motion to close the 2011 Budget Public Hearing at 7:25 p.m., seconded by Councilman Carr, all in favor, so carried. Councilman Shafer made a motion to reopen the Special Meeting at 7:25 p.m., seconded by Councilman McKerrell, all in favor, so carried.

The Board members agreed to put the Resolution to approve the 2011 Preliminary Budget as their Final Budget on their November 10th agenda.

Supervisor Rajsz reported there is a meeting being held at Peter Comstock's place right now regarding gas drilling for anyone that would like to go.

The Board members discussed a situation regarding the mess in the area of Mohican Lake and the possibility of obtaining a dumpster to help those in the area clean their properties up. Councilman Shafer recommended looking into getting a dumpster, possibly to place one in that area for next year's cleanup day.

Councilman Carr made a motion to adjourn at 7:30 p.m., seconded by Councilman McKerrell, all in favor, so carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia V. Horn

Town Clerk