

TOWN BOARD

The Town Board, Town of Highlands, held a budget workshop on Monday, September 19, 2016 at Town Hall, 254 Main St, Highland Falls, NY at 6:00pm.

PRESENT:	Mervin R. Livsey	----	Supervisor
	William Edsall	----	Council Member
	Tyrone King	----	Council Member
	June Gunza	----	Council Member
	Adrienne T. Voltaire	----	Council Member
	Kelly Blauvelt	----	Comptroller
	June Patterson	----	Town Clerk

Supervisor Livsey opened the budget workshop at 6:00pm.

Supervisor Livsey informed the Board that they have been invited to attend the Pep Rally Parade and Pep Rally on October 2 at 5pm.

BUILDING DEPT.

Building Dept.

Supervisor Livsey said there are safety repairs that need to be made now on the vehicle. The Supervisor said there is also \$2,400 in repairs that need to be done. The Supervisor would like to do all the repairs now and use money from the vehicle reserve fund.

Ms. Blauvelt said that reserve fund is for the purchase of a vehicle and cannot be used for repairs.

Supervisor Livsey said the Assessor has suggested leasing a vehicle.

Mr. Terwilliger stated that he would like to make the essential repairs now and research other options.

Supervisor Livsey agreed with Mr. Terwilliger.

Mr. Terwilliger stated that his overall budget is down from last year with the exception of the salary of his clerk. Mr. Terwilliger said his clerk assists the Zoning Board and Planning Board in addition to the Building Department.

Supervisor Livsey suggested adding \$1,000 to the Planning and Zoning budget and reducing the Building Department to compensate his clerk.

The Board reviewed the budget with Mr. Terwilliger.

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Mr. Terwilliger has raised his training and postage a little.

Codification

Mr. Terwilliger has left codification the same.

Revenue

Mr. Terwilliger has raised the revenue a little.

Mr. Terwilliger stated that he would like to amend the Town Code for abandoned vehicles.

Council Member Edsall asked Mr. Terwilliger how the trailer on 9W related to the abandoned vehicle code.

Mr. Terwilliger told Council Member Edsall that he would look into that.

LIBRARY

Ms. Brahm said she raised her budget up a little because she cannot afford to stay the same. Ms. Brahm asked the Board for the reason they want to stay under the tax cap.

Council Member Edsall said taxes are too high and the tax cap puts pressure on everyone.

Supervisor Livsey asked Ms. Blauvelt what happens if the Town goes over the tax cap by \$100,000.

Ms. Blauvelt said anything over the tax cap has to go into a reserve fund.

Supervisor Livsey said he doesn't like the tax cap, but if the Town goes over it taxes will go up.

Mr. Koutsourades asked if the Library could piggy back on the Town's audit to save the \$11,000 that is in the budget.

Supervisor Livsey said he would look into it.

Supervisor Livsey said the Board will do the best it can for the Library.

DIAL-A-BUS

Ms. Solan asked the Board to go forward with the Full-time employee. Ms. Solan said the money is in the budget (\$15.00/hr) and she will need this to happen before 2017.

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Ms. Solan explained she has only two part-time drivers and one will be out for a while in October. Ms. Solan said she cannot keep running the Dial-A-Bus this way.

Supervisor Livsey said it was advertised for full-time and part-time, but no one responded. The Supervisor said there is someone interested in full-time who has driven the Dial-A-Bus and works for West Point Tours.

Council Member Edsall said the cost to run Dial-A-Bus is very high.

Ms. Solan informed the Board that the Town receives State and Federal money.

Council Member Gunza suggested raising the fee to ride the bus.

Ms. Solan explained the process to do that.

There was a very long discussion regarding Dial-A-Bus and the cost to run it.

Council Member Edsall said it might be good to have a 3rd party come in to review the numbers.

Ms. Blauvelt said there is no need to pay someone to do this.

Council Member Gunza told Council Member Edsall to let Ms. Solan know what he wants and she can get it to him.

RECREATION

Mr. Falk said the intern will not be working for the Town because the person who was going to supervisor, is not available.

Council Member King said it can be done in the future.

The Board reviewed the budget with Mr. Falk.

Mr. Falk said his overall budget is down.

Mr. Falk said he has \$10,400 in the personal services line for someone to work 20 hours for Recreation and 20 hours for the seniors.

Supervisor Livsey said he would like to take \$5,000 out of Recreation Asst and put it in for the Seniors.

Recreation Programs

Mr. Falk said this budget went up a little.

Long Pond & Roe Park

Mr. Falk said this budget went down a little.

Summer Youth Program

Mr. Falk stated that this budget is higher because of minimum wage and the need for more counselors. Mr. Falk explained that Orange County came to inspect and informed him that he needs more counselors for the amount of children that are participating.

Revenue

Mr. Falk raised the revenue a little.

Mr. Blauvelt stated that the Board is being very inconsistent with cutting and approving certain things.

RECEIVER OF TAXES

Ms. Blauvelt stated that the Receiver left his budget the same, but lowered his revenue a little.

WATER

Supervisor Livsey said there is one change in the formula and that is that outside users will be charged 12 points instead of 10 points.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council Member Voltaire made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to go into executive session to discuss a police personnel matter. Board went into executive session at 8:15pm.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, King, Gunza, Voltaire)
0-nays**

Council Member King made a motion seconded by Council Member Gunza to close the executive session. Executive session closed at 9pm.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, King, Gunza, Voltaire)
0-nays**

ADJOURN

Council Member Gunza made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9:01pm.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5-eyes (Livsey, Edsall, King, Gunza, Voltaire)
0-nays**