

Newstead Town Board Meeting- October 26, 2015

A public hearing was called to order by the Newstead Town Board on Monday, October 26, 2015 at 7:45pm at the Newstead Town Hall.

Present: David Cummings- Supervisor
James Mayrose – Councilman
Justin Rooney- Councilman
Donald York- Councilman
John Jendrowski- Councilman
Nathan Neill- Attorney for the Town
Mike Bassanello- Highway Supt
Scott Rybarczyk- Town Engineer
Dawn Izydorczak- Town Clerk
Jennifer Heberling- Deputy Clerk

Roll Call was taken with all board members present.

Supervisor Cummings called the **public hearing** to order on the proposed **budget for 2016**.

The Clerk read proof of publication.

Supervisor Cummings outlined the basics of the budget for those present.

Comments:

John Ross, 12168 Nice Road, asked if there was any money being budgeted for the highway to purchase new equipment. Highway Superintendent Bassanello stated they were looking into a boom mower for field ditch and roadside mowing. Mr. Ross asked if they compared leasing verses purchasing. With changing technology he believes leasing might be the better way to go. Supt. Bassanello explained yes the town always looks at every option and chooses what it feels is reasonable and fiscally the right decision. Supervisor Cummings concurred and stated the town has a replacement schedule for all of its equipment and trucks and has a reputation for taking very good care of its equipment. That usually brings the town a very good resale value on everything.

Board members shared the following thoughts on the budget:

Councilman Rooney- he would like to see more allocated to culture, recreation and parks. He is in favor of modifying and restructuring the parks division but with no monetary increase, just in how it is operated. He would also like to see a decrease in the recreation budget and have that money allocated to a new fund for Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations and education. He also thanked Supervisor Cummings for his efforts as Budget Officer. He knows it takes a lot of hard work and time and is not an easy task.

Councilman Jendrowski- he is for keeping the recreation program strong and our community youth active. The rec board is seeking an extra \$5,000 increase in their budget which he supports. He would also like to see an increase for the celebration committee.

Supervisor Cummings shared that right now the town is within \$100 of being under the tax cap of .073% for this year. The board is looking at everything that can be restructured to save money. With union contracts, insurance increases and state mandates it gets harder every year. Many towns are having trouble staying under the tax cap and many have had to go over this year. The direct effect of that is the loss of rebate checks to residents from the state. He reminded everyone the original purpose of the tax cap was to push consolidation of services, keep budgets controlled and state mandate relief. The state mandate relief has never happened. In order to keep under the cap many towns are cutting back on services, infrastructure and maintenance/improvements to town owned assets.

Councilman York- he would also like to see an increase in recreation and celebration committee funding. He knows we are tight but would like to look at the numbers to see if anything can be done.

There being no further comments a motion was made by Councilman Mayrose, seconded by Councilman York to close the hearing on the 2016 budget at 8:05pm.

The **regular meeting** of the Town Board was called to order at 8:05pm with the same members present as listed above.

Highway Superintendent Bassanello led the pledge to the flag.

Minutes from the previous regular meeting held on October 12, 2015 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Councilman Mayrose, seconded by Councilman Rooney to approve as presented. Carried Unanimously

Agenda Changes – none

Communications – The Town Clerk presented the following correspondence:

A letter from Time Warner Cable notifying the town of the programmers and service providers they are currently in negotiations with for service.

A request for a beer & wine permit at the Newstead Cultural Center was received from Mary Palizay for a birthday party on November 7th.

A letter from East Hill Foundation notifying the town that their grant application for the library project has been denied.

A motion was made by Councilman Rooney, seconded by Councilman Mayrose to accept and file the presented correspondence. Carried Unanimously

Work Session: The Supervisor reported that at the last work session held, the following items were discussed: an approximate 1 hour executive session on personnel issues regarding a specific employee, review of the 2016 budget, buildings projects at town buildings, planning- code changes & master plan, grant items, IT services, village issues- roller agreement & staffing at joint facility, water/sewer issues- village billings and any other matters brought before the Board.

Agenda Items Question Period:

Ed Burke, 27 Crescent Drive asked which meeting minutes were approved. Supervisor Cummings responded the minutes from the October 12, 2015 meeting.

Budget transfers: a motion was made by Councilman Rooney, seconded by Councilman Mayrose to approve the budget transfers as requested by Bookkeeper Colleen Salmon in a memo dated October 26, 2015. Carried Unanimously

Approval of Bills – Councilman Jendrowski reported that the Abstract(s) from Batch(es) #1553 have been reviewed with the previously un-audited vouchers and everything was found in order. He presented Abstract Batch(es) #1555 for payment. Vouchers on this abstract(s) numbered from 1116-1150, totaling \$61,055.27. Councilman York seconded to approve payment as follows:

Abstract Batch(es) #1555:

General Fund (A) -\$7,491.28, General Fund- Outside Village (B) \$60.00, Highway (DA) -\$0, Highway: Outside Village (DB) \$48,107.95, CAP-Murder Creek (HM) \$0, CAP- Scotland Rd (HS)- \$856.76, CAP- Water Improvement (HW)- \$3,850.18, CAP Water-Downey (HW01)- \$517.19, Reserve for Roofs (HR01) \$0, Drainage (SD)- \$0, Fire Protection (SF) \$0, Refuse (SR) \$0, Sewer Fund (SS) \$29.06, Sewer District #2 (SS02)- \$73.06, Trust & Agency(TA)- \$0 and Water Districts: Consolidated (SW00) \$69.79, (SW1) \$0, (SW2) \$0, (SW3) \$0, (SW4) \$0, (SW5) \$0, (SW6) \$0, (SW7) \$0, (SW7A) \$0, (SW8) \$0, (SW9) \$0, (SW10) \$0

Total: \$61,055.27

Carried Unanimously

COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Highway – they did 1326’ of road ditching on Downey Road, mowed town parks and other properties in the village, completed weeding and removed soaker hoses from cultural center, put hitches on the trucks, replaced road signs on N Ayers, Dye and McNeeley, did shoulder work on town roads (Greenbush, Berghorn, Downey, Martin, Knapp, Stage, Schutt and Havens). The highway department is back on winter hours starting this week Monday-Friday, 6:30am -3:00pm. Mike spoke with Jon Burgess regarding completing the cleanup work at the dump before winter.

Assessor – no report

Building Office –the building report was presented by Christine Falkowski of the Planning & Building Department:

Julie Metz	6409 Utley	Shed
Kenneth Warren	12037 Rapids	Pole barn
Bowman	11864 Stage	In-ground Pool
Michael Evans	70 Quarry Hill Est	Roof
Robert Lorenz	11149 Hiller	Pole barn
Carol Sutton	12424 Nice	Roof
Michael Shields	12666 Main	Permit renewal
Thomas Zackey	11973 Stage	Permit renewal
Darrin Kanehl	13657 Main	Roof
David Lally	11810 Clarence Center	Demolition

The Town Board accepted the report as presented.

Town Clerk- the majority of school tax collection is done. Dawn continues to work with Heather on the GIS system. The town Zoning Map is now uploaded and they are working on purchasing the GPS receivers for field data collection.

Attorney for the Town – nothing

COUNCILPERSONS:

Rooney – reviewed budget with a resident and worked on the park budget proposal.

Mayrose – reviewed joint facility issues with Mayor Patterson and Trustee Forrestel.

York – attended the library board meeting, the library hotdog fundraiser and spoke to Recreation Board Chairman Joel Gregorio on rec issues.

Jendrowski – attended the library board meeting and they are disappointed in not getting the grant but they are excited about getting an intern from ECDSS at the library. He also attended a celebration committee meeting and they are planning the New Year's Eve event as well as next year's July 4th events. He also attended the recreation board meeting and the library's hot dog fundraiser.

Supervisor – attended the joint facility meeting with Mayor Patterson & Trustee Forrestel, met with the Alden Supervisor, Assessor and Town Attorneys on the sharing agreement, met with the assessor and building & planning staff on the transition, attended a meeting of Supervisors on Grand Island and met with Colleen and Lawley Insurance regarding health insurance rates for the coming year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Buildings – minor repairs were done at town hall and the Denio building. On the Library sidewalk work, the library committee is going to pay for the internal work to be done and the town will pay for the external work. The external work may have to wait until the spring depending on weather.

Planning – code changes continue to be discussed regarding agri-business.

Water – Wendel did find the 2006 Cedar Street design specs. There are some issues with homes being very far off of the road that will need to be looked at and addressed.

Grants – still applying as grants come up.

NEW BUSINESS:

Supervisor Cummings shared that this is not the first time Alden and Newstead have shared an Assessor and he feels this agreement will benefit both communities. Bill Sivecz has been the Assessor in Alden for 10 years so he brings a lot of experience with him. The agreement is for an initial 1 year and 2 months beginning November 1st with the option to renew on an annual basis. Councilman Rooney agreed this should happen in more communities and this is the right thing to do.

Approval- Shared Services Agreement-Alden:

A motion was made by Councilman Rooney, seconded by Councilman Mayrose authorizing the agreement between the Town and the Town of Alden for shared Assessor services and authorizing the Supervisor to execute the agreement with Alden.

(Resolution Attached) Cummings-Aye, Rooney -Aye, Mayrose-Aye, York-Aye, Jendrowski- Aye
Carried Unanimously

Approval- Agreement with ECDSS for Interns:

A motion was made by Councilman York, seconded by Councilman Mayrose approving the Cooperation Agreement with Erie County Department of Social Services to provide ECDSS Masters in Social Work Interns at the Newstead Public Library and authorizing the Supervisor to execute the agreement with ECDSS.

(Resolution Attached) Cummings-Aye, Rooney -Aye, Mayrose-Aye, York-Aye, Jendrowski- Aye
Carried Unanimously

Approval- Right of Way Agreement- National Fuel Gas:

A motion was made by Councilman Mayrose, seconded by Councilman York approving the Right of Way Agreement with National Fuel Gas Distribution Corp on a parcel of land owned by the Town located adjacent to the Brooklyn St bridge reconstruction project and authorizing the gas line to be relocated thru said parcel of land. The Supervisor is authorized to execute the agreement.

(Resolution Attached) Cummings-Aye, Rooney -Aye, Mayrose-Aye, York-Aye, Jendrowski- Aye
Carried Unanimously

Councilman Rooney stated that they are actually moving the location of the bridge.

Beer/Wine Permit Request:

A motion was made by Councilman Mayrose, seconded by Councilman Rooney approving the request for a beer/wine permit at the Cultural Center for a birthday party on November 7th.

Cummings-Aye, Rooney -Aye, Mayrose-Aye, York-Aye, Jendrowski- Aye Carried Unanimously

Snow Removal Agreement 2015-16:

A motion was made by Councilman Mayrose, seconded by Councilman York approving the hiring of Golden Dome Property Maintenance for snow removal for town buildings for 2015-16 season at the same cost as last year.

Cummings-Aye, Rooney -Aye, Mayrose-Aye, York-Aye, Jendrowski- Aye Carried Unanimously

Library Inside Repairs Work:

A motion was made by Councilman Mayrose, seconded by Councilman Jendrowski supporting the library committee's decision to hire for work on the inside at the library and to allow them to hire for said repairs.

Cummings-Aye, Rooney -Aye, Mayrose-Aye, York-Aye, Jendrowski- Aye Carried Unanimously

Privilege of the Floor/Question Period:

Ed Burke, 27 Crescent Drive asked how many hours will the shared assessor be in Newstead.

Supervisor Cummings stated he will be here between 16 to 16-1/2 hours per week and will be in the office 5 days per week. They do not have the exact hours set yet.

Dr. Burke also questioned the duration of the internship at the library. Councilman Jendrowski stated he thinks it is for 1 year and the Library and the County will determine the number of days and hours the internship will be.

There being no further business to come before the board a motion was made by Councilman Rooney, seconded by Councilman Mayrose to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:30pm.

Carried Unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn D. Izydorczak, RMC, Town Clerk