

11-10-2011 – PUBLIC HEARING ON 2012 TOWN BUDGET

Present:

Councilman Cheryl L. Earl
Councilman Daniel L. Miller
Councilman David L. Montgomery
Councilman Norman J. Uhteg
Supervisor Mary L. Hannon

Also Present:

Town Clerk Betsy A. Marsh
Highway Superintendent Donald W. Hopkins
Attorney for the Town Linda Joseph
Approx. 10 guests

The Sardinia Town Board held a Public Hearing on November 10, 2011 at the Town Hall/Community Center, for the purpose of hearing comments on the Preliminary 2012 Town Budget. Supervisor Hannon called the hearing to order at 6:00 PM with the Pledge to the Flag. The Town Clerk showed proof that the Hearing had been properly advertised, in both the Arcade Herald and the Springville Journal.

The Supervisor stated that there were only two changes from the Tentative to the Preliminary Budget, which were an addition of \$5,000.00 to the Highway Garage Repair line #A5132.440, and a correction to the Town Clerk's medical reimbursement stipend to total \$3,800.70 in line #A1410.109. Supervisor Hannon than asked if there were any comments on the proposed 2012 Budget.

John Schiener of Sardinia stated that he has reviewed the 2012 Budget and noted that the Supervisor's budget line was increased quite a bit for 2012, despite the fact that she had used Paychex to do the payroll and has already purchased new software. He stated that their pay rates had also risen by 4.1%. Mr. Schiener also stated that the Code Enforcement budget is being increased 23%. The Supervisor stated that would be for adding a second person to make sure that someone is trained in the event that the Town needs another inspector. Mr. Schiener also questioned the amount of the health insurance, noting that it has increased in the General fund by \$10,000.00, and by \$10,000.00 in the Highway fund, and asked how many people are receiving this benefit. He was informed that there are 7 people on the Town's insurance plan, which includes 2 retirees who reimburse the Town for 100% of their coverage. The Supervisor stated that the health insurance costs have gone sky high. Mr. Schiener stated that there is \$81,000.00 in out-of-Town utility company payments that are not paid to the Town due to Waste Management's fees paying the taxes. He stated that the Board is worried about \$60,000.00 per year for the Firemen's LOSAP, and it's too bad the Town can't find a way to have those large utilities and corporations pay those taxes.

Supervisor Hannon then asked three times for further comments from the public. There being none, the hearing was closed at 6:08 PM on a motion by Montgomery, seconded by Earl, and carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Town Clerk