

**HORICON TOWN BOARD
BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING**

**OCTOBER 9, 2018
2:00 PM**

Present at meeting: Matt Simpson Supervisor
Frank Hill Councilperson
Sylvia Smith Councilperson
Bob Olson Councilperson
Kenneth Higgins Councilperson
Krista Wood Town Clerk

Also present: HS Darian Granger, ZA Jim Steen, and Library Trustee Mary Paton.

Supervisor Simpson called the Budget workshop meeting to order at 2:00 pm and the Board reviewed the proposed 2019 Budget line by line.

General Budget:

Supervisor Simpson said there is a proposed 2% raise for employees in the General fund and noted there was an overall decrease in expenditures from the previous year of \$18,970.

Buildings: Proposed increase in contractual for the Town's half of the cost of painting the Museum.

Insurance: Supervisor Simpson noted this number is only an estimate at this point.

Ambulance: Proposed increase in contractual of \$27,081.00 for NWEMS. Supervisor Simpson said NWEMS has requested the additional funding so they can provide 24/7 ALS coverage.

Chester Health Center: Supervisor Simpson said Supervisor Leggett told him he would be sending a letter requesting more money for the Chester Health Center, but he has not received anything yet.

Street Lighting: Proposed \$2,000.00 reduction in contractual due to a decrease in the bills.

Publicity: Proposed increase in contractual of \$1,000.00.

Special Publicity (Occ Tax): Supervisor Simpson said the Town will receive \$45,000.00 in Occ Tax. He said the NW Chamber has requested \$15,000.00 for 2019, of which \$12,000.00 is for their contract and \$3,000.00 is for their events.

Youth Program: Proposed increase in equipment for a new lifeguard chair and umbrella.

Library: Proposed increase in contractual of \$2,100.00 for new computers.

Zoning: Councilperson Olson said he would like to discuss the Zoning Administrator's salary and the amount of work he does. Supervisor Simpson suggested the discussion be made in executive session.

Executive Session... Councilperson Higgins made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Hill, to move to Executive Session to discuss compensation and performance of an employee. The Board moved to Executive Session at 2:20 PM. The Board returned from Executive Session at 2:35 PM and Councilperson Olson made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Higgins, to return to Regular Session, all in favor. Supervisor Simpson stated no action was taken.

Insect Department: Proposed increase in personnel services of \$3115.00 because there will no longer be a grant to offset the cost of the Stewards. Supervisor Simpson said he is proposing to decrease the Steward's time to 144 days at 8 hours a day. He said the proposed budget amount would cover two Stewards at Schroon Lake Boat Launch and one at Brant Lake Boat Launch. He said the amount budgeted for milfoil control under contractual remains the same at \$27,480.00 for Brant Lake (which includes two extra weeks at 50%) and \$12,838.17 for Schroon Lake.

Refuse and Garbage: Proposed decrease in equipment of \$1,000.00. Councilperson Higgins asked what was going to be done about replacing the compactor. There was brief discussion and Supervisor Simpson said the cost of a new compactor could be taken from the unexpended fund balance. He will look into the RFP process for a new compactor. Supervisor Simpson said the garbage fees may have to be adjusted next year depending on what happens with the contracts.

Beautification: Discussion on Personnel Services, will reduce from \$29,000.00 to \$26,000.00.

Health Insurance: There is a 13% increase in the cost of health insurance for 2019.

BAN – Supervisor Simpson said he would like to pay off the \$189,000.00 BAN on the Upper Dam this year as interest rates are rising. He said there is \$53,780.00 in the 2019 Budget and he could take the difference from the unexpended fund balance. The Board was in agreement.

The amount needed from the unexpended fund balance is \$287,314.00.

Highway Budget:

General Repairs: Increase in personnel services based on the CSEA contract.

Bridges: Proposed increase of \$12,000.00 for culverts.

Machinery: Proposed amount in equipment of \$43,000.00 for a replacement truck box.

Supervisor Simpson said that rather than raising the Budget, he feels it would make more sense to appropriate money for road work based on actual revenue from sales tax in January.

The proposed amount to be raised by taxes for the Highway Budget is \$590,840.00.

Supervisor Simpson said this Budget remains under the tax cap.

Adjourn... There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM by Motion of Councilperson Smith and Councilperson Hill, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Town Clerk