

**HORICON TOWN BOARD
BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING**

**OCTOBER 14, 2021
9:00 AM**

Present at meeting:	Sylvia Smith	Supervisor
	Michael Geraci	Councilperson
	Frank Hill	Councilperson
	Peter Palmer	Councilperson
	Robert Olson	Councilperson
Krista Wood	Town Clerk	

Also: Highway Superintendent Darian Granger and Bookkeeper Patty Monahan.

Supervisor Smith called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Executive Session...

Councilperson Olson made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Palmer, to move to Executive Session for discussion regarding pending litigation and collective bargaining negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law, all in favor. The Board moved to Executive Session at 9:03 AM.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:29 AM and Councilperson Olson made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Palmer, to return to Regular Session, all in favor. Supervisor Smith said there was discussion regarding pending litigation and collective bargaining negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law, and no action was taken.

Budget workshop...

-Supervisor Smith noted the proposed Budget remains within the 2% tax cap and asked the Board what comments and questions they had.

-Councilperson Geraci thanked Patty Monahan for all her work and guidance on the preliminary budget. Supervisor Smith also thanked Patty, along with thanks to Councilperson Geraci for all of his help as there was a lot of work in preparing this.

-Councilperson Olson noted how complex the whole budget process has become.

General Fund:

-Councilperson Palmer asked why the Economic Assistance and Opportunity increased from \$13,000 to \$48,000. Supervisor Smith said this was because they combined 6410.4 (Publicity) and 6412.4 (Special Publicity) since there is no code for Special Publicity. She explained 6412.4 had been used as the code for Occ Tax.

-Supervisor Smith said contractual for the library (7620.4) used to be under Adult Recreation (7620.4) and that has been moved to the Library code (7410.4) so that everything for the library is all under the same code now.

-Supervisor Smith commented on a few other changes. There has been an increase in the salary for Zoning Administrator but that is due to the shared service with Hague who pays a portion of the salary. The salary for the Boat Stewards is under Insect Department code 8090.1. The Historical Property (7520.4) was reduced to \$1,500 from \$2,000.

-Councilperson Palmer asked if the slab for the metal pile at the Landfill was included in this Budget. Supervisor Smith said it was not as it was not a priority; this would have to be considered in the 2023 Budget.

-Supervisor Smith said the Dog Control was changed from salary to hourly at the rate of \$16.50/hour plus mileage. The Dog Control officer will submit a time sheet which will also serve as a monthly report.

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-Supervisor Smith noted the Assessor's salary is shared with Town of Bolton, and the contractual accounts for the ongoing reval.

-HS Darian Granger noted the Highway Garage contractual (5132.4) was decreased by \$3,000 and suggested that be raised back up to \$45,000. He said they are no longer pumping out the drain tanks under the garage. They now have to have a company come in and pump them out. He said this happens sometimes twice a month in the winter so that cost needs to be budgeted. The Board agreed to increase the Highway Garage – contractual (5132.4) by \$3,000.

Highway Fund:

-HS Granger also asked that the Bridger/Culverts code (5120.4) be raised back up from \$10,000 to at least \$12,000. He noted he will need to purchase quite a bit to build back up the stockpile. The Board agreed to raise the Bridges/Culvert code (5120.4) by \$2,000.

-Councilperson Geraci asked HS Granger if the County contract for snow and ice removal is sufficient to cover the Town's expense for taking care of the County roads. HS Granger said there is plenty to cover the expense.

-Councilperson Olson asked if the increases requested by HS Granger can be covered while still remaining under the 2% tax cap. Patty Monahan said they could.

The Board agreed the Budget is ready to bring to the October 21st Board meeting.

Other Business:

1) Halloween Parade: Supervisor Smith said the PTO asked if they could have a Halloween parade. The plan is to start the parade at The Hub and continue around the pond to the Community Center where Trunk or Treat will be held. Supervisor Smith noted they were told they could not use the building.

RESOLUTION #138-2021

Councilperson Palmer and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 138 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE HALLOWEEN PARAGE

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Halloween parade to come onto Town property and also that the Trunk or Treat can be held behind the Community Center.

Ayes: 5 (Palmer, Hill, Geraci, Olson, Smith) Nays: 0

2) NWCS Science Project: Supervisor Smith explained that the science teacher at NWCS would like the students to do a wildlife study project. He is asking the Town Board if the students can put up cameras on Town property for the project. Councilperson Geraci suggested the Town get a Hold Harmless agreement and the Board agreed.

RESOLUTION #139-2021

Councilperson Palmer and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 139 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE CAMERAS FOR SCIENCE PROJECT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the North Warren Central School science class to place cameras on town property for the purpose of a wildlife study.

Ayes: 5 (Palmer, Hill, Geraci, Olson, Smith) Nays: 0

Adjourn... There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM by Motion of Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Smith, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Town Clerk