

**HORICON TOWN BOARD
MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING**

**NOVEMBER 3, 2021
6:00 PM**

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

Also: Assessor Christine Hayes, Matt Wood, Patty Monahan, Diane Smith, Joan Johnson, and Joyce Greenidge.

Supervisor Smith opened the meeting at 6:00pm.

Supervisor Smith opened the Public Hearing for the Preliminary 2022 Budget.

Supervisor Smith explained one change was made to move \$1,300 from Adult Recreation-Contractual to Library-Contractual as follows:

- General Fund: 1) Library-Contractual (A7410.4) increased to \$5,300.
- 2) Adult Recreation-Contractual (A7620.4) decreased \$7,700.

The Board was fine with this change.

-Councilperson Hill said he is not happy with this budget because it looks like Adirondack has been cut right to the quick. There is nothing budgeted for the bathrooms in Adirondack, the BTI program, or for Johnson Road. Supervisor Smith said he did not bring these items up at the workshop meeting. Supervisor Smith said the bathroom in Adirondack had been discussed and it was agreed it would be looked at under Buildings and Grounds. Councilperson Hill said the Town is going backwards by using porta-johns at the ballfield in Adirondack rather than building a bathroom.

-Supervisor Smith said Johnson Road would be HS Granger's call because the estimate to do the work came in at just over \$574,000.00. She said there was a conversation as to whether the whole road could be done or just a part of it. She also pointed out that two roads in Adirondack were done this year so, now, other roads in town need to be considered.

-Councilperson Geraci said there is no disagreement that Johnson Road needs repair. He said there will be discussion with HS Granger about what to do, what is the most that can be done, and what options there are to cover that cost.

-Councilperson Hill asked where the Publicity line went. Supervisor Smith said, as discussed at the workshop meeting, the Special Publicity monies (A6412.4) have been combined with Publicity (A6410.4) in this budget because there is no state code for Special Publicity.

-Supervisor Smith said she just wants to make it clear that there was a workshop meeting with the entire Board on October 14th to review the 2022 budget. She said this is the amended budget that came out of that workshop. She wanted everyone to know this budget has been amended and this is the final step in the process.

-Councilperson Olson noted that the Board increased two of the Highway codes per HS Granger's request at the workshop meeting. Supervisor Smith said HS Granger was at that workshop meeting and was fine with his budget.

-Supervisor Smith reviewed several of the changes, in detail, that had been made in the 2022 budget and noted these were all agreed upon at the workshop meeting.

-Joan Johnson asked for clarification on what is included in the Library contractual code. Supervisor Smith explained the code includes the SALS billing, the \$2,000 Library contract, and the rest goes towards training or other things that may be needed.

-Councilperson Palmer asked how much the Town is getting from the American Rescue Plan and if that money has come in yet. Supervisor Smith said they received approximately \$68,000, which is half of what the Town was awarded, and the other half will be received in 2022. She reiterated that those monies can only be spent in certain ways.

-Councilperson Geraci asked Supervisor Smith to explain what was allotted in the budget for NWEMS. She explained that the Squad was given a 2.5% increase for 2022. She said the Town is grateful for the emergency services and it is important to look for ways to help and support the Squad. Supervisor Smith said a meeting has been scheduled for November 4th to review the Squad's finances, as well as other issues, and how to move forward to improve the squad and make it more effective. Lastly, Supervisor Smith thanked the Squad for all they do. Diane Smith, NWEMS Chairperson, said she feels the 2.5% increase is very fair and thanked the Board for their support.

-Councilperson Olson noted the budget process starts in early September so anyone that needs funding should come forward at that time.

-Joyce Greenidge, Library Trustee, asked if the Library Trustees could pay SALS directly. It was explained to her that the Trustees cannot do that as the Town has to pay SALS directly.

-Joan Johnson, Library Trustee, said the Library will suffer a severe shortfall as books are very expensive now and the Town needs to be aware of what the Library faces. She added that they are one of the least funded libraries and Long Lake Library is the one that is funded the most.

-Joyce Greenidge, Library Trustee, agreed, noting they try to do the best for everybody but it is getting harder and harder to do so.

-Supervisor Smith noted that unfortunately everyone is seeing increases in prices, and the Town is experiencing those increases as well. She suggested the Trustees seek out grants that would help offset their expenses. Mrs. Greenidge noted that they cannot get grants for books because they do not meet some of the criteria for the grants.

There being no further comment from the public, Councilperson Olson made a Motion, seconded by Councilperson Palmer, to close the Public Hearing. The Public Hearing was closed at 6:30 PM.

RESOLUTION #149-2021

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Geraci introduced Res. No. 149 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2022 HORICON BUDGET

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on November 3, 2021 at 6:00 PM at the Horicon Community Center on the Preliminary Budget for the year 2022, AND

WHEREAS, comments were invited from the public either for or against said budget, NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Preliminary Budget will be the adopted Budget for 2022, with the General Fund Appropriations of \$2,185,956.68 less anticipated revenues of \$2,050,434.00 and an unexpended balance of \$135,522.68 leaving an amount to be raised by taxes of \$0.00. Total Highway Fund Appropriations of \$1,668,578.40 less anticipated revenues of \$975,133.00 and an unexpended balance of \$76,251.40 leaving an amount to be raised by taxes of \$617,194.00 and a total budget of \$3,854,535.08 BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the amount for the Horicon Fire District is \$253,973.00 to be raised by taxes and the Schroon Lake Park District is \$5,578.00.

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

Additional Business:

- *Privilege of the Floor:* Supervisor Smith said the time limit for privilege of the floor was originally set at five (5) minutes which is quite a lot of time. She proposed changing the time limit to two (2) minutes. Councilperson Olson said he feels two (2) minutes is sufficient and noted this is the limit allowed by the Planning Board and the ZBA. He suggested the time limit be noted on the meeting agendas.

RESOLUTION #150-2021

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 150 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AMEND #135-2013 SETTING TIME LIMIT ON 'PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR'

WHEREAS, in Resolution #135-2013 the Town Board of the Town of Horicon set a five (5) minute time limit on those individuals speaking during Privilege of the Floor at meetings of the Town Board, now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby amend Resolution #135-2013 and will now set a two (2) minute time limit on those individuals speaking during Privilege of the Floor at meetings of the Town Board.

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

Adjourn...

There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 6:33 PM by MOTION of Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Geraci, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Town Clerk