



Knox Town Board Minutes

Special Meeting

Budget Workshop

October 19, 2020

P.O. Box 116 • Knox, New York • 12107 • Phone 518-872-2551 • www.knoxny.org

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Lefkadits followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present on this date:

- Supervisor Lefkadits
- Councilman Cyr
- Councilman Pritchard
- Councilman Saddlemire
- Councilwoman Springer
- Town Clerk Schanz
- Highway Superintendent Schanz

Presentations:

Joe Burke from the Altamont Library presented his spending plan and budget for 2021. The Library is requesting \$7,500.00 for the 2021 budget. The Library has not asked for an increase this year, nor for the past 5 years.

Councilman Cyr asked how many Knox residents used the Library. Joe will look into the exact numbers, but 11% of the current card holders are from Knox. Councilman Cyr expressed his wishes to make the library more known to residents, and Joe offered to help in any way to spread the word. He will email the newsletter to the Clerk to post to the Knox website.

Supervisor Lefkadits thanked Joe for providing the Town with a fair presentation and budget every year. He asked if the library was audited every year, and suggested he create an audit committee in order to save \$8,000.00. He also stated that the NYS Comptrollers Office is very helpful, and suggested he call to ask about a possible template he could use.

Doug Roether presented a preliminary budget for the ZBA. The ZBA recording secretary will be available at the town hall 2 nights/month to accept applications. The ZBA will not meet unless they have business to address. He presented a performance-based pay scale for members if they complete training and attend meetings. A discussion followed regarding the same budget for the Planning Board.

There was a discussion regarding Ambulance and EMS services for the Town and the presented budget from Helderberg Ambulance. There is a proposed increase of more than \$4,000.00. Supervisor Lefkaditis will reach out to the Rescue Squad to discuss the proposed budget.

The Supervisor reviewed the 2019 and 2020 quarters of sales tax to show increases and decreases. The current CPI was reviewed as well as the recording secretaries' salaries. The highway and transfer station employee salaries were reviewed and raises discussed. After many options were weighed back and forth it was decided that the highway and transfer station employees would get a raise of \$0.70/hour.

There was a discussion regarding the early arrival of the new truck and the changes required for the line item needed to pay for the truck in January.

Another discussion ensued regarding the trading in of two 2018 trucks for two new 2020 trucks. This discussion will continue as no agreement on price could be reached and further research needs to be done on pricing and trade-in values.

The discussion came back to the budget for the ZBA and PB. It was discussed that the recording secretaries would each be given a yearly salary of \$1,200.00. The budget for the ZBA members was considered and will most likely be halved for this first year.

It was recommended that the Bookkeeper be given a raise. The Board agreed to give her a \$0.70/hourly raise, as well as pay her bi-weekly.

There was a discussion regarding the Youth Program and how to best spend the monies. Options discussed were a Christmas gathering for the kids in town, combining an activity with the tree lighting ceremony put on by Helderberg Family Youth Organization, provide Thanksgiving dinners for needy children and their families, provide Christmas gifts for needy families. The Supervisor will speak with BKW regarding the needs of students and get back to the rest of the Board members.

There was a discussion regarding the agreement with the County for the transfer of an engine.

RESOLUTION 118-2020 - A motion was made by Supervisor Lefkaditis seconded by Councilman Cyr to authorize the Supervisor to execute the MOA between Albany county and the Town of Knox regarding the transfer of an International dump truck engine as presented, subject to the following changes; removal of item 6C(section 6, item C) and the addition of section one, item 3; "available to county with 1 operator to operate same providing County notifies Knox of the need to provide Truck and operator no later than 24 hours ahead of County's need except in the case of emergencies"; as well as Section 1 item 4; "the agreement shall expire when and if the Town surpluses truck the Town may do so at its sole discretion". This motion carried unanimously,

RESOLVED: to authorize the Supervisor to execute the MOA between Albany county and the Town of Knox regarding the transfer of an International dump truck engine as presented, subject to the following changes; removal of item 6C(section 6, item C) and the addition of section one, item 3; "available to county with 1 operator to operate same providing County notifies Knox of the need to provide Truck and operator no later than 24 hours ahead of County's need except in the case of emergencies"; as well as Section 1 item 4; "the agreement shall expire when and if the Town surpluses truck the Town may do so at its sole discretion".

RESOLUTION 119-2020 - A motion was made by Councilwoman Springer seconded by Councilman Pritchard to adjourn the meeting. This motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Traci Schanz

Knox Town Clerk

DRAFT