

**Town of Knox  
Regular Meeting / Public Hearing  
November 9, 2011**

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Hammond  
Councilwoman Gage  
Councilman Stevens  
Councilwoman Nagengast  
Councilman Viscio

**ALSO:** Town Clerk Swain  
Highway Superintendent Salisbury  
Town Attorney Dorfman

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Supervisor Hammond read the legal notice advertised in the Altamont Enterprise for the public hearing on the tentative budget for 2012.

**RESOLUTION #112 -SUSPEND REGULAR BOARD MEETING AT 7:31 P.M. FOR PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE TENTATIVE TOWN BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012**

On motion of Councilman Viscio, seconded by Councilwoman Nagengast, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLVED that the Town Board suspend regular board meeting for the Public Hearing on the tentative town budget for fiscal year 2012.

Supervisor Hammond opened the meeting for any discussion regarding the budget.

Mr. Freihofer questioned the Ambulance contractual expense of \$49,692, is that for one service or both ambulance service? Supervisor Hammond responded that is for both Helderberg and Altamont Ambulance.

Mr. Freihofer also questioned what the Cable TV is on the budget? Supervisor Hammond replied that there is a 3% levy for gross receipt for all residents who have Time Warner Cable and the town receives that money.

Mr. Swain questioned the contractual expenses on the proposed budget.

-the supervisor's contractual, what is it? Supervisor Hammond reported that line item is for payroll, office expenses come out of that.

-assessment contractual? Hammond reported it's the tax roll, a separate company prints those out.

-building contractual, budgeted for \$33,000.00? That is the heating, electricity, etc.

-special items contingent account, budgeted for \$25,000.00? This is for any unknown item that may arise throughout the year.

Can some of these items be decreased to save the tax payers an increase?

-Playgrounds and Recreation, budgeted \$12,500.00? For items that increase, gas, etc.

Are we planning on purchasing a mower this year? A big difference from last year, compared to what is used...

-Garage contractual? Operation of the highway garage, electric, phone, internet and cable, highway school

-Refuse and Garbage? Replacing containers, any breakdowns to the truck or transfer station equipment.

- Cemeteries contractual, last year didn't spend anything, this year budget for \$1,200.00? Mowing would come out of this.
  - Highway Fund, Bridges, is that fund used at all? The culvert pipes are purchased from this fund.
  - Town Board contractual, last year was \$349.00, budget this year is for \$1,000.00? Legal notices, training expenses.
  - Bookkeeper, budget for \$4,100.00, an hourly employee, which averages around \$3,600 a year.
  - Tax Collection? BAS software, tax billings, envelopes.
- Then paving the remainder of the town park, parking area, that was not necessary. The town received a grant for an amount, but the town went above and beyond that amount. Mr. Swain thinks that line items on the budget could be trimmed to save money.

Supervisor Hammond reported that the annual payment to NYS Local Retirement System is due, and if paid before the 15<sup>th</sup> of December, the amount is reduced to \$63,373.00.

**RESOLUTION #113 -AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO MAKE PAYMENT OF \$63,373.00 TO THE NEW YORK STATE LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR THE 2011 EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION**

On motion of Councilwoman Gage, seconded by Councilman Viscio, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLVED to authorize Supervisor to make the annual employer contribution payment to the New York State Local Retirement System, for a total of \$63,373.00 for the year 2011.

Supervisor Hammond announced that at last month's meeting, the town received a bid for the 1 Ton Truck for \$11,000.00. Hammond contacted Mr. Baldwin and counter offered with \$15,000.00, and he accepted.

**RESOLUTION #114 - AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO TRANSFER \$15,000.00 TO CAPITAL FUND FOR HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT**

On motion of Councilman Stevens, seconded by Councilwoman Nagengast, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLVED to authorize Supervisor to transfer \$15,000.00 to Capital Fund for Highway Equipment.

**RESOLUTION #115 - AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF \$606.70 TO COBLESKILL STONE PRODUCTS FROM THE BUILDING CAPITAL FUND**

On motion of Councilman Viscio, seconded by Councilwoman Gage, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLVED to authorize payment of \$606.70 to Cobleskill Stone Products for stone used for the shoulders of Town Hall Lane.

Highway Superintendent Salisbury reported he has received a quote from CEJJ, Inc. for 20 yard, open top container. CEJJ, Inc. will need to manufacture this container and does not have an estimate delivery date.

**RESOLUTION #116 - AUTHORIZE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT SALISBURY TO ORDER 20 YARD OPEN TOP CONTAINER FROM CEJJ, INC FOR \$3,790.00**

On motion of Councilman Stevens, seconded by Councilwoman Gage, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLVED to authorize Highway Superintendent Salisbury to order container from CEJJ, Inc.

for \$3,790.00.

Highway Superintendent Salisbury reported that FEMA representatives came last week to assess the damages from Hurricane Irene. At least two - three more days are needed to review the damages. Next week FEMA will be assessing Line Road, which is the most severe. Salisbury will report back to the board next month on this issue.

Mr. Hempstead discussed an issue regarding the burn ban and having no way to dispose of it. Mr. Hempstead asked the Board what someone such as himself with a small parcel could do with his brush and tree limbs since he can no longer bring his items to the transfer station for disposal. Mr. Hammond replied that he understands the difficulty but has no solution at this point because of the ban on burning at the transfer station.

**RESOLUTION #117 - CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING AT 8:15P.M. ON THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2012**

On motion of Councilman Viscio, seconded by Councilwoman Nagengast, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLVED to close public hearing on the tentative budget for the fiscal year 2012.

Supervisor Hammond asked the board's pleasure on the budget after hearing the discussion from the public.

Councilman Stevens asked if the town board contractual line item on the budget could be trimmed? Supervisor Hammond responded that two newly elected board members will be joining the board and may want to attend the Newly Elected Officials seminar.

Councilwoman Gage stated that she paid her own way to attend the course the first year she was elected and that she found the course to be very helpful.

Councilwoman Nagengast stated that during the budgeting process and during these economic times, it's important to budget high and estimate revenues low.

Councilman Viscio stated that the board did their diligence and being frugal on budget.

**RESOLUTION #118 - ADOPT THE TENTATIVE BUDGET AS PRESENTED FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2011**

On motion of Councilman Viscio, seconded by Councilwoman Nagengast, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 4 NAYS 1 (Stevens)

RESOLVED to adopt the tentative budget as presented for the fiscal year 2012.

**RESOLUTION # 119 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of Councilwoman Nagengast, seconded by Councilman Stevens, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLVED that the minutes of the October 2011 meeting be approved.

**RESOLUTION # 120 - APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS**

On motion of Councilwoman Gage, seconded by Councilwoman Nagengast, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLVED that the Reports of the Supervisor and Town Clerk for the Month of October 2011 be approved.

**RESOLUTION # 121 - PAYMENT OF BILLS**

On motion of Councilman Viscio, seconded by Councilwoman Nagengast, the following

resolution was ADOPTED      AYES 5      NAYS 0

RESOLVED that the Bills be paid on General Abstract #011 of the General Fund, covering claims # 315-330 & 336 & 337 and of the Highway Fund, covering claims # 308-314 & 331-335 for the year 2011.

Councilwoman Gage abstained from voting on voucher #336 which was from the Knox Reformed Church and she had signed that as a claimant.

**RESOLUTION #122 - ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:25 P.M. FOR THE DISCUSSION OF THE UNION NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE HIGHWAY EMPLOYEES**

On motion of Councilman Stevens, seconded by Councilwoman Nagengast, the following resolution was ADOPTED      AYES 5      NAYS 0

RESOLVED to enter into executive session.

On motion of Councilwoman Nagengast, seconded by Councilman Stevens, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15p.m. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  
November 14, 2011

Kimberly D. Swain