

The second regular meeting of the Kingsbury Town Board was held on October 26, 2015 at the Kingsbury Town Hall at 210 Main Street, Hudson Falls, New York.

MEMBERS PRESENT: James T. Lindsay, Supervisor
William Collins, Councilman
Richard Doyle, Councilman

ABSENT: Henry Freebern, Councilman
Paul Bromley, Councilman

ALSO PRESENT: Jeffrey Meyer, Attorney for the Town
Dana Hogan, Republican Candidate for Supervisor
Mary Ordway, Comptroller
Michael Graham, Superintendent of Highways
James Chase, Water Superintendent
John Welden, Caterpillar Representative

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Lindsay at 7 p.m. and opened for the order of business with the Flag Salute led by Supervisor Lindsay.

Comptroller Mary Ordway requested a correction in the October 13, 2015 Meeting Minutes, regarding the payroll. The Town Clerk will make the correction from recording of the Deputy Clerk's 30 minute lunch, to the Deputy's taking a full 30 minute lunch break.

Supervisor Lindsay instructed the Town Clerk to read the notice of the public hearing for the Fire Protection Contract and 2016 Preliminary Budget. Supervisor Lindsay commented this year the contract with the Kingsbury Volunteer Hose Company was for \$231,000.00, last year was \$226,400.00. Supervisor Lindsay opened the Public Hearing at 7:10 p.m. There being no comment the public hearing was closed. A **motion** by Councilman Doyle seconded by Councilman Collins and carried by a vote of 3 ayes to accept the Fire Protection District Contract for 2016.

The second public hearing scheduled is for the 2016 Preliminary Budget in the amount of \$1,814,755.00, with a less than 2% increase over last year. The rates remained the same except for the General Fund – Whole Town which increased five cents. Supervisor Lindsay commented it is a flat budget, as it has been for years. Supervisor Lindsay opened the public hearing at 7:15 p.m. There being no comment the public hearing was closed. A **motion** to adopt the 2016 Preliminary Budget was made by Councilman Doyle seconded by Councilman Collins and carried by a vote of 3 ayes.

Superintendent of Highways Michael Graham introduced John Welden, a representative of Caterpillar. Graham explained that contracts with Caterpillar and John Deere will expire at the end of this month. Mr. Welden explained the options available for the purchase and lease of a new loader. He also explained the annual trade-in program. A discussion followed. The Board will make a decision about the purchase or lease of a new pay loader, at a workshop meeting scheduled on Wednesday October 28, 2015.

The Town Clerk was instructed to place an ad in the Post-Star for a Board of Assessment Review Member to replace John Murray who has resigned.

Supervisor Lindsay reported the concrete work is being done at 6 Michigan Street and the spray foam insulation will be applied next week. Supervisor Lindsay commented "It will be a very easy building to heat and cool."

Supervisor Lindsay reported the committee studying the water rates will present a report. Attorney Meyer reported the proposed Local Law to amend water rates will allow the Town Board to change the water rates by resolution. Councilman Doyle reported the committee had met 3 times to discuss the rates and how to increase the reserves in the water districts. In conclusion there is no way they could raise rates enough to set money aside to repair or replace the system at the end of its useful life. It was decided the rates would be raised to be comparable to other municipalities in the area. The definition of residential will be changed and everything else will be commercial. The rate for residential will increase from \$25.00 to \$50.00 for ten thousand gallons per quarter. The rate of any usage over ten thousand gallons will increase from \$2.00 to \$2.75 per thousand gallons. Water Superintendent James Chase explained commercial would increase from \$50.00 per month to \$62.50 per month with a rate of \$2.75 per thousand gallons over ten thousand gallons. Any business or residential that has more than 4 units will be an additional \$7.25 per unit. Comptroller Mary Ordway explained that when the Town consolidated the water districts it was not discussed how they would assess any capital improvement. Councilman Doyle commented that was on the to-do list in January. Councilman Doyle also stated that some people will be paying more, but overall the budget for the water district for next year is projected to have a deficit of \$19,000.00, using \$19,000.00 of the \$250,000.00 in reserves. The \$250,000.00 is not a lot for a \$5,000,000.00 infrastructure. The increase in the water rates will generate a surplus of \$20,000.00 to \$30,000.00 for the reserve fund. Water Superintendent James Chase stated the Town's residential rates with the increase will still be below the per capita for this area. Comptroller Mary Ordway stated the last increase in water rates was 20 years ago. A **motion** by Councilman Doyle seconded by Councilman Collins and carried by a vote of 3 ayes to set a public hearing to amend Chapter 270 Water of the Code of the Town of Kingsbury on November 23, 2015.

Kendall Eddy and Rose Stanley, students of Hudson Falls High School were present at the Board Meeting to see how local government works.

Supervisor Lindsay reported a workshop is scheduled for October 28, 2015. Judge Keenan will be present at 6 p.m. to discuss his ideas on operating the court once the Village dissolves their court and abolishes the Village Justice position. Dave Armando, Washington County Code Enforcement Officer will be present at the workshop at 7 p.m. to explain what services the County can provide, once Code Enforcement Officer Ross Cortese becomes full-time at the Village Hall.

A **motion** by Councilman Doyle seconded by Councilman Collins giving Comptroller Mary Ordway permission to re-levy any unpaid Town water bills as of November 20, 2015 to the 2016 County/Town Tax.

A **motion** by Councilman Doyle seconded by Councilman Collins and carried by a vote of 3 ayes to pay Comptroller Mary Ordway for 197 extra hours worked from October 23, 2014 to October 23, 2015, which will be charged to the water district.

Superintendent of Highways Michael Graham reported the frames were on the plows. He also reported that Peckham's gave the Town some concrete blocks and a grader, which were used to display at the Highway Garage. Graham would like to get quotes for a new sign. He also reported paving needs to be completed at Boces, The Senior Center and the new Town Hall parking lot. Graham also reported that

the paving on New Swamp Road must be scheduled. Graham talked to all the residents on New Swamp Road. Bill Heil and his partner were the only two that did not want the road paved.

Attorney Meyer reported Rich Schermerhorn does not have the Department of Health and DEC approvals, but does not envision them taking long. Attorney Meyer reported Schermerhorn has a 2-week window to close on the former Dix Avenue Drive-In property after January 1, 2016.

There being no further business before the Board a motion by Councilman Doyle seconded by Councilman Collins and carried by a vote of 3 ayes to adjourn the meeting at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia A. Bardin, Town Clerk

<http://www.kingsburyny.gov>