

A Special Town Board Meeting was held on Monday, February 27, 2012, at 7:00 p.m., at the Town Office, 16 Broad Street. Present were: Supervisor Shwartz, P. Darby, Deputy Supv., D. Holcomb, C. Todd, C. Rossi, Town Council; B. Glazier, Highway Supt.; Mayor Miller, Jerry Hayes, L. Manchester, R. Lura, S. Lura, W. Todd and W. Berry.

Supv. Eve Ann Shwartz said the purpose of the meeting was to Allocate the Fund Balance, and discuss the Town Highway Capital Plan (Town equipment, etc.).

Highway Supt. Bert Glazier explained the higher cost for plows as each year goes on. Plows once costing \$113,000 in the year 2000 – now cost \$189,905. He also explained the cost of a Loader in year 2000 would have been \$97,000, but now would cost \$136,000. Discussion about replacement of his pickup truck – he said the plows and trucks get beat up with the salt – and maintenance costs hurt us. P. Darby said look at the net price to replace equipment, and B. Glazier agreed. Eve Ann said she knew their tractor was bought as a used one. C. Todd said she was interested in mileage as a factor in evaluating equipment, and Bert said frames go bad and they rot off. C. Todd asked if they could be undercoated, and Bert said they use a seal now. Bert said he would like to go through his maintenance records for costs. Discussion: they could look at 7 year, 10 year and 12 year plans. Eve Ann said we are not ready for a Capital Budget yet. Eve Ann said let's get the mileage on equipment, etc. Bert said Doug Blinebry does all the mechanical work at the Highway Garage, and has saved the Town lots of money and he wondered if he could get a little extra compensation for this. C. Todd asked how the Highway men communicate with each other. Bert explained they have radios in their trucks – that is where the Tower in Brookfield comes in, he said.

Peter Darby said the total assets of the Town, as of December 31, 2011 is: \$1,057,811.89 . He said we have been living off of the savings. Peter gave hand-outs pertaining to the finances to the Town Board. Peter said there is a phase to put \$120,000 into the unexpended balance line next year, and \$60,000 the following year.

Peter said the Town gets the bulk of its revenue in January, with the tax collection. Eve Ann said we get it right away from Cathy (Tax Collector), and the Town has never had to borrow money (per Russ Lura's question). We received \$81,171.00 in lieu of taxes, from Colgate University. Russ Lura said Colgate's money can be classified as unguaranteed revenue.

Russ said there is a Contingency Fund and Tax Reserve Fund. Eve Ann said an Emergency Fund is needed. Peter said erratic coding was used the past 2 years and he is not sure the expenses were allocated properly. Peter said the bills (ex. insurance) were paid, but out of where. Russ Lura said when do you say the past is past, go forward, and use the funds to go forward. Discussion – you can move General to Highway, but not Highway to General. Eve Ann said if you look at the Profit and Loss Statements – it shows the places where we get the income from. Discussion – possibly taking the sales tax directly like the Village of Hamilton does –Peter will talk to Cindy at the County. Peter said NYS would not complain if the Town had \$200,000 undesignated as a fund balance. C. Rossi wondered if a salt shed was needed – should it be part of a study or not.

C. Todd then discussed the website. She said they are very close to the layout, and on the verge of sending the contents to Northshore Solutions. There is a March 15th target date for the launch. Discussion of Contact List, Town E-Mail Address, Names of everyone on all the Town of Hamilton's Boards, Link to Earlville, etc.

C. Todd said the Village of Hamilton had a Public Hearing on February 14, 2012 on the matter of Natural Gas for Hamilton; and there will be a Referendum on April 17, 2012; for residents to vote.

C. Todd said she attended a Town of Madison Meeting wherein 36 -500 ft. tall – wind turbines are being proposed in the Town of Madison. Town of Madison residents were upset that a lot of information had not been given out about this project; which is projected for the year 2015. Eve Ann said the Town of Hamilton will be impacted on the view matter. C. Rossi said Lake Moraine, Bonney Hill and Hubbardsville will be impacted on the large wind turbines view. Russ Lura said they must notify the surrounding municipalities and he asked if they notified the Town of Hamilton – if not he said - it is the kiss of death.

C. Rossi said the Association of Towns has valuable information about natural gas.

A Motion was made by C. Rossi, seconded by P. Darby and carried to go into Executive Session (personnel).

A Motion was made by P. Darby, seconded by C. Rossi and carried to come out of Executive Session.

A Motion was made by P. Darby, seconded by C. Todd and carried to pay Carol Dewey past due overtime in the amount of \$1422.

A Motion was made by P. Darby, seconded by C. Rossi and carried establishing an increased \$2.00 an hour bonus for mechanical work done by Doug Blinebry, \$21.44 an hour for hours spent doing mechanical work only, under B. Glazier's supervision.

A Motion was made by P. Darby, seconded by C. Todd and carried for Eve Ann to negotiate reallocating some of Deputy Town Clerk Carol Dewey's time/money to help with Zoning Work; with the Town Clerk's needs the priority.

A Motion to Adjourn was made by C. Todd, seconded by C. Rossi and carried at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine S. Hotaling, Town Clerk

