

**Town of Murray Budget Public Hearing and Work Meeting**  
November 4, 2020

Present: Supervisor Joseph Sidonio, Councilmen Randall Bower, Paul Hendel and Michael Mele, Town Clerk Cindy Oliver, Tom Rivers, Ron Vendetti

Absent: Councilman Lloyd Christ

Brief overview of the preliminary budget by Supervisor Sidonio. We are \$112,000 below the tax cap and the board was able to reduce taxes by \$82,532. This was done by the refinancing of the water districts debt and through efficiencies.

Prior to 2019, the Town was not getting their fare share of Time Warner franchise fees. As of 2019 we have been getting the full amount that we are due each year. This helped with the general fund.

Motion by Mele, Seconded by Bower to open the public hearing at 7:04 p.m.  
Motion Carried

Ron Vendetti spoke of 2% raises for full-time employees including the new employees and the hourly increase to part-time employees, the town's portion of the chargeback rates for SUNY Community Colleges. He also stated that the Board must believe the water leaks have been stopped as water loss is not accounted for in the budget.

Supervisor Sidonio stated it is too early to answer his question regarding water loss until we have another meter read at the end of the year but progress has been made. The board has gone a step further and agreed to a review of the financials and of the water program.

Supervisor Sidonio reminded those present that the budget is a measuring stick, as you cannot predict the future. The Board has calculated as accurately as they can. He thanked the Board for working together to present a good budget.

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Bower to close the public hearing at 7:19 p.m.  
Motion Carried

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Mele to raise the Deputy Town Clerk line (A1410.102) by \$686.00 as that line item was not adjusted after the pay raise was decided upon  
Motion Carried

Councilmen present read the resignation letter of Fred Case, Code Enforcement Officer.

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Bower accepting the resignation of Code Enforcement Officer Fred Case effective October 26, 2020 Motion Carried  
Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Mele appointing Kevin Moore as Code Enforcement Officer for the Town of Murray to fill the vacancy left by Fred Case, effective November 4, 2020 and ending December 31, 2020.

Motion Carried

This is a part time position.

As discussed in our budget work meetings, the employee benefits package needs to be worked on. Supervisor Sidonio is meeting tomorrow with Eric Bond of Bond Financial to begin discussions regarding healthcare as that is the most important aspect of the benefits package. All else can be decided upon by the town board such as vacation and sick time.

Discussion regarding COVID 19 resurgence and possibly changing Town meetings to Zoom only. Councilman Bower will meet with Bill Downie to ensure we have better audio.

No work meeting is needed this month so next regular Town Board meeting will be on November 16<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Mele, Seconded by Bower to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m.  
Motion Carried

So, adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia L. Oliver