

Town of Olive
County of Ulster
State of New York
Thursday, November 10, 2011

Minutes of the Public Hearing of the Town Board of the Town of Olive held Thursday, November 10, 2011, 7:30 pm at the Town Meeting Hall in Shokan, NY. The purpose of the meeting as stated in the legal notice was to hear all in favor of or those opposed to any item or items in the 2012 Preliminary Budget.

Members Present: Berndt Leifeld, Supervisor
 Linda Burkhardt, Board Member
 Bruce La Monda, Board Member
 Peter Friedel, Board Member

Member Absent: Henry Rank, Board Member

Recording Secretary: Sylvia B. Rozzelle, Town Clerk

Others Present: Bill Cook, Sole Assessor; Janice Lanzarotta, Bookkeeper; John Ingram, Zoning Enforcement Officer & President of the Olive Fire Department; Tom Planz, Treasurer Olive Fire Department; Ron Wright, Town Justice; Jennifer Vasta, Highway Superintendent Clerk; John Parete, County Legislator Elect; Gene Sorbellini, Recreation Director; Susan Horner, Clerk to the Supervisor; Brenda Van Leuvan, Deputy Court Clerk & Deputy Town Clerk; Ray Nichols, Police Commissioner & Police Chief; Vincent Bruck, Police Commissioner; Richard Wolff, ZBA Member; Susan Henderson, Deputy Town Clerk

Copies of the 2012 Preliminary Budget were distributed to the approximately 30 persons in attendance. Supervisor Leifeld stated the Town Board would receive any comments or suggestions on the proposed budget. He noted that the budget does not have any figures in it from Hurricane Irene as the town has heard nothing at this point from FEMA.

There being no comments, Supervisor Leifeld presented the following comments on the 2012 Preliminary Budget.

- Total general government support increased \$32,134 or 4.4%. The significant impact in this category is a \$19,297.00 increase in Elections. It was noted this figure is projected by the county of which the town has no control over.
- Total public safety increased \$9,794.00 or 4.68%. The significant impact in this category is \$8,978.00 for Police.
- No change in the First Aid Unit budget.
- Total transportation increased \$12,431.00 or 8.7%. The significant impact was a \$10,000.00 increase in the garage as the Town Office Building and Highway garage's heat and electricity come from this budget line.
- No change in economic assistance.
- Total culture/recreation decreased \$4,995.00 or 1.7%. The impact is from reduction in transportation costs for the summer recreation program.
- Total home and community services increased \$2,519.00 or 1.2%.
- General Fund employee benefits decreased \$6,957.00 or 1.44%. Highway Fund employee benefits decreased \$39,865.00 or 9.9%. Total employee benefits decreased: \$46,822.00.
- Highway Fund total transportation increased \$14,087.00 or 1.01%.

Supervisor Leifeld presented the following figures regarding appropriations:

General Fund total appropriations increased	\$44,926.00	2%
Highway fund total appropriations decreased	\$25,778.00	1.41%
Special Fire District appropriations increased	\$48,938.00	8.9%
Special Lighting District (Onteora Court)	No Change	
Total Budget appropriations increased	\$68,086.00	1.48%

Supervisor Leifeld presented the following information regarding amount to be raised by taxes:

General Fund amount to be raised by taxes decreased	\$19,054.00	1.24%
Highway Fund amount to be raised by taxes decreased	\$ 2,618.00	1.67%
Special Fire District amount to be raised by taxes increased	\$48,938.00	8.9%
Total amount to be raised by taxes increased	\$27,266.00	.75%

Supervisor Leifeld noted the following 2012 Town Tax Rates:

General Fund approximately	\$1.2742 per thousand
Highway Fund approximately	\$1.3152 per thousand
Special Fire approximately	\$.4960 per thousand
Special Lighting approximately	\$.1557 per thousand

Total Tax Rate for 2012 without Special Lighting \$3.085 per thousand

Supervisor Leifeld stated that Highway Superintendent Fugel didn't increase any budget lines except the 2% increase for employees. Supervisor Leifeld stated that he and Board Member Friedel did not take the 2% salary increase.

Al Studt asked about the sewer district budget. Supervisor Leifeld stated that does not appear in the Town Budget as that budget is prepared by the operations manager and presented to the City of New York.

Pat Conway stated we have Police Commissioners and asked if they get paid. Supervisor Leifeld noted it is a three member Police Commission and they are unpaid; but, the Police Chief is paid. Mrs. Conway asked if there is a full time officer to which the answer was "yes" and 9 part timers. In response to her question as to how many Police Officers are town residents, the answer was about 60%. It was stated we use out of town personnel as we do not have to pay for schooling. It was noted that the one full timer collects health benefits.

Joe Stein asked why the lights are on at Shokan Park. Recreation Director Gene Sorbellini stated that fall softball is over and now the flag football program is in full swing. He stated the lights will be off as of Sunday night November 10th.

Steve Crawford asked what the total property tax increase is to which Supervisor Leifeld responded 3/4% will be the tax increase.

Charlie Blumstein asked how much we have used of our reserves to which Janice Lanzarotta stated approximately \$120,000.00 between last year and this year.

Charlie Blumstein stated there was discussion regarding some savings in the Police Department by hiring two full timers versus one full timer and the rest part timers. Board Member La Monda stated the Commission is leaning towards it; but, no official decision has been made.

Supervisor Leifeld provided the following balances and information on the Capital Reserve Funds.

HIGHWAY

Reserve A	Machinery	\$81,745.90
Reserve F	Improvements	\$54,796.01
Escrow Retirement Account		<u>\$40,611.86</u>
HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL		\$177,153.77

GENERAL FUND

Reserve B	Landfill	\$42,272.23
Reserve C	Police	\$30,853.71
Reserve D	Parks	\$57,421.65
Reserve E	Assessor	\$76,752.18
Reserve G	Handicapped	\$50,888.74
Reserve I	Health Ins	\$126,210.30
Reserve K	Computers	\$21,861.16
Reserve L	Buildings	\$153,011.28
Reserve R	Records Management	\$4,747.90
Reserve T	Tax/Consultant Fund	\$110,249.63
Reserve X	Retirement	\$26,505.01
Recreation Trust		\$22,669.32
Escrow Retirement Account		\$63,812.85
GENERAL FUND TOTAL		\$787,255.96

HIGHWAY & GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u><u>\$964,409.73</u></u>
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Joyce Baron stated she lives on Leigh Ann Way and has tried to get cable on their road noting Time Warner will cover any road with 20 homes per mile; but, if not, you will have to pay for it. She stated there are considerable areas not covered in town. She reported on a recent meeting in Marbletown regarding a Kingston based company called IITS who will provide wireless cable with 35 ft. towers with flat antennae; but, the company can't get funding because banks are not lending money as IITS has no collateral. She noted the cable franchise is up in 2014 and suggested we negotiate to get the entire town cabled. Pat Conway stated cable is not going to help with the cell service.

All persons present having been heard the Town Board adjourned at 8:20 pm on a Leifeld/La Monda motion.

Sylvia B. Rozzelle, Town Clerk