

Village of Canton, New York

SPECIAL VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

Meeting Minutes: April 4, 2011

Present:

Charlotte Ramsay, Mayor
Mary Ann Ashley, Trustee
Brien Hallahan, Supt.

Joseph Frank, Trustee
Sally Noble, Village Clerk
Alan Mulkin, Police Chief

Absent:

Sylvia Kingston, Trustee

Jesse Coburn, Trustee

7:00 PM – The Mayor opened the meeting. Also present was Fire Chief Michael Dalton.

1. **Authorize the advertisement for bids to demolish (2) two properties that have been fire damaged** – Trustee Frank made a motion to authorize the advertisement for bids to demolish 3-5 Gouverneur Street and 26 Gouverneur Street. The tipping fees will be paid by the Village at the reduced municipal rate. Trustee Ashley seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

2. **Review and make any alterations to the tentative 2011-2012 budget** – Clerk Noble reviewed the tentative budget indicating an increase of 1.81% or an increase of \$0.19 per thousand. Of the total assessed value of property in the Village, 65.06 % is exempt. This number will grow even larger next year due to the new SUNY Canton buildings.

The summary of the budget by fund was discussed, noting the proposed tax rate of \$10.748160 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The exemption impact report was included in this discussion as required. A comparison of 2010-11 and 2011-12 budgets was done. There is a proposed 2.34% increase in the tax levy and a 1.81% increase in the proposed tax rate.

The calculation of salaries and wages was presented. The bond and interest schedules were presented next. There is a \$625,000 reduction in debt from last year's budget.

A copy of the 2011 Joint Recreation Fund Budget and the Town of Canton's budget were provided for reference. The Recreation budget was previously agreed upon. The Recreation fiscal year is January 1 to December 31. The Board requested a notation be included in Capital Equipment/Projects reflecting the need for a new roof on the Pavilion.

The General Fund budget was reviewed next. Clerk Noble said after meeting with the Chief of Police and Mayor Ramsay the Chief has withdrawn his request for a new car. The new car will be included in next year's budget. There maybe some better options for vehicle purchases available next year. Included in the police budget requests was funding for a 5th officer. After discussion \$38,000 was removed from the personnel services line item in the police budget and \$18,000 was added to contingency.

The Fire Department has requested an increase of \$2,300 in funding to reflect increasing costs. The Fire Department has not requested an increase in the last two years. Both the Fire Station Custodian and the Historian have requested no increase in wages.

The library has requested an increase of 2% or \$594 in their funding and the Canton Chamber has requested an increase from \$5,500 to \$6,000 or an increase of 9%. After discussion these increases will be included in the preliminary budget. A line item has been added to the Safety Inspection department to cover the personnel service cost for the Code Compliance Technician.

Our retirement costs are estimated at \$306,500 for the 2011-12 fiscal year. This is a significant increase over the current years \$191,247. The increase in the cost of health insurance is also significant. Clerk Noble had spoken with our insurance broker Tish Biesemeyer to investigate changing our plan renewal to June. This would run concurrently with our budget year. This would give a 4.5% increase beginning June 1st and would also increase the insurance buyouts. This would be only for non-Medicare coverage the Medicare renewals would still be in January.

The Water Fund budget reflects a 3% increase in rates. We will continue to monitor revenues throughout the year. Water usage is down. A graph showing the breakdown of appropriation categories was provided.

The Sewer Fund budget indicates a 3% increase in rates. A Golf Course only budget was provided for the Board. A graph showing the division of appropriations was provided to the Board. A transfer of \$28,000 will be made from the account maintained for the purpose of course improvements funded by a portion of the membership fees each year. This will cover the cost of the mower and the paving of cart paths. Mayor Ramsay suggested looking at raising fees for next year.

The list of capital projects was then reviewed. The car for the police department will be taken off the preliminary budget. A line item will also be added for the possibility of a new roof for the pavilion.

Clerk Noble will make the requested changes and distribute the changed pages for the preliminary budget. The date for the public hearing is Monday, April 25, 2011 at 7:00 P.M.

Trustee Frank made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM. Trustee Ashley seconded the motion. All in favor. Carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Sally Noble
Village Clerk