

**MINUTES
OF
THE TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE
BUDGET WORKSHOP
OCTOBER 20, 2016
7:00 PM**

The Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville held a Budget Workshop Meeting on the 20th day of October 2016 at 7:00 PM at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury
 Councilwoman Marion Cooke
 Councilman John Dolce
 Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir
 Councilman Gerald Wood
 Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

Also present were four interested citizens.

The purpose of the meeting was to continue the review of the 2017 Tentative Budget.

- Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Mark Overbaugh presented the Board with the basis for the Medusa Volunteer Fire Department’s request for a \$2,000 increase in their budget. Mr. Overbaugh explained that almost all community events are held at the Medusa Fire House and even though there is a nominal charge for some of the events, the money only covers expenses. He further explained that the renovation began due to the ceiling falling down; the ceiling was attached to the wainscoting of the old schoolhouse which was still suspended within the building. That led to looking at the energy costs. It was decided to go forward with taking up the concrete flooring and installing 2” of foam and radiant heat; the 3 out of the 4 walls were spray-foamed as well as the ceiling. A front entry-way was added to help prevent the cold from blowing into the building. The side entry-way has also been completed.

John Gordon further explained that the Fire Department currently has a 1985 Mac manual that most of the members are not able to drive; there are unfunded mandates from the State regarding the level of preparedness with respect to the number of years of allowable service.

The Fire House is hustling to make ends meet. They host monthly breakfasts, the annual Turkey Dinner, Election Day buffet, Medusa Fest, etc. They will host receptions after funerals, not only for residents of Medusa, but for others as well.

Discussion ensued as to what to do with the Code Enforcement’s clerk line. Mr. Overbaugh would like to continue as his own clerk. Several members of the Board are not certain that is still the best way to go. Mr. Overbaugh has suggested that he could spend another chunk of time in the office, in addition to his Thursday hours. After much debate, it was decided to leave the clerk line item as is and to revisit the subject in the spring. Mr. Overbaugh will keep the Board up to date with his progress.

The Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector’s computer and the Planning Board’s computer are due to be replaced at a cost of \$1,400.

Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Overbaugh requested he be reimbursed \$22/month for the use of his personal cell phone for official Town business.

The ‘misc. contractual’ line item will be increased by \$500 to \$1,500.

- The subject of the generator was revisited. It is the consensus that \$40,000 should be sufficient.
- The Board revisited a raise for the Highway Superintendent. Discussion ensued among the Board members. Although the consensus is that everyone deserves a raise and all the employees are earning considerably less across the board than their respective positions in neighboring towns, the Town needs to keep the budget under the tax cap.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 PM; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker
Town Clerk