

Public Hearing was held by the Village Board of Trustees for the Purpose of Hearing Comments Regarding the Adoption of the Budget for the Fiscal Year beginning March 1, 2007, and ending on February 29, 2008, at Village Hall on January 4, 2007, at 7:30 p.m.

Present – Mayor O’Hara, Trustees Presley, Mott, Tupper, A. Saraceni, and J. Saraceni.

Absent - Trustee Stebbins.

Also Present – J.C. Engelbrecht, Attorney for the Village; Daniel Warner, Chief of Police; Claude Sykes, Supt. of Public Works; Lynn Campbell, Treasurer; Erin Smith from the Messenger; Charles Elliott of the Public Access Channel; Thomas Leo, from the Post Standard, Dean Johnson, David Arthur, Kevin Beverine, Mace and Peg Markham, Connie Taft, Rick Ravas, Casey Pickard, Karen Gates, Robin Augello, John Babb, Nadine Macomber from Canton Woods Senior Center, John Rutkowski, Brian Phelps, and Karen Mayo

The Public Hearing was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor O’Hara stated that the purpose of this Public Hearing was to hear comments concerning the adoption of the budget for the fiscal year beginning March 1, 2007, and ending on February 29, 2008.

The Village Clerk read the legal notice that was published in the Messenger.

Mayor O’Hara asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor of the proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning March 1, 2007, and ending on February 29, 2008.

No one spoke.

Mayor O’Hara asked if anyone wanted to speak against the proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning March 1, 2007, and ending on February 29, 2008.

Karen Gates of 27 Charlotte Street stated that she wanted to comment on the budget format. She noted that she picked up a copy of the budget, which shows the total budgeted amount for each account the village uses to operate. She feels that format does not give the taxpayer enough information to understand what the village is going to use the funds for. She suggested that the Village Clerk’s Office have a copy of the budget requests that are more detailed from the department heads, and that a taxpayer can then either review or sign them out. She noted that although the rates decreased, she will be paying approximately \$200.00 more in village taxes, because her assessment went up.

Mayor O’Hara noted that would be something the village would consider, but the taxpayer would have to realize that those submittals are budget requests, and that does not mean the department would receive those funds. He also noted that the Village Board holds a work session to go over the budget that is announced in advance, and the public is more than welcome to attend. Mayor O’Hara stated that when his property value increases substantially, which is one of his top two investments, he is very pleased. He noted that when you equate what a resident pays out in taxes versus the return on their investment, the return on the investment is pretty darn good.

J.C. Engelbrecht noted that the format of the budget is dictated by the State Comptroller’s Office.

Motion #300 –

Moved by Trustee Tupper seconded by Trustee J. Saraceni that the Public Hearing be adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Village Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES WAS HELD AT VILLAGE HALL ON JANUARY 4, 2007, AT 7:30 P.M.

Present – Mayor O’Hara, Trustees Presley, Mott, Tupper, A. Saraceni, and J. Saraceni.

Absent – Trustee Stebbins.

Also Present – J.C. Engelbrecht, Attorney for the Village; Daniel Warner, Chief of Police; Claude Sykes, Supt. of Public Works; Lynn Campbell, Treasurer; Erin Smith from the Messenger; Charles Elliott of the Public Access Channel; Thomas Leo, from the Post Standard, Dean Johnson, David Arthur, Kevin Beverine, Mace and Peg Markham, Connie Taft, Rick Ravas, Casey Pickard, Karen Gates, Robin Augello, John Babb, Nadine Macomber from Canton Woods Senior Center, John Rutkowski and Karen Mayo

Motion #301 –

Moved by Trustee J. Saraceni seconded by Trustee Presley that the minutes of the meeting held December 21, 2006, be approved and the Village Clerk dispense with the reading of said minutes.

CARRIED.

Citizen’s Comments.

No comments.

Mayor’s Comments.

Mayor O’Hara congratulated the Baldwinsville Marching Band for their hard work raising the funds to afford them to compete for a chance to play during the Gator Bowl Football Game, and for winning the competition to get to play on the field at half-time. He requested that the Village Clerk contact the Baldwinsville School District and the Towns of Lysander and Van Buren to see if the community is doing anything to recognize them for their accomplishments. He noted that possibly a joint venture could be done.

Trustees’ Comments.

Trustee A. Saraceni requested that an Executive Session for labor contract negotiations be added to the agenda.

Trustee J. Saraceni congratulated the Baldwinsville Marching Band for their accomplishments. He noted that Claude Sykes had recently been commended for his work on the Village of Baldwinsville Storm Water Program by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. They noted that the village is farther ahead with its program than most municipalities.

Trustee Mott noted that members of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Board and ARB Board are present to discuss the inconsistency between the village’s building code and the ARB’s guidelines.

Trustee Presley announced that the Public Safety Committee Meetings will be held once a month on the Wednesday, before the second board meeting of each month at 5:00 p.m. The meetings will be held in the conference room in the Police Department and they are public meetings and they would appreciate any public comments regarding their services.

Department Heads.

The Village Clerk noted that she wanted to amend an agenda item. She noted that on the agenda under New Business, Item B, the correct total of the unpaid water/sewer should be \$48,015.31.

Daniel Warner congratulated Claude Sykes on his work with the storm water plan. He also wanted to recognize the Baldwinsville Marching Band and he hoped that someone could obtain a copy of their performance that could be seen by the residents, since it was not televised.

Claude Sykes stated that the village has been notified by Onondaga County Community Development that the submittal for the five year plan is due March 2, 2007. He would like the Village Board to submit any ideas for Community Development Projects to him as soon as possible so that the DPW Committee can review them. He noted that all of the DPW employees have completed their National Incident Management Systems testing; therefore the village is in compliance. He explained the National Incident Management Systems.

Pending Business.

Discussion in regards to Village Owned Facilities/Business District Study.

Trustee J. Saraceni noted that Peter Crissey from Crissey Architectural Group would be coming out with students from his class to look over the site of the former Harrington Fire Station on Wednesday, January 17, 2007, at lunchtime, if that was good for everyone who wanted to attend.

Discussion in regards to updating the Village Code.

Mayor O'Hara stated that he asked Trustee Mott to invite members of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Board, and the ARB Board to this Village Board meeting to discuss some of the issues that are arising between the Village's Code and the Guidelines of the ARB.

A discussion was held among all of the members of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Board, the ARB Board and Village Board that were present. It was noted that there are inconsistencies issues with the sign laws of Village Code and what is recommended or allowed under the guidelines of the ARB. It was noted that interior lighted signs are allowed outside the area of the guidelines of the ARB jurisdiction, which are not allow within its jurisdiction. It was noted that all of the new signs are starting to look alike, and the Boards feel that each should be unique, so that particular businesses would stand out from each other. The Boards agreed that the Village's sign law and the ARB's guidelines for signs must be consistent with each other and they are going to work towards that goal.

Discussion/Action regarding the South Shore East Trail.

Claude Sykes stated that the DPW Committee did not want to proceed with Michael O'Shea from QPK's recommendations, until the village has comments for the easements it needs from National Grid.

Mayor O'Hara stated that he is close to getting a commitment from National Grid.

Discussion concerning the Village's infrastructure.

Mayor O'Hara stated that he has nothing new to report.

Discussion concerning the proposed Local Law regulating the citing of wireless telecommunications facilities.

Claude Sykes stated that the DPW Committee felt that recommendations for items numbered 1, 2 and 4 should be incorporated in the Local Law. He noted that he would contacted Sue Marino and let her know that they had to be written in the Local Law, if that is what the Village Board wanted. Mayor O'Hara stated for him to move forward and have it ready for the next meeting. Planning Board Member David Arthur was commended for his work in reviewing the original Local Law.

Discussion/Action in regards to the issuance of a change order to Paragon Environmental Services for removal of additional asbestos at the Harrington Firehouse, in the amount of \$11,500.00.

Motion #302 -

Moved by Trustee Presley seconded by Trustee J. Saraceni that the approval is given for the issuance of a change order to Paragon Environmental Services for removal of additional asbestos at the Harrington Firehouse, in the amount of \$11,500.00.

CARRIED.

Discussion/Action in regards to giving the Supt. of Public Works authorization to employ an air quality monitoring company for the asbestos removal project with costs not to exceed \$450.00 per day with a time estimated at 4 to 5 days.

Motion #303 -

Moved by Trustee J. Saraceni seconded by Trustee Mott that the Supt. of Public Works be given authorization to employ an air quality monitoring company for the asbestos removal project with costs not to exceed \$450.00 per day with a time estimated at 4 to 5 days.

CARRIED.

Discussion/Possible Action concerning the adopted budget for the Village of Baldwinsville for the fiscal year beginning March 1, 2007, and ending February 29, 2008, contingent upon the Public Hearing.

Motion #304 -

Moved by Trustee Presley seconded by Trustee A. Saraceni that the budget for the Village of Baldwinsville for the fiscal year beginning March 1, 2007, and ending February 29, 2008, with a tax rate of \$7.26/thousand, which is a 1.30% reduction.

Mayor O'Hara explained the budget process. He noted that the Department Heads prepare their budgets and then they are reviewed by their particular committee. Next they are given to the Village Treasurer to prepare a requested budget, which then is given to the Mayor to prepare a tentative budget. He noted that although it is the Mayor's budget, he includes the Village Board Members in the process. He also noted that a position in the Clerk's Office became vacant and that position will not be filled. The Police Department and the Department of Public Works are looking at their overtime schedule. The Police Department will be eliminating their weekend and holiday dispatching services.

He noted that salary adjustments range from 3% to 5%, but there is 1% allocated in the Highway Supt. of Public Works' budget, for the Supt. of Public Works and Foreman provided that they meet certain performance goal, which is that, they achieve an award of a \$50,000.00 grant for the village within the next 12 months. He noted that the 1% would be retroactive. For the Clerk's Office there is a 1% adjustment available provided that they \$5,000.00 grant from any agency in the State or private organization that will assist the operation of the clerk's office and they also provide support to each of the other departments that will be submitting grants. There is a 1% adjustment for the Chief of Police and the Lieutenant on any \$20,000.00 grant. Also, each of the Department Heads must work within the parameters of the budget.

Village Board members commended committee members as well as department heads for their work on this budget. They noted that they are proud of this budget and found this year's budget process unique. It was noted that there will be cooperation between departments to keep the costs down.

Mayor O'Hara mentioned that he is interested in looking into a study merging the Village of Baldwinsville, Town of Lysander and the Town of Van Buren. He noted that the two towns are receptive to looking into the ideal. He would like for the Village Board to consider passing a resolution at the next meeting authorizing him to pursue with the study and he has asked the towns to do the same.

CARRIED.

New Business.

Adoption of the resolution establishing that the 2007 General Election for the Village of Baldwinsville will be held on the 20th day, of March, 2007, and that the Inspectors of the Election will meet at the Village Hall, 16 W. Genesee Street, Baldwinsville, New York, between the hours of 12:00 noon and 9:00 p.m. on March 20, 2007.

Motion #305 -

Moved by Trustee Presley seconded by Trustee J. Saraceni that a resolution establishing the 2007 General Election for the Village of Baldwinsville will be held on the 20th day, of March, 2007, and that the Inspectors of the Election will meet at the Village Hall, 16 W. Genesee Street, Baldwinsville, New York, between the hours of 12:00 noon and 9:00 p.m. on March 20, 2007, be adopted.

CARRIED.

Discussion/Action in regards to the approval of the list of unpaid water and sewer bills in the amount of \$48,015.31 to be included on the Village Tax Roll for the year 2007-2008.

Motion #306 -

Moved by Trustee J. Saraceni seconded by Trustee Presley that approval is given for the list of unpaid water and sewer bills in the amount of \$48,015.31 to be included on the Village Tax Roll for the year 2007-2008.

CARRIED.

Discussion/Action regarding giving the Mayor authorization to sign a contract between the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services and the Village of Baldwinsville to accept a grant award of \$10,000.00 to purchase digital security equipment to enhance the security of the Police Department, parking area and part of the Village Hall.

Motion #307 -

Moved by Trustee Presley seconded by Trustee A. Saraceni that the Mayor be given authorization to sign a contract between the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services and the Village of Baldwinsville to accept a grant award of \$10,000.00 to purchase digital security equipment to enhance the security of the Police Department, parking area and part of the Village Hall.

CARRIED.

Discussion/Action regarding giving the Mayor authorization to sign a contract between the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services and the Village of Baldwinsville to accept a grant award of \$10,000.00 to purchase patrol vehicle equipment.

Motion #308 -

Moved by Trustee Presley seconded by Trustee Mott that the Mayor be given authorization to sign a contract between the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services and the Village of Baldwinsville to accept a grant award of \$10,000.00 to purchase patrol vehicle equipment.

CARRIED.

Motion #309 -

Moved by Trustee A. Saraceni seconded Trustee J. Saraceni that the Village Board retire into Executive Session to discuss Labor Contract Negotiations at 8:32 p.m.

CARRIED.

Motion #310 –

Moved by Trustee A. Saraceni seconded by Trustee J. Saraceni that the Village Board returned to Regular Session at 8:57 p.m.

CARRIED.

Motion #311 -

Moved by Trustee Mott seconded by Trustee A. Saraceni that the bills be paid from their proper accounts, after audit. General #266 (Cks #29395 -#29432) - \$24,416.34; Water #266 (Cks #21533 -#21537) - \$317.07; Sewer #266 (Cks #20999-#21005) - \$2,157.17.

CARRIED.

Motion #312 -

Moved by Trustee A. Saraceni seconded by Trustee J. Saraceni that the meeting be adjourned at 8:59 p.m., until the next Regular Meeting to be held on January 18, 2007, at 7:30 p.m., at Village Hall.

CARRIED.

Adjournment,

Village Clerk

