

November 9, 2006

A Public Hearing was advertised and held November 9, 2006 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall for residents to be heard on the 2007 Preliminary Town Budget. All Board members were in attendance as well as Hwy. Supt. Ballard, Resource Director Peg Ellsworth, and 17 residents.

The notice calling for the Public Hearing and Regular Monthly meeting was read.

The Budget Officer recommended changes to the Highway and Roxbury Water Funds to have General Fund loan them money instead of bonding to get through the end of the year.

Evelyn Irwin questioned the Community Resource Director needing additional Clerk time, replacing the loader, replacing a dump truck, renting a roller, and the number of hours per week the Constable works for the Town. It was stated that additional work in the Resource room requires additional help, highway equipment is needed to replace older vehicles, a roller is needed for road repairs being done during the summer, and that the Constable must only work 40 hours per week for the Town.

Frank Spinelli questioned why the Town bonds for equipment and does not purchase outright. It was stated that the Board bonds so that the budget is not an overburden for taxpayers.

Barbara Evangelista questioned new housing and sale assessment values effect on the budget, questioned why a second roller is being rented and not purchased, and stone & oil prices compared to blacktop. It was stated that assessment values are reflected in the Total Assessed Value lines of the budget, a roller is being rented each year because the Board did not approve to purchase one, and road surface material costs were discussed.

George Tischmacher questioned the Constable's need for an all terrain rescue vehicle and a computer for the Constable car. It was stated that we received a grant from Senator Bonacic for the rescue vehicle which will also be used by the Fire Depts., and the computer is being used by some police agencies already in Delaware County. Councilman Cronk stated that he has checked with the County Sheriff who states that they are not getting any computers but there should also be funding available if going to purchase. Councilman Hinkley stated that he is unsure about the price of the all terrain vehicle and would like more input from the Fire Depts. before purchasing.

Iris Farrell stated that taxes are too high. It was stated that the largest increase in the budget is due to Highway road repairs where material expenses and fuels have increased dramatically.

Edward Dalski questioned the increase in the Highway Fund Road Repair line. It was stated that it is due to material pricing and fuels and the only way to remedy it is to not do as many road repairs.

Charles Tolly stated that winters have damaged Town roads and the need to repair.

With all comments being heard, the hearing closed at 7:40 pm.

The Regular Monthly Meeting was called to order at 7:41 pm.

The Minutes of the October meetings were read and, after amending the October 23, 2006 Minutes to state "Supv. Hynes has been contacted by Catskill Revitalization Corp. requesting use of the ice house for storage of a train car" the Minutes were approved on motion of Gene Cronk, second by Edward Raeder. Unanimous.

David Riordan of Catskill Revitalization Corp. was given the floor and discussed the train car that the Corp. will be receiving soon, requested a lease with the Town for its housing at the ice house building, and discussed renovation of the ice house already underway. John Bolger expressed objection to the railroad already beginning renovation work on the ice house without a lease, renovations being done for the train car makes the building not salable, and questioned why the building is not being treated like other Town property and only offered to the railroad for use and/or purchase. Councilman Hinkley stated that he has no problem with a lease with the railroad but feels the Board is moving too quickly and wants a lease in place first and Councilman Cronk stated that he feels okay with railroad starting work on the building now because of the time frame in its arrival but still wants a lease. Peg Ellsworth discussed the historic property and its economic benefits. Atty. Castaligne was directed to draw up a lease on the building.

Linda Stratigos of Western Catskills Community Revitalization Council (WCCRC) was given the floor and discussed the reasons why the HUD Application was denied by Small Cities for the second year in a row. Reasons include too much competition and the application needing more letters of support from the public. If the Town would like WCCRC to apply again in 2007, their fee would be \$1,500.

A resolution was offered by Gene Cronk, second by Allen Hinkley, stating: "The Town Board, Town of Roxbury authorizes Western Catskills Community Revitalization Council (WCCRC) to submit, on behalf of the Town of Roxbury, a housing rehabilitation application to Office of Small Cities in 2007 for a cost of \$1,500. The Board further authorizes the Town Supervisor to execute any and all paperwork related for the submission of the application." Unanimous.

The Town Board sends get well wishes to Bert Moore, reporter for the Mountain Eagle newspaper who sustained severe injuries from an auto accident.

Dan Ballard, Hwy. Supt., stated that the two Oshkosh's have returned from frame repairs, another truck is down for transfer case repairs, crews are getting ready for winter, the jacking beams are on the way for the highway garage, and some punch list items still remain for the garage. The Board discussed the outside lights at the garage which will be set on a timer.

Peg Ellsworth updated the Board on the status of barn renovations, skating pond, slated winter activities, grant project status, and helping Margaretville Hospital find funds to renovate and restore the health center building, stated that the grant application for barn renovation has been denied compelling her to write to Senator Bonacic regarding funding in Delaware County, pending grant application status, requested to host and conduct a grant writing workshop for local business owners, and stated that an official Christmas tree lighting and carriage ride will take place on 12/12/06.

Assessor Kim Cammer stated that Enhanced STAR renewal applications have been mailed, she discussed the STAR rebate checks, discussed the County agreement, and requested a policy for appraisers who call to get information faxed to them. Atty. Castaligne stated that appraisers requests should be treated like any other FOIL request. Supv. Hynes requested that the County agreement be tabled until it is discussed more by the County Board of Supervisors.

A resolution was offered by David Thorington, second by Gene Cronk, stating: "The Town Board rescinds a previous resolution adopted October 23, 2006 calling for a Budget Note in the amount of \$40,000 for the Highway Fund and approves the transfer of \$48,000 from General Fund to the Highway Fund. Said funds shall be repaid to the General Fund within one year when anticipated FEMA funds are received." Unanimous.

A resolution was offered by Allen Hinkley, second by Edward Raeder, stating: "The Town Board rescinds a previous resolution adopted October 23, 2006 calling for a Budget Note in the amount of \$5,000 for Roxbury Water District and approves the transfer of \$5,000 from the General Fund to the Roxbury Water District. Said funds shall be repaid to the General Fund within one year when anticipated 2007 taxes are received." Unanimous.

On motion of Edward Raeder, second by Gene Millar, the Board approved the re-appointment of Phillip Zorda and Jean Millar to the Planning Board. Said term to be for the period 1/1/07 – 12/31/11. Unanimous.

Jean Millar questioned the status of the Town Board filling the vacancy on the Planning Board. Discussion took place on those persons who have submitted

their names to the Planning Board which are Edward Dalski, Daniel Sullivan, and William Finch.

A motion was made by Allen Hinkley, second by Gene Cronk to appoint William Finch to the Planning Board. After discussing the motion, both Hinkley and Cronk recinded their motions. No other motions were made for an appointment. On motion of Gene Cronk, second by Allen Hinkley, the Board decided to table the appointment until the December meeting.

A resolution was offered by Gene Cronk, second by Edward Raeder, stating: "Pursuant to Subdivision 3 of Section 198 of the Town Law, all unpaid water rents as of October 5th shall be added to the tax levied for the year 2007. Amounts to be added are as follows: Denver Water District \$34.10; Grand Gorge Water District \$5,448.86; and Roxbury Water District \$3,803.46." Unanimous.

On motion of Allen Hinkley, second by Gene Cronk, the Board approved the contract with Sickler, Torchia, Allen & Churchill, CPA, PC for accounting services for the 2006 Financial Report and audit at a cost of \$14,950. Unanimous. An auction was advertised and held at 4:00 pm today for the sale of the highway department's 4 bay garage located at 27 Depot St., Roxbury. On motion of Gene Cronk, second by Allen Hinkley, the Board accepted the bid of John Bolger for \$20,000. The sale is subject to permissive referendum". Unanimous.

On motion of Allen Hinkley, second by Gene Cronk, the Board directed the Town Clerk to publish a notice in the Town's legal newspapers stating the acceptance and sale to John Bolger." Unanimous.

On motion of Edward Raeder, second by Gene Cronk, the Board authorized Western Catskill Community Revitalization Corp. (WCCRC) to submit a third application to Office of Small Cities for a 2007 HUD grant at a cost of \$1,500. The Board further authorized the Town Supervisor to execute any and all paperwork related to the application." Unanimous.

The Budget Officer stated that the Constable has requested an additional \$1,500 be added to the 2007 Budget for extra time that he serves on holidays and emergencies as he does not get overtime. The Board agreed that the matter should be brought before the Personnel Committee.

Further 2007 Budget items were discussed. On motion of Gene Cronk, second by Allen Hinkley, the Board agreed to decrease the General Fund A3120.2 Constable to \$22,500. Unanimous.

On motion of David Thorington, second by Edward Raeder, the Board approved the 2007 Preliminary Budget with amendments. Unanimous.

Discussion took place on NYS DOT issues in Grand Gorge. It was stated that a 4 –way flashing red light in the intersection of State Hwy. 30 and 23 is being considered by DOT.

Councilman Hinkley requested the status of school crossing lights on State Hwy. 30. It was stated that NYS DOT is working on the issue.

On motion of Gene Cronk, second by David Thorington, the bills were audited and ordered paid in the following amounts:

General #406-466	\$43,485.85	Roxbury Sewer #65-69	\$ 5,577.87
Highway #232-258	\$42,949.57	Special Lights #9-10	\$ 4,692.00
Roxbury Water #81-87	\$ 2,023.60	Capital Projects #224-236	
GG Water #81-87	\$ 2,674.98	Highway Garage	\$ 2,009.05
Denver Water #70-81	\$ 2,854.24	Main St. Project	\$ 1,465.00
Denver Sewer #91-103	\$12,470.75	Kirk Park – Construct.	\$12,000.00
Kirk Park – NonConst.	\$ 2,197.75		

Unanimous.

Ralph Burkhardt of Bearkill Rd. questioned the status of road maintenance. It was stated that the Town Attorney is working with the owner to maintain the bottom portion of the road. Any future correspondence on the matter will also be copied to Mr. Burkhart.

On motion of Edward Raeder, second by Gene Cronk, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

THIS IS A TRUE COPY

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Diane Pickett, Town Clerk

Thomas S. Hynes, Supervisor  
Gene Cronk, Councilman  
Edward Raeder, Councilman  
Allen Hinkley, Councilman  
David Thorington, Councilman