

TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
September 27, 2018

The Town Council met for a budget workshop at the Town Hall building, 12 Mitchell Street, Canajoharie, New York.

Present: Supervisor Peter Vroman, Councilpersons: John Peruzzi, John Toomey, Jr., Councilman Rodney Young, Councilman William Armitstead; Highway Superintendent Timothy Jones; Town Assessor Charlene Ruszkowski; Town Bookkeeper Amy Kretser

The meeting was opened by the Supervisor at 7:30pm, and the evening's agenda was presented

On a **motion** by Supervisor Vroman, **seconded** by Councilman Peruzzi, the **agenda** was **unanimously approved**

Bookkeeper- Proposed tentative budget is below 2% tax cap; Currently a \$7,200.00 cushion before tax cap is reached

Supervisor- Recommends the following raises be included in 2019 budget:

-Town Justice	\$500.00
-Code Enforcement Officer	\$500.00
-Bookkeeper	\$500.00
-Dog Control Officer	\$500.00
-Cleaning/Maintenance	\$11.10 per hour per NYS

Supervisor Vroman explains that the Town Assessor initially requested a \$2,000.00 raise and part-time help for approximately 4 hours per week, he then received a request from the Assessor for a \$1,000.00 raise with part-time helper; Supervisor suggests helper is a temporary position, application needs to be completed, etc.

-Supervisor also explains that the Highway Superintendent has requested a \$2,000.00, however, the tentative budget reflects \$500.00 raise

7:40pm- Town Assessor arrives; Explains that by law, she is required to have 4 hours a week public office hours, however, she is in office frequently after hours; Request permission from the Board to hire a clerk to come in intermittently to assist with filing help; Surrounding assessors are making more money with less parcels and they also have helpers; Estimates that during the Town-wide re-evaluation project, she earned only .42/hour as it was very time consuming; Filing clerk will only be in office w/Assessor present for approximately 2-4/week

Motion for Town Assessor to hire temporary clerical help starting in January and to grant a \$1,000.00 raise; No seconds; Supervisor withdraws motion; Motion dead

Board further discusses the Town Assessor's request for salary increase and part-time helper

Motion for \$500.00 pay raise for the Town Assessor in addition to temporary clerical help [clerical help salary total \$2,209.00] to start in January by Supervisor Vroman, **seconded** by Councilman Toomey, **all in favor, ayes, carried**

Motion to accept the previously mentioned pay raises for the Town Justice, Bookkeeper, Code Enforcement Officer, Dog Control Officer, and cleaning/maintenance positions by Supervisor Vroman, **seconded** by Councilman Young, **all in favor, ayes, carried**

Superintendent Jones- Requests a \$2,000.00 raise as he works unlimited hours with no overtime

-Board discusses issue with Superintendent

-Councilman Armitstead mentions if \$1,000.00 raise allowed, that is a 2.6% increase

Motion for \$1,000.00 raise for Highway Superintendent Jones by Supervisor Vroman, **seconded** by Councilman Toomey, **all in favor ayes, carried**

Superintendent Jones- discusses with the Board regarding the bids for the auction that ends tomorrow, need counterbids on what the Town will accept for the items [trucks]

Board discusses with Superintendent Jones the pro/cons of used grader vs. new grader and costs; Used grader has no brakes, would be approximately \$50K to fix; Decision regarding to add new grader to 2019 budget tabled

Second budget workshop scheduled for October 11, 2018 during regular board meeting

Board discusses commercial solar fee issue; no decisions made

Board discusses possible proposed road preservation local law issue; no decisions made

Motion to adjourn by Supervisor Vroman, **seconded** by Councilman Toomey, **all in favor ayes, carried**

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie M. Vroman, Town Clerk