

November 4th, 2013
Special Meeting
Petersburgh Town Board

A special meeting of the Petersburgh Town Board was held on November 4th, 2013 at 7:00 PM at the Petersburgh Town Hall, 65 Main Street, Petersburgh, New York.

Present: Supervisor Siegfried Krahforst, Councilman Richard Snyder, Councilman Duane Goodermote, Councilman William Seel, Board of Ethics Chairperson Deidra Michaels, BOE Member Terry Clyde, BOE Member Craig Levesque, Highway Superintendent Raymond Harrison, Library Director Sharon Hodges, Judge Amy Manchester, Deputy Town Clerk Brigitta Schmidt, Bookkeeper Charles Guntner, Planning Board Chairman David Miller, PB Member Timothy Church

Guests: Marylou Walters, Walter Walters, Marion Manchester, Lucy LaRusso, Emily Harrison, Denise Church, Anne Schnoop, Dan Schnoop, Mason Hubbard, Mary Welch, Jane Wesley, Rolland Hewitt, Eva Jones, Harold Jones, Marcia Trask, Amy Shawver, Helen Cook, Gordon Batchellar, Scott DiGeorgio, Anna DiGeorgio, Joseph Dunlop, Cody Seel, Michael Holms, Terry Neaton, Jack Barnhill, John Taylor, Mrs. Taylor, Genevieve Thaler, Sherry Kluck, Gene Kluck, Steve Bowman

Press: Ales Brooks, The Eastwick Press

Call to order: 7:00 PM

2014 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

- The 2014 Preliminary Budget as currently presented included a budget increase of approximately 6%. The Board proceeded to review the new figures proposed.

GENERAL FUND

- Proposed Preliminary Budget: revised accounts included the following:

FUND	CODE	2013 AMOUNT	PRELIM. AMOUNT	RESULT
JUSTICES	A1110.1 (Judges)	9,700	9,700	9,700
	A1110.1 (Clerk)	7,500	7,500	7,500
	A1110.1 (Deputy)	1,500	1,000	500
	A1110.1 (Constable)	0	0	0
	A1110.4	4,000	3,600	4,000
SUPERVISOR	A1220.1	10,000	9,000	9,00
	A1220.2	0	0	0
	A1220.4 (CE)	5,000	1,800	2,000
	A1220.4 (Secretary)	0	1,000	1,500

GENERAL FUND, Continued

- Proposed Preliminary Budget: revised accounts included the following:

FUND	CODE	2013 AMOUNT	PRELIM. AMOUNT	RESULT
ASSESSOR	A1355.1	15,200	15,200	15,200
	A1355.1 (Clerk)	4,300	4,300	4,300
	A1355.2	1,500	900	900
	A1355.4	8,000	4,050	4,050
TOWN CLERK	A1410.1	12,130	12,130	12,130
	A1410.1 (Deputies)	3,000	1,000	1,500
	A1410.2	1,460	1,310	1,460
	A1410.4	2,000	1,800	2,000
ATTORNEY	A1420.4	7,000	4,000	4,000
PERSONNEL	A1430.1 (Secretary)	8,710	8,710	8,710
	A1430.1 (Bookkeeper)	7,800	7,800	7,800
	A1430.2	0	0	0
	A1430.4	1,500	1,350	1,500
BUILDINGS	A1620.2	15,000	4,500	4,500
	A1620.4	39,000	34,920	34,920
SPECIAL ITEMS	A1910.1	23,000	21,000	21,000
	A1920.4	600	700	700
	A1990.4	15,000	13,500	13,500
DOG CONTROL	A3510.1	3,000	3,000	3,000
	A3510.4	2,000	1,800	1,800
SAFETY INSP.	A3620.1	9,600	7,500	7,500
	A3620.2	0	0	0
	A3620.4	1,250	1,125	1,125
HIGHWAY SUPT.	A5010.1	950	950	950
	A5010.2	480	0	0
	A5010.4	200	720	720
GARAGE	A5132.4	13,000	11,700	11,700
VET. SERVICE	A6510.4	500	450	450
SENIORS PROGRAM	A6772.4	4,230	2,500	2,500
YOUTH PROGRAM	A7310.1	5,665	1,500	1,500
	A7310.4	2,000	1,500	1,500
PLANNING BOARD	A8020.4	7,000	2,700	2,000
REFUSE/ GARBAGE	A8160.4	72,000	68,400	68,400
CEMETERIES	A8810.2	0	0	0
	A8810.4 (rural)	5,000	3,500	3,500
	A8810.4 (PVM)	1,200	1,200	1,200
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	A9010.8 (State Ret.)	18,434	17,600	17,600
	A9030.8 (Social Sec.)	11,133	10,744	10,744
	A9040.8 (Workers' Comp.)	3,000	3,000	3,000
	A9055.8 (Disability)	150	150	150
	A9060.8 (Medical)	11,000	13,435	13,435
	A9050.8 (Unemployment)	1,500	700	700

- General Fund Discussion: The Board had removed funds from many contractual funds, provoking discussions pertaining to various departments. Numerous funds continually are over budget due to their being insufficient amounts to begin with, yet still cuts were made to keep the tax increase within a reasonable percentage. The audience present consisted of members in support of various programs such as the Seniors, Youth, and Library; funds for services offered were discussed in comparison to the amounts currently allotted for governmental operations. Also discussed was the importance of ensuring security for Court proceedings; however, it was decided that creating the position of a Constable would not be agreeable in light of the Town's financial situation this year. Overall, the Board was considerate of the public's input in regard to reducing funds.

HIGHWAY FUND

- Proposed Preliminary Budget: revised accounts included the following:

FUND	CODE	2013 AMOUNT	PRELIM. AMOUNT	RESULT
GENERAL REPAIRS	DA5110.1	50,454		
	DA5110.4	30,000	30,000	30,000
BRIDGES	DA5120.4	20,000	19,000	19,000
MACHINERY	DA5130.2	30,917	30,917	30,917
	DA5130.4	56,000	55,000	55,000
SNOW REMOVAL	DA5142.1	56,000	55,800	50,992
	DA5142.4	35,000	34,000	34,000
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	DA9010.8 (State Ret.)	18,600	18,600	18,600
	DA9030.8 (Social Sec.)	8,144	8,128	8,128
	DA9040.8 (Work. Comp.)	10,000	10,500	10,500
	DA9050.8 (Unem. Ins.)	0	0	0
	DA9055.8 (Disability)	100	100	100
	DA9060.8 (Medical)	29,500	34,950	34,950

- Highway Fund Discussion: overspending of funds was discussed at length, being in part a result of low budget amounts and unexpected expenditures. Storm damage costs were a large factor this year, as well as the substantial amounts spent to repair outdated equipment due to inability to finance replacements. Residents and Town Officials alike expressed concerns that the continuing Highway budget limitations will only further prohibit the necessary improvements that are long overdue.

LIBRARY FUND

- Proposed Preliminary Budget: revised accounts included the following:

FUND	CODE	2013 AMOUNT	PRELIM. AMOUNT	RESULT
OPERATIONS	L7410.1	37,281	37,281	37,281
	L7410.2	400	360	400
	L7410.4	14,450	13,000	14,450

- Library Fund Discussion: Supervisor Krahforst proposed a 10% reduction overall of the Library budgets, which was adamantly opposed from the public present. Krahforst reasoned that this was an extra service offered that totaled an excessive \$58,000; in comparison to the reductions within governmental operations and other programs, this only seemed a fair suggestion. It was further mentioned that the Library has an adequate staff, support, and resources that are largely unavailable to the Town departments. Supervisor Krahforst expressed discouragement of this indifference, but ultimately left the decision to the public's interest. Library Director Sharon Hodges argued that the Library staff had worked hard to reach this point and numerous fundraising efforts had contributed to this goal; the public present also voiced their opinions in favor of the Library. The Board agreed to keep the funding amounts the same as the previous year. The public thanked the Board for their cooperation and extra efforts made to reduce the tax increase.
- Proposed Veteran's Exemption Local Law: new percentage amounts need to be adopted for Veterans to become applicable for property exemptions. The proposed law will include both alternative exemption and Cold War Veteran exemptions, and a public hearing will be scheduled for its adoption.

With no further business, on motion of Councilman Seel, seconded by Councilman Goodermote, the Special Meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Callie Crisp, Town Clerk