

TB Budget Workshop, Thursday, October 5, 2023  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING  
Colden Town Hall – 6:00 pm

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:04pm

PRESENT

Councilman Dennis Robinson  
Councilman Jesse Hrycik - excused  
Councilman Patricia Zurbrick  
Councilman Gerald Pietraszek  
Supervisor James DePasquale

ALSO PRESENT

Town Accountant Mark Adamchick  
Highway Superintendent Lee Wohlhueter  
Budget Officer Tammy Nuttle  
Deputy Town Clerk Deborah Jusiak

Supervisor DePasquale asked the Town Board if they had any ideas to submit for the Community Development Block Grant. Initially, they discussed getting generators for the Town's Buildings and redoing the sidewalks. The Board discussed securing separate grant funding for the Town's sidewalks and generators for the Town Hall and Highway Garage. They decided on the following project:

- 1) Senior Center generator, front stoop, doors, and handicap ramp

The Town Board will gather quotes for the proposed project and act on this at the Public Hearing scheduled for October 12, 2023, at 7:00 pm.

Supervisor DePasquale began the 2024 Budget Workshop by stating that due to inflation a 5% salary increase was put in for employees and elected positions. This was discussed by the Board, and they decided to leave the increase in place. Supervisor DePasquale also stated that due to his current retirement contract he is unable to make more than \$35,000/year as an elected official. He would like his posted salary to reflect a 5% increase totaling \$35,435, while his actual salary would be raised by only 3% making it \$34,760. His budget salary line will show a surplus at the end of the year. The Town Board went through the Proposed 2024 Town Budget and made some additional changes to some of the budget lines.

In the Water Fund, the Skilled Labor line was eliminated. The District Clerk hours were increased to 484 and the rate of compensation was increased to \$19.95/hour. The amount of the Appropriated Fund Balance was increased to \$10,300 and the annual Tax Rate per Unit was changed to \$490.28 Supervisor DePasquale noted that the equipment line was reduced by

\$60,000. Those funds are Cares Act Funds that are going to be held and tracked in a separate Cares Act account.

The Board discussed an increase in the Parks equipment line for new play area equipment.

Supervisor DePasquale stated that NYS is giving money to towns to offset last year's storms. He suggested putting the \$4,000 check into Highway's 2023 Fund Balance. The Board and Highway Superintendent discussed that there is large backorder for highway trucks which results in their being built in the following calendar year causing surcharges being added to current truck contracts. Supervisor DePasquale will contact Town Attorney Ron Bennett to see if anything can be done about this practice without losing our contracts.

The Town's current garbage contract with Waste Management will end in 2024 and will need to be renegotiated. Changes to the Personnel Policy are slated for next year also.

Town Accountant Mark Adamchick will make the adjustments to and provide an updated copy of the 2024 Town Preliminary Budget.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:03PM

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Jusiak  
Deputy Town Clerk

