

TOWN OF OAKFIELD
PRELIMINARY BUDGET MEETING

OCTOBER 21, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Dodd at 7pm.

PRESENT: Supervisor Dodd, Councilmen Veazey, Day, Cianfrini, Highway Superintendent Dennis, Assessor Flansburg, Deputy Clerk Denny, Tom Baldwin from Baldwin Business Service, Town Clerk Haacke

A brief discussion regarding the preliminary budget took place prior to going into details on specific line items.

Mr. Baldwin touched on the fact the General Fund line items have increased.

A brief discussion regarding line item A4540.4 Ambulance Contractual took place. The Preliminary Budget allowed for 10,000.00 in that line item. A letter from the City of Batavia states that our share for 2009 would be half that, resulting in this line item being changed to \$5,000.00.

Moving to line item A7140.4 Playground Contractual, the Preliminary Budget shows \$7,000.00 for that this, with \$5,000.00 being ear marked for the new facility project and \$2,000.00 for replacement of current equipment and upkeep. To save on bonding any portion of the project at this time, the remaining \$5,000.00 from the Ambulance Contractual (A4540.4) will move to A7140.4, along with the donations for the Park Expansion Project the Town will be able to move forward.

Sales Tax is built into the budget to keep taxes down where allowable. Mr. Baldwin is cautious, wants to make sure that the sales tax will sustain itself and not fall short.

Worker's Compensation has increased by \$3,000.00, an uncontrolled line item. This will be pulled out to a separate page, and listed separately on tax bills. Line item A9040.8

Line Item A2130 Refuse (a revenue account) increased from \$36,000.00 to \$41,000.00.

Line Item A3040 Real Property Tax Administration revenue will increase to \$6,000.00. The CAPing of assessment drives this line.

Line item A1355.1a Assessors Clerk Service has a Preliminary increase of \$2,000.00.

Water and Sewer will again be covered by Sales Tax Revenues.

At this time, on a **motion** by Councilman Cianfrini, seconded by Councilman Veazey the Board went into Executive Session. This took place at 6:10 pm.

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At 6:19 pm, on a **motion** by Councilman Veazey, seconded by Councilman Cianfrini and carried by unanimous vote to come out of Executive Session.

At 6:30 the Library Board was in attendance. Members of the Library Board were Anne Engel, Michele Graham, Don Yunker, and Jennifer Magee.

Mrs. Engel made a short presentation on the Nioga Library System and its automated system. Mrs. Engel asked the Town Board for their support in this effort and the advantages to being linked to a modern system. There is much more available on the Nioga System but it is costly to get started.

Michele Graham stated that there is a per year maintenance fee, which is not reflected in the 2009 Library Budget. The money to start the system this year is coming from a grant from Mary Lou Rath in the amount of \$10,000.00 which has already been funded and \$3,000.00 from Nioga itself. Nioga is strongly encouraging all Libraries to join, Haxton Memorial Library and the women's correctional facility at Albion are the only two libraries in this area not part of the program.

All three Library Board Member's in attendance stated that it is their goal to become a school district library, but this is a major piece of the puzzle that Board of Regents need to consider.

The requested Library budget was for a 6% increase, in the Town's tentative budget, a 3% increase has been proposed.

Mrs. Engel stated that the Library is not lying idle and they are going to other funding sources asking for help. But as we all know, times are tough.

Councilman Cianfrini asked if anyone of them has spoken with Assemblyman Steve Hawley, Mrs. Engel stated that she has emailed him.

The Library Board stated they do the best they can with what budget they have, and are grateful for the funding. This Nioga system could also generate more revenue by increased fines.

Mayor Pastecki is very interested in moving Haxton Library to a School District Library, but it is time consuming.

Mrs. Engel petitioned the Board for anything more they could do, without the increase of 6% from the Town on the 2009 budget, this will have to be tabled for another year, because the Library Board does not want to go through the implementation without knowing that they can pay maintenance fees in the future.

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Supervisor Dodd told the Library he would take this information under consideration.

At this time a Special Meeting was scheduled for Friday, October 24, 2008 at 12 o'clock in the afternoon to discuss general line items and personnel. This meeting is to be held at the Town Office, 3219 Drake Street.

With no further Budget information presented to the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:54pm on a **motion** by Councilman Day, seconded by Councilman Veazey and carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Haacke

Town Clerk