

Notes of the Public Hearing on the 2009 Fiscal, Water & Sewer Budgets held on October 27, 2008 at 6:00 P.M. PRESENT were: Councilpersons Folts, Hopkins, Simmons and Stewart, Supervisor Jones, Town Highway Superintendent Payne, Town Clerk McMichael, Bookkeeper McKay, KPSW Clerk Wheeler.

Others present: Don Mead, Gary & Jan Molyneaux, Leo & Delores Lang, Seth Sykes, Mark Serrett, Max Parson, William Pringle, Howard DeMay, Larry & Kathy Muscarella, Bob Evans, Dennis Karalow, Melanie Steenberg.

RESOLUTION #153-08

RECONVENE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2009 WATER & SEWER BUDGETS

On a motion of Councilperson Hopkins, seconded by Councilperson Folts, the following was

ADOPTED	Ayes	5	Folts, Hopkins, Jones, Simmons, Stewart
	Nays	0	

Resolved that the October 22, 2008 Public Hearing on the 2009 Water & Sewer Budgets be reconvened.

There was considerable discussion on the contract relationship with the Village of Penn Yan for water and sewer services related to the ever increasing costs and the inability of the Town of Jerusalem to have any say over these costs.

The rate for Sewer #2 customers will increase at this time based on a recommendation by our financial consultant. The Town Board chose to implement the increase on an incremental basis. A sewer rate study will be done this year. Past Town Supervisor Howard DeMay explained the Sewer #2 system design.

RESOLUTION #154-08

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2009 WATER & SEWER BUDGETS

On a motion of Councilperson Hopkins, seconded by Councilperson Stewart, the following was

ADOPTED	Ayes	5	Folts, Hopkins, Jones, Simmons, Stewart
	Nays	0	

Resolved that the public hearing on the 2009 Water and Sewer Budgets be closed at 7:10 P.M.

RESOLUTION #155-08

RECONVENE PUBLIC HEARING - 2009 FISCAL BUDGET

On a motion of Councilperson Hopkins, seconded by Councilperson Simmons, the following was

ADOPTED	Ayes	5	Folts, Hopkins, Jones, Simmons, Stewart
	Nays	0	

Resolved that the public hearing on the 2009 Fiscal Budget be reconvened at 7:11 P.M.

The preliminary 2009 budget increase in tax dollars over last year is 3.87%. Streamlining expenses in the general budget has been an ongoing process for a few years. The budget to budget change is less than 1% (.92%) for 2009.

The increase in 1430.1 Personnel reflects a full year's salary for the Code Enforcement Officer's clerk hired in August 2008. The 2008 budget included \$5,000 for this position in 3620.1 Inspections, but the duties of that position were changed and therefore the monies were moved to the 1430.1 Personnel line in the 2009 budget. 6510.4 Veterans Services is to purchase flags the American Legion places at the cemetery.

A major purchase has been allocated in the 5130.2 Highway DA Machinery fund for a loader. This \$135,000 purchase will be offset by utilizing \$65,000 from the Machine Reserve. The Highway Department cut two roads from the road work scheduled for 2009. The Highway Department has realized savings by narrowing the width of road surfaces, reducing the amount of dust oil on dirt roads and installing a wood furnace at the Highway Barn. The cost of salt is expected to increase in 2009. Highway Superintendent Payne explained DB5112.4 Improvement Capital Outlay (CHIPS) for rebuilding roads which is funded by the State. The reduction in DB5142.1 Snow Removal salaries is due to 2008 being a leap year, in which there were 27 bi-weekly pay periods instead of 26.

Max Parson stated his employer has changed their health care plan, although this is not a great plan for the employees, the company realized a substantial savings. The Town has already taken that avenue to reduce costs in previous budgets. The Town pays the small business premium rate. Allowing the Town to join the Yates County consortium to receive a group rate on our health care premium has been discussed with County Legislators, but the Town has to have 50 or more employees to be part of the consortium. Councilperson Simmons distributed brochures to join Farm Bureau for an annual membership fee of \$65 as an avenue for health care insurance, noting Farm Bureau also has other benefits such as a lobbying contingent.

The contingency account code was explained as a percentage of the total appropriated monies within a fund to be used in case an appropriation is over expended. A contingent account code can be utilized in all funds, with the exception of the highway funds. The contingent account this year for the General A funds is 5%. The budgeted contingent account for both the Water and Sewer Funds this year is at 2%, due to these departments carefully watching their

spending and budget performance. The amount of money that can be held in a contingent account is limited to 10% by the State.

RESOLUTION #156-08

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING - 2009 FISCAL BUDGET

On a motion of Councilperson Hopkins, seconded by Councilperson Simmons, the following was

ADOPTED	Ayes	5	Folts, Hopkins, Jones, Simmons, Stewart
	Nays	0	

Resolved that the public hearing on the 2009 Fiscal budget be closed at 7:40 P.M.

Councilperson Stewart stated our auditor commented upon completion of the 2007 audit, this is by far the best shape financially he has seen the Town since their firm began conducting the audit, which has been approximately 10 years.

The staff was thanked for all the work done on the budget. Councilperson Simmons stated all employees will be receiving a letter from the Town Board informing them of their 3% salary increase during these times and thanking them for all they do for the Town. He added the Town Board and Supervisor will not be taking a raise this year.

The 2009 Budget will be posted on the Town's website, www.jerusalem-ny.org.

RESOLUTION #157-08

ADOPT - 2009 FISCAL, WATER AND SEWER BUDGETS

On a motion of Councilperson Stewart, seconded by Councilperson Folts, the following was

ADOPTED	Ayes	5	Folts, Hopkins, Jones, Simmons, Stewart
	Nays	0	

Resolved that the 2009 Fiscal, Water and Sewer Budgets be adopted as presented.

With there being no further business, on a motion of Councilperson Hopkins, seconded by Supervisor Jones, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

Sheila McMichael, Town Clerk