

PUBLIC HEARING - NOVEMBER 4, 2004

On Thursday, November 4, 2004, the Town of Salem held a Public Hearing on the proposed 2004 Budget of the Town of Salem. Chairman Walsh called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Present for the meeting were: Town Chairman, Tom Walsh; Supervisors, Diann Tesar; Joseph Meier; Patrick O'Connell and Dennis Faber. Also present were: Town Clerk, Toni Seitz; Deputy Clerk, Linda Terry; Town Treasurer, Chris Lamb; Utility District Administrator, Brad Zautcke; and Director of Public Works, George Vujovic.

At this time, Chairman Walsh read the proposed 2005 Town Budget as follows:

REVENUES:

Total Taxes	\$2,225,443.00
Total Special Assessments	\$ 1,036.00
Total Intergovernmental	\$ 384,708.00
Total Licenses and Permits	\$ 231,940.00
Total Fines, Forfeitures, And Penalties	\$ 6,500.00
Total Public Charges For Services	\$ 598,450.00
Total Miscellaneous	\$ 28,500.00
TOTAL REVENUES	\$3,476,577.00

EXPENSES:

Total General Government	\$ 952,431.00
Total Public Safety	\$ 264,149.00
Total Public Works	\$1,720,700.00
Total Health and Human Services	\$ 7,000.00
Total Culture, Recreation & Educ.	\$ 350,329.00
Total Conservation And Development	\$ 29,750.00
Total Capital Outlay	\$ 10,000.00
Total Debt Service	\$ 132,218.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,476,577.00

STREET LIGHTING:

Total Revenues	\$ 24,380.00
Total Expenses	\$ 24,380.00

PARK FUND:

Total Revenues	\$ 168,730.00
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Total Expenses	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total Revenues over expenditures	\$ 168,730.00

MAINTENANCE FUND:

Total Revenues	\$ 39,349.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total Revenues over expenditures	\$ 39,349.00

FIRE & RESCUE:

Total Revenues	\$1,034,707.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$1,199,614.00</u>
Total Revenues (under) expenditures	(\$ 164,907.00)

At this time, Mr. Brad Zautcke read the Utility District Budget as follows:

Total Operating Revenues	\$2,348,790.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$2,341,853.00</u>
Total Revenues Less Expenses	\$ 6,937.00

Mr. Jeff Fisher asked what happens to the money that is in the replacement fund that is not used?

Mr. Zautcke stated that the unused money stays in the replacement fund in the budget and collects interest.

Chairman Walsh stated that the Town started this year with a fund overage of over \$600,000.00. The Town will also carry over a fund balance this year. He has a big issue with this. The Town has a surplus of money. Last year the Town re-entered \$250,000.00 into the Budget by doing away with the Trail Fund. He would like to see a portion of the fund balance to offset some of the levy this year as well. However, not the entire balance, but approximately \$250,000.00 - \$300,000.00.

Mr. Chris Starzec asked what happens to all of the peoples' tax dollars?

Mr. Rowland explained that only approximately 15% of the tax money goes to the Town of Salem. The rest is dispersed to the State; the County; and the Schools.

Gail Dziki stated that the school uses their fund balance for certain purposes - what does the Town's fund balance due?

It was stated that it is merely collecting interest.

Gail Dziki asked Chairman Walsh if it were true that he did not show up for the Budget Workshop; and why?

Chairman Walsh stated that he was out of Town.

Supervisor O'Connell stated that he was also absent from the Budget Workshop; however, he did call to give his feelings on the proposed budget.

Ms. Dziki asked if the fund balance has anything to do with how the Town is rated for borrowing money?

Ms. Lamb stated that the Town has never been rated.

Supervisor Faber stated that, for the purpose of borrowing, the Town is rated on valuation.

Ms. Crysti Neuman stated that last year there was an increase of 24% in assessments. This year there is no re-valuation being done to the Town; however, next year there will be.

Bill Carey would like to see enough of the fund balance used to drop the tax increase to only 5%.

A woman from Trevor asked who, in the Town, decides which developers are allowed to build in the Town?

Chairman Walsh stated that, at the present time, the Town cannot limit the building in the Town to just a few chosen developers/builders. However, the Town is working on neighborhood plans that would try to maintain the growth.

A member of the audience asked why the mill rate went up?

Crysti Neuman stated that last year, the Town's assessment was at 103%; the Town is now at 93% of fair market value.

Ed Herreid stated that last year, the people were led to believe that the Town was running short of money, and then, money was taken out of the trails account; why not put the money back into the trails account now?

Mr. Jack Rowland said that he is all for lowering taxes; however, he would like to see the Town get a corporate park.

Supervisor O'Connell would like to see the mill rate lowered with the extra money.

Jeff Fisher would like to see developers put in bike trails.

Chief Mike Slover stated that at the present time, the Town is working on an ordinance for fire/rescue impact fees.

A gentleman in the audience questioned the newspaper article regarding the wages for the Emergency Services Chief?

It was stated that the paper incorrectly printed the article. The dollar amount in the budget for the emergency services salaries, included the wages for a full-time office assistant to the Chief.

At 8:00 PM, the Public Hearing was closed.

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING, the Public Hearing, a Special Town Meeting of the Electors called pursuant to Section 60.12 of Wi.

State Statutes for the following purposes: (please note - there were approximately 35 electors present)

1. TO APPROVE THE TOTAL 2005 HIGHWAY EXPENDITURES PURSUANT TO SECTION 81.01(3) OF WISCONSIN STATUTES:
MOTION TO APPROVE THE TOTAL 2005 HIGHWAY EXPENDITURES, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,147,000.00, MADE ON A JEFF FISHER/JACK ROWLAND MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. TO ADOPT THE 2004 TOWN TAX LEVY TO BE PAID IN 2005 PURSUANT TO SECTION 60.10(1)(a) OF WISCONSIN STATUTES.
MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2004 TOWN TAX LEVY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,308,904.00 (THE FIGURE AFTER \$250,000.00 IS TRANSFERRED FROM THE FUND BALANCE TO OFFSET THE LEVY), WHICH WILL LEAVE A MILL RATE OF \$2.66404 PER THOUSAND, MADE ON A BILL CAREY/JAMES COPPELMAN MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

At this time, Clerk Seitz stated that when the budget was being worked on, the amount in the budget for elected officials salaries included a 3% increase. However, due to the fact that the agenda for the meeting did not include a separate line item for approval of those salaries, that 3% needs to be deducted from the budget.

AT 8:15 PM, THE SPECIAL ELECTORS MEETING WAS ADJOURNED ON A GAIL DZIKI/CRYSTI NEUMAN MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING, the Special Electors Meeting, the Town Board held a Special Town Board Meeting pursuant to Section 60.10 (1)(a) of the WI State Statutes for the following purposes:

1. ADOPT RESOLUTION #04-11-04:
ADOPT RESOLUTION #04-11-04, MADE ON A MEIER/FABER MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

2. APPROVE THE TOWN BUDGET FOR 2005:
APPROVE TOWN BUDGET FOR 2005, WITH ADJUSTMENTS PER SPECIAL ELECTOR'S MEETING, MADE ON AN O'CONNELL/MEIER MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

3. APPROVE THE 2005 BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF SALEM UTILITY DISTRICT:
APPROVE 2005 BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF SALEM UTILITY DISTRICT, MADE ON A TESAR/O'CONNELL MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

4. APPROVE THE 2005 BUDGET FOR THE COMMUNITY LIBRARY:
Supervisor Tesar questioned the Budget for the Library.
Ms. Gail Dziki stated that each community has a few committee members on the Library Committee. They are the people that should be asked any questions.

APPROVE THE 2005 BUDGET FOR THE COMMUNITY LIBRARY, MADE ON A MEIER/O'CONNELL MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 4-1, with Chairman Walsh stated that he was opposed to it.

AT 8:35 PM, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED ON AN O'CONNELL/FABER MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

Minutes submitted
by: _____ Town Clerk.

Minutes prepared
by: _____ Deputy Clerk.