

**TOWN OF SALEM
BUDGET WORKSHOP OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MONDAY, November 2, 2009 AT 6:00 P.M.**

Chairman Linda Valentine opened this Budget Workshop at 6:00 p.m. with the following present: Joe Meier, Dennis Faber, Pat O'Connell, Patrick Casey, Cindi Ernest, Jack Rowland, Mike Slover, Mike Murdock, and Chris Lamb, Supervisor Josephine Weidman was absent.

Guests: Philio Dziki, Bill Carey, Mary Ann Messier, John Ciesla, Jackie Ciesla, John Roberts, Carol Husnick, Ed Herried, John Roberts, Gail Dziki, and Deneen Smith.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Valentine.

OPEN MEETING COMPLIANCE CHECK

The agenda was posted by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, October 30, 2009 at the Town Hall Municipal Building, Salem Post Office, Camp Lake Post Office, Wilmot Post Office, and the Trevor Post Office. It was also posted on the Town's website.

The purpose of this budget workshop was to further look at the budget and discuss the needs of each department.

Resident Philip Dziki questioned the items for consideration being on a workshop agenda to which Chairman Valentine responded that they are to be here or elsewhere.

Supervisor O'Connell responded that this is a Town Board budget workshop and not an open forum. These meetings are for the Town Board and are not a workshop for residents. The open forum for residents is at a Public Hearing or Annual Meeting not a Board workshop.

The Salem Fire and Rescue budget structure was discussed with Supervisor Faber pointing out that the problems we have had with the 79 ½ cents began with the 3% levy limit. It had an effect on the Town and took money away from other departments.

Resident Bill Carey said that he didn't disagree, but that this was done through a process many years ago and if you are going to do a change to the budget, keep in mind that there is a long standing practice and doing a budget document may not be adequate and maybe do it over a period of years.

Chairman Valentine called for a motion and said that this motion will be repeated at another meeting. Supervisor O'Connell questioned why this was being done now to which Chairman Valentine responded that Administrator Casey needs to know what to do.

Supervisor O'Connell said that the Board could just give him direction.

MOTION BY Supervisor Faber, second by Supervisor Valentine to do the Fire/Rescue budget the way that Mr. Casey has incorporated it into the budget.

Supervisor O'Connell – ABSTAIN

No response from Supervisor Meier.

MOTION NOT CARRIED

Chairman Valentine wants this added to the next meeting agenda.
Administrator Casey indicated that he has been in contact with the Department of Revenue and they would prefer that we not use a levy amount, but a dollar amount for the Fire/Rescue Department.

The Public Safety budget structure was discussed.

Administrator Casey added a part time person to handle calls in the afternoons. He questioned whether the Board wishes to contract with the Sheriff's department instead.

Supervisor Faber pointed out that the Sheriff's Department would be over \$80,000 a year whereas a part time person only \$25,000.

Supervisor O'Connell indicated that as much as he would like to see the sheriff in the Town he doesn't see that in this year, this is a tough budget anyway.

Administrator Casey said it would cost \$70,441 for the sheriff to provide thirty (30) hours of service a week. We'd have to come up with an additional \$50,000.

Supervisors Faber, O'Connell and Meier were in consensus that we look at this in the future.

Negotiations with Village of Paddock Lake with regard to Fire/EMS were discussed.

Administrator Casey stated that the contract says we have to give notice prior to July 1, 2010. He met with Paddock Lake Administrator John Burg and informed him of the Town's intent to begin negotiating prior to July 1, 2010.

Administrator Casey recommended not going below the level for Fund Balance we are at now and we must be very careful not to use any next year. We can make a reimbursement to the Fund Balance for the Hwy/Fire building, but we are unable to reimburse for the park property as this is a hard cost and not a soft cost.

Supervisor Weidman arrived at this meeting at 6:21 p.m.

Supervisor Faber questioned the reimbursement of the Storm Water to the General Fund to which Administrator Casey said that we will look at that closer to the end of this year.

Discussion of the Capital Projects Fund followed.

Chairman Valentine asked that the leasing of equipment for elections be put on the November 9th agenda.

Discussion then turned to employee salaries with Chairman Valentine stating that Supervisor Faber is adamantly opposed to any salary increase.

Administrator Casey said that a 3% increase for employees would amount to \$23,500. He said there are no raises or compensation in this budget. He made his recommendations in his previous memo to the board.

Supervisor O'Connell agreed with Casey's memo until the economy changes.

Administrator Casey pointed out that if we increase the amount of the debt service, we would be near the levy. In order to make 3%, we would have to raise the debt service levy to \$45,184.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY Supervisor Weidman, second by Supervisor Faber to adjourn this Budget Workshop.

UNANIMOUS VOTE – AYE

MOTION CARRIED

This Fiscal Year 2010 Budget Workshop was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindi Ernest, Clerk