

A budget workshop of the Town Board of the Town of Moreau was held on October 24, 2016 in the Town of Moreau Municipal Building, 351 Reynolds Road, Moreau, New York.

The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

**Town Board Member Present**

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Gina LeClair    | Councilwoman |
| Alan VanTassel  | Councilman   |
| Gardner Congdon | Supervisor   |

**Town Board Members Absent**

|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| Todd Kusnierz   | Councilman |
| Bob Prendergast | Councilman |

**Also present:** Leeann McCabe, Town Clerk; Francine Thibodeau, Principal Account Clerk; Donna Nichols, Moreau Community Center; Members of the Moreau Emergency Squad, Steve VanGuilder, Helen Glen, Ron Quinn, John Bonn and Village resident, Brigid Martin

Donna Nichols, Executive Director, from the Moreau Community Center was present and addressed the Town Board with her request for a 2% increase from the Town for their 2017 budget.

She explained that there will be challenges next year with the increase in minimum wages, which will cost them about \$25,000.00 as well as compliance with the Department of Labor law effective December 1, 2016 regarding exempt and non-exempt salary classifications. She stated that they've had to bump two employees to exempt level.

Ms. Nichols stated that 50% of their revenues are from Fee for Service, 32% are from the Town and 18% are from fundraising.

Ms. Nichols stated that the Community Center is looking at making their building more accessible by looking for grant money for an elevator. At the present time, there is no accessibility, for those with disabilities, to get in the basement or upstairs. The Supervisor asked how much the elevator would cost and Ms. Nichols replied that they would be getting prices next. She thought it would be around \$150,000.00.

The Supervisor asked to come down and meet with Ms. Nichols to look over the Community Centers missing money. Ms. Nichols told the Supervisor that the money wasn't missing, it was for the planning and drawings of the proposed new Center that didn't happen. She stated that they've worked very hard to get away from all the negativity. She asked the Supervisor to give a call and she will meet with him to go over all of her records.

The Supervisor stated that the County has taken steps to change their food vendor and asked how the food was. Ms. Nichols stated that it won't start until November 1, 2016 but anticipates that the food will be delivered faster and it will be hotter.

Being no further questions of Ms. Nichols, she left the workshop at 6:20 p.m.

The Town Clerk asked to speak to the Board regarding her budget. She stated that her budget hadn't been cut at all but she wanted to voice her displeasure that the Board hadn't completed a salary structure as was promised. Councilman VanTassel stated that they are still working on it. Their intent is to have the employees complete a questionnaire form for the Board to review and that a salary structure would still be done for next year's budget.

The Town Clerk also advised that a \$1,300.00 buyout is rather low compared to what the Town gives in benefits to those who need the insurance. She asked that this be looked at.

A budget workshop of the Town Board of the Town of Moreau was held on October 24, 2016 in the Town of Moreau Municipal Building, 351 Reynolds Road, Moreau, New York.

The Town Clerk noted that the elected official's salaries remained the same in the tentative budget. She stated that this would be the second year without a raise and stated that this was her full time job. Councilman VanTassel agreed that those elected officials, who work full-time should be entitled to a raise.

The Moreau Emergency Squad entered the workshop at 6:30 p.m. Steve VanGuilder was the spokesperson and gave an overview of their budget. He stated that back in 2010, there was \$30,000.00 removed from the budget and that the Board of Directors is asking to get it back. He stated that all of their bills are going up (heat, lights etc.) Workers Compensation and Self Insurance have gone down. He stated that they're working on an expansion project and they're trying to alleviate it from coming out of Town money. He stated that they're working with Lapa for grant writing. Mr. VanGuilder stated that there was some language in the contract that changed and stated that they may want the attorneys to look at this.

The Supervisor asked about the reporting to the Town every two weeks and asked how much this costs the Squad to produce these reports. Mr. VanGuilder stated that Andre completes the reports and he didn't know how much the actual cost was for this to be completed. He stated that he could find out. Francine Thibodeau stated that a CPA firm does their actual payroll, not just the reports. The Supervisor stated that the Town doesn't require this reporting from any of the other agencies and stated that was troublesome to him.

Councilman VanTassel asked some questions of their line items. Specifically about the mortgage payments. He asked if there was a mortgage last year and Mr. VanGuilder replied that it had been paid off and that the line item for 2017 was for the property they had purchased that they intend to expand on.

Councilman VanTassel asked why the insurance doubled and it was replied that due to the number of calls, they've taken out additional insurance. The Supervisor asked if they had any claims against them and Mr. VanGuilder replied that if they did, they were minor. He stated that they had only one self-insurance claim for workers compensation due to an injury.

Councilman VanTassel stated that the Supervisor is giving them what they asked for and a portion of the \$30,000 they had been asking for.

There was also discussion on the interest rate they were paying. The Supervisor asked if they had looked at other lending institutions for a better rate. Mr. VanGuilder stated that they've used Glens Falls National for 22 years. They just lowered their rate from 5.25% to 4.25%. The Supervisor stated that the Fire Co. had their rate cut in half by looking elsewhere. Mr. VanGuilder stated that they could look around for better rates.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leeann McCabe  
Town Clerk