

A special meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Moreau was held on November 15, 2012 in the Town of Moreau Office Building, 61 Hudson Street, South Glens Falls, New York, to continue the public hearing on the 2013 Town Budget.

Supervisor Jenkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Deputy Town Clerk called the roll.

Town Board Members Present

Robert J. Vittengl, Jr.	Councilman
Bob Prendergast	Councilman
Gina LeClair	Councilwoman
Todd Kusnierz	Councilman
Preston Jenkins	Supervisor

Town Board Members Absent

None

Also Present: Leeann McCabe, Deputy Town Clerk; Paul Joseph, Highway Superintendent; Fran Thibodeau, Principal Account Clerk and Mike Shaver, Town Resident

Supervisor Jenkins asked everyone to turn off or silence any electronic devices.

Supervisor Jenkins started this meeting by stating that he had missed the meeting last week and he understood that there were some issues with the water portion of the budget. He stated that he restructured with Fran the revenues back to two places and all the debt is back into Water District 6. As a result, what's happening to Water District 6's fund balance, they'll have to look at increasing water rates from \$3.50 to \$4.00 to get through next year. He also left in the budget raising Water District 3's rate to \$2.75 per thousand, which is about what it costs the Town for water. They've been paying \$2.18 per thousand, which he felt didn't seem fair to the people in all the other water districts. So raising it to \$2.75 will at least bring it up to what it costs to distribute the water and that's an average for all water districts. They won't do anything with this tonight but just wanted to make everyone aware that this is what we will be looking at.

Councilman Kusnierz asked if this was just for district 3. Supervisor Jenkins stated the rates would change in Water District 3 from \$2.18/thousand to \$2.75/thousand gallons and in Water District 6 the rates would change from \$3.50/thousand to \$4.00/thousand gallons. He'll put this on the agenda for the next meeting.

Councilman Kusnierz stated that Water District 2 has over a half a million dollars in fund balance as does Water District 4. He asked if they could look at the rates in those districts as well. Supervisor Jenkins stated that they could look at establishing a Capital Projects for these districts that have these funds. He stated that Water District 2 has a lot of problems with their meters. Councilman Kusnierz stated that the district has old pipe as well. Mike Shaver stated that the pipes are old asbestos pipes and need to be replaced. He stated that we have almost \$700,000.00 and this is something that should be done. He stated that we should get Tim Burley on board and start replacing the infrastructure. Supervisor Jenkins feels this is something that should be done but also feels that we should be looking into radio reads. He stated that if we're going to replace pipes, we should at the very least go through EFC to see if there's any help available. Mike Shaver stated that he didn't think we would get help, considering the fund balance in that district. Supervisor Jenkins stated that it would cost more than what is in the reserve. Mike Shaver stated that it would cost about \$50.00/foot to replace. Councilman Prendergast asked if it was the whole district that needed to be replaced. Mike Shaver stated that the Pine Valley and Rivers Edge area is all PVC pipe. He stated basically Tanglewood, Feeder Dam, Hilton, Elmwood, Oakwood are all asbestos. A good share of the district is asbestos pipe. Mike Shaver suggested working with the Highway Superintendent. We could put this all together and help him get some roads redone.

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Supervisor Jenkins stated that he didn't know what was discussed at last week's public hearing, but he knew there were a lot of questions on highway and suggested that they go there first.

Mike Shaver thanked everyone for their time.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that he thought from the first workshop they had, that everyone was comfortable with the equipment, except with a skid steer and a crack sealing machine that were eliminated. On the paving nothing was changed. He stated that we had a significant increase in sales tax this year. We're looking at approximately \$280,000.00 that we didn't budget for any place in this budget. He stated that they'll have to discuss Tuesday night, how they're going to deal with this. His personal thought was to put this into highway and not use the equipment reserve and carry the equipment reserve forward so that they're in a good position next year. The only other option for the money is to go to outside village, which would raise that fund balance to about \$2,250,000.00, which is way beyond what we need in that fund. It would make sense to him to put this in Highway and not use the equipment reserve.

Councilman Kusnierz asked how much of the sales tax he was talking about putting into the equipment reserve. Supervisor Jenkins stated that there was already \$200,000.00 in there. He's suggesting that they put the \$281,000.00 into the highway fund balance and we would add another \$50,000.00 to the highway equipment reserve. Councilman Kusnierz stated that right now it looks like we're proposing to utilize \$355,000.00 over the fund balance. Discussion followed regarding the calculation and Councilman Kusnierz asked if the net change from what we utilized from fund balance last year vs. this year, we're only increasing it from \$99,000.00 last year to \$150,000.00 this year? Supervisor Jenkins stated that if we use the extra revenues, then the answer is yes. Supervisor Jenkins said it was his recommendation to do all the roads requested. The Highway Superintendent doesn't need any additional labor and we have the money to pay for it. Councilwoman LeClair agreed. She stated that some of these roads have been put off for quite some time. Councilman Prendergast agreed as well.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that Councilman Kusnierz had brought up a question about the Fire Company and their request.

Paul Joseph had more questions about the highway budget and specifically asked about the paving of the highway garage. Somehow the figures were never figured into the budget. Councilman Kusnierz asked how much it would cost for the paving. Paul Joseph stated between \$58,000.00 and \$62,000.00 depending on the price of asphalt. Councilman Kusnierz asked how much money he had left in the construction budget and Paul replied about \$39,000.00. Supervisor Jenkins asked how much he had left in highway fund. He stated it was hard to tell. Fran stated that the balance for blacktop as of the end of October was \$94,000.000. Paul stated that with outstanding bills right now, there's about \$50,000.00 to \$60,000.00 left. Supervisor Jenkins asked when this would be done and Paul stated next year. Councilman Kusnierz stated that this should be part of the Capital Project. He doesn't have a problem with the balance of \$45,000.00 being used for this. He does have a problem with this coming out of the highway budget. Paul Joseph stated that he didn't think you could use the highway budget and that's why he's bringing this up. Supervisor Jenkins said it would be a general (A) fund item. Any site work would be general fund. Anything left in the Capital Projects can be used towards this and any remaining balance would have to come out of the general fund. Councilman Kusnierz felt that if he used the remaining \$45,000.00 it would set him up pretty well and he could do the rest with a future budget cycle.

Councilman Kusnierz stated that we're already ripping up concrete down there. Paul Joseph stated, not yet; no one has decided on this, so it hasn't been done. Councilman Kusnierz stated that he couldn't remember how they left it. Paul Joseph stated that it was left at: possibly looking at a new wall and the board was going to discuss it amongst themselves. Paul Joseph also stated that there wasn't anything done for janitorial work. Supervisor Jenkins stated that they can act on the concrete matter at the next town board meeting and decide if they want to cut it or do something else. It was the Supervisor's belief that they would construct a maintenance department that will take care of janitorial. Councilman Kusnierz asked if this would be Town employees and Supervisor Jenkins said most likely.

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Mike Shaver asked why we would raise rates in water district 3. Supervisor Jenkins stated that he didn't think that people getting water should be paying for their share of it. They're using two water tanks that are owned by other water districts. All they're paying for is their share of the cost of the water. They don't anticipate any of the cost of the system other than the water cost.

Councilwoman LeClair stated that they have to go back to salaries. She stated that they need to look at Ted's hourly rate, so they know how much to budget. Councilwoman LeClair stated that they didn't budget anything yet for highway garage janitorial. Councilman Kusnierz asked if didn't the employees do the cleaning down there. Paul Joseph stated that right now they do. If Ted were to do the cleaning, he would be there about two hours per week. Fran stated that Ted can't go over 1,000 hours per year or 19 hours per week. There is enough money budgeted for the work. Fran didn't think we needed to worry about this right now. They can look at it later if they need to bring in another person. She also stated that we'll be saving money in mileage, because he won't have to drive from the Town Hall to the Court.

Supervisor Jenkins asked if everyone had received a copy of a letter from Kathy Perez. She was talking about the wage changes from the year 2000 to 2012. There was a time period from 2002 to 2003 that at the time she didn't say anything but now feels that she was treated unfairly. In 2000 Kathy made \$18,279.00 and Barb made \$15,280.00 and in 2012 Kathy is making \$28,359.00 and Barb is making \$28,334.00. She asked that the board discuss this issue as she didn't feel these raises were fair. Councilman Prendergast remembered that the issues back then, were that the girls in the Town Clerk's office were way behind and that's why there was a difference in the raises back then. Supervisor Jenkins stated that as a Board the personnel committee should look at salaries for next year's budget. Councilwoman LeClair stated that they should also look at the handbook.

Mike Shaver asked if they could go back to the water. He asked again why they were raising the rates in water district 3. Supervisor Jenkins stated again that Water District 3 isn't paying for any of the infrastructures. Mike Shaver disagreed with the rate change. Supervisor Jenkins stated that they had spent several hours at meetings and workshops discussing the rates. He doesn't see, where if he doesn't raise the rates, how he would balance the budget.

Fran asked for a consensus from the board as to the excess sales tax revenues for 2012.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that the public hearing needed to be closed. Councilman Kusnierz stated that he would like to see a recognizable tax cut of about \$.05/thousand. He spoke with Fran last week and for that to happen you would have to reduce the amount raised from taxes by about \$65,000.00. Supervisor Jenkins asked Fran what would be needed to bring this rate down \$.05. Fran stated that they would have to use \$675,697.00 of fund balance and have a tax levy of \$777,070.00. Supervisor Jenkins stated that would bring the rate down to \$.59/thousand and he didn't have a problem with that. The rest of the board seemed to be in agreement.

A motion was made by Councilwoman LeClair and seconded by Councilman Prendergast to close the public hearing on the budget at 7:55 p.m.

Roll call resulted as follows:

Councilman Kusnierz	Yes
Councilman Vittengl	Yes
Councilman Prendergast	Yes
Councilwoman LeClair	Yes
Supervisor Jenkins	Yes

Supervisor Jenkins stated that he received an e-mail from Liz Rovers. She had received a quote of \$2,200.00 from Kubricky to replace a couple gas vents. She asked in the e-mail if she should get some

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more prices or should she just go ahead with Kubricky. It was the consensus of the board that she should get a few more prices and Supervisor Jenkins stated that he would let her know.

A motion was made by Councilman Prendergast and seconded by Councilwoman LeClair to adopt the 2013 Budget as agreed to.

Roll call resulted as follows:

Councilman Vittengl	Yes
Councilman Prendergast	Yes
Councilwoman LeClair	Yes
Councilman Kusnierz	Yes
Supervisor Jenkins	Yes

It was the consensus of the Town Board to put excess sales tax up to \$250,000.00 into the Highway Budget. The remaining will go to Town Outside Budget.

Mike Shaver asked if the Town has any plans for the old water plant at the end of Nolan Rd. Supervisor Jenkins stated that they had talked about getting rid of it. They can have the highway department take the pumps and such to be scrapped.

A motion was made by Councilwoman LeClair and seconded by Councilman Prendergast to close the special meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Roll call resulted as follows:

Councilwoman LeClair	Yes
Councilman Kusnierz	Yes
Councilman Vittengl	Yes
Councilman Prendergast	Yes
Supervisor Jenkins	Yes

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Leeann McCabe
Deputy Town Clerk