

A budget workshop on the 2013 Tentative Budget for the Town of Moreau was held by the Town Board of the Town of Moreau on October 23, 2012 in the Town of Moreau Office Building, 61 Hudson Street, South Glens Falls, New York.

Supervisor Jenkins called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

The Town Clerk called the roll.

**Town Board Members Present**

Robert J. Vittengl, Jr.	Councilman
Gina LeClair	Councilwoman
Todd Kusnierz	Councilman (Arrived at 6:21 p.m.)
Preston Jenkins	Supervisor

**Town Board Members Absent**

Bob Prendergast                      Councilman

Also Present: Jeanne Fleury, Town Clerk; Fran Thibodeau, Principal Account Clerk; Jeff McCabe and Tim Alden, Town Justices; Harry G. Gutheil, Jr., Village Resident; Ed Tracy, Town Resident (arrived at 6:40 p.m.)

The Town Court Budget was discussed first.

Tim Alden, Town Justice, discussed the salaries of the court employees. He said if the board doesn't pay the court clerks they will leave. He said one reason Lori Pike retired was that she was tired of the board not addressing the growing discrepancy between her salary and that of Colleen Nichols the other court clerk. He said that Jody Munger left solely for money and took a full-time position with the Town of Northumberland Court. He said there is a great deal of training involved to the court clerk's position. He said that he understood the board's position over the fact that Linda Blackburn just took a position with court system and got a raise. He said the court clerks are grossly underpaid. He said there is a problem when a security guard gets paid more than a court clerk. He said the board needs to bite the bullet and give a decent salary so that they don't leave.

Jeff McCabe, Town Justice, stated that a new hire at the transfer station gets \$11.94 per hour for part-time and a court clerk who has been with the court system for five years gets paid \$1.50 per hour less. He said it is almost insulting. He said the full-time court clerks earn a fairly comfortable living and receive a good benefit package, but the part-time court clerks should get a comparative wage in line with other clerks employed by the Town. He stated that when Colleen Nichols and Linda Blackburn are not in the office the part-time court clerks do their work and they have to answer to him and Judge Alden and answer to the State Comptroller. He said it would be a nice surprise for them if their wage was bumped up and it would be an incentive for them stay. He said the rest of the court budget was acceptable to him.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that he understands, but he is concerned about the taxpayers. He referred to the transfer station when he said that there aren't a lot of people who want to work with garbage. He said that there isn't going to be a single employee who is going to be happy with the pay increase. He stated that there is an increase in pension costs, health insurance and they have to deal with the 2% tax cap. He thought that if everyone got a 2% increase in pay that wasn't bad. We have to deal with the 2% tax cap for the next three years. We are using fund balance to maintain the budget. He said the board members haven't taken a pay increase since 2008.

Judge McCabe stated that he wasn't unhappy with the 2% raise. He would like the three part-time court clerks to get wages consistent with other part-time staffers in the town.

Supervisor Jenkins replied saying that in his opinion that isn't going to happen. He mentioned how there is physical labor involved with the positions at the rec. park. They had to raise the rate last year, because they couldn't get people to work.

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Judge Alden stated that he doesn't want to have to keep training clerks. He said it costs the Town in manpower by having the court clerks stop working and train new clerks. His court sessions have gone from 3 ½ hours to 6 ½ hours and he has had to move two clerks onto the bench, because the "flow" is not there. He said there may be a lot of people who want the job for \$10.00 an hour, but he wants qualified people.

Supervisor Jenkins said in his opinion they have to hold the line at what they feel taxpayer's can afford to pay. He mentioned how the board still has to negotiate a contract with the highway union.

Judge McCabe stated that his staff isn't disgruntled, they are content, but he is trying to make them more content.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that personally he isn't prepared to do anything about it. However, the board members have to review the whole budget yet.

Judge Alden pointed out that next year when the new municipal complex is done the court's budget will change dramatically. There will be no lease payments on the current court facilities any longer and no utility charges.

This concluded the discussion on the court's budget at 6:20 p.m.

[Councilman Kusnierz entered the meeting at 6:21 p.m.]

While the board members awaited the arrival of the highway superintendent at 7:00 p.m. to discuss his budget the board members went through other aspects of the budget.

Supervisor Jenkins advised that he put in a 2% increase for salaries for everyone with the exception of Leeann McCabe, Barb Porter, Kathy Perez and Terry McGuire whom he gave a flat rate increase of \$700.00. He said that all elected officials are in for a 2% increase also. The board has to determine what they want to do about this. He said the council members haven't had an increase in salary since 2008, including the supervisor. He said that last year the only elected officials who received raises were the two town justices, the highway superintendent, and town clerk.

Councilwoman LeClair stated that they have to adjust the rec. salaries up to the 2%.

Councilman Kusnierz asked if the flat \$700.00 increase was given to the people who had the lowest salaries and Supervisor Jenkins replied yes.

Councilman Kusnierz asked if there was any other person who was receiving a 2% increase that would fall under the \$700.00 and Supervisor Jenkins replied no.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that as for the recreation department the salary for the full-time recreation director was left the same as in 2012. He stated that the recreation director was notified today that the board was ending his position as of 12/31/2012 and that it was the board's intent to look for a part-time program director. He said the board has discussed this previously. He asked the board if the two full-time laborers should get a 2% increase in pay. He said they could cut the recreation director's salary line item from \$42,000.00 to \$18,000.00 or \$20,000.00 a year for a part-time program director. He stated that the full-time laborer can run the park and maintain it short term and the board members can see how he does and at some point maybe they can make him the working foreman.

**It was the consensus of the board to change the position of full-time recreation director in the 2013 budget to part-time program director and to change the salary from \$42,000.00 to \$20,000.00 in the tentative budget in account A7310.1 (Youth Programs-Personal Services).**

Supervisor Jenkins stated that he was all for increasing the laborer's wage in the recreation department by 2% and give them a chance to start over and change their attitudes. If they don't then they will be given a warning.

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Councilman Vittengl asked if there would be a guaranteed number of hours per week for the laborers in the rec. department.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that the benefits would be the same. They could possibly cut their hours to 35 hours per week, but it is really a seven day a week job and they have to alternate schedules. He said the board has to decide on the 2% increase.

Councilman Vittengl stated that they should tweak the winter hours. It would be a smart thing to do.

Councilwoman LeClair asked why they would cut the hours for the full-time laborers if they were going to give more hours to the part-timers.

Councilman Kusnierz stated that the board needs to look at the whole department. He said that he and Councilman Vittengl have talked and if there is no work to be done or refusal to do work then the taxpayer's shouldn't have to be paying for it.

Fran Thibodeau advised that the personal services account for the rec. department is going to be short at the end of the year by about \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00. The payroll for that department has been about \$5,000.00 per week.

Councilman Kusnierz asked how the over-time for that department is handled. Does the recreation director get to decide on over-time?

Supervisor Jenkins replied that over-time in that department has been minimal.

Fran Thibodeau stated that when two full-time people were put on duty all the time is when the payroll started to increase.

Councilman Vittengl stated that Friday nights are quiet in the park, but there are two full-time people on duty. He has questioned this.

Councilman Kusnierz stated that down the road the board needs to hold a workshop and discuss the restructuring of the rec. department.

Councilwoman LeClair stated that there are contracts that the full-time director handles that the part-time program director will have to handle.

This concluded the discussion on the rec. budget.

Councilwoman LeClair stated that when Jesse Fish was hired as an assistant to the then current water superintendent he was paid an assistant's rate and she thought the board talked about increasing his salary when he became water superintendent.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that was already taken care of. The title was changed.

Councilwoman LeClair stated again that she thought the board was going to talk about increasing his salary to water superintendent pay.

Fran Thibodeau stated that he was brought in at a laborer's rate of around \$16.00 an hour.

This concluded the discussion on this topic.

Fran Thibodeau stated that the lighting districts have to be changed or there won't be enough money to cover the bills next year.

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Supervisor Jenkins stated that he didn't show enough appropriations in each lighting district account.

**The following changes to the lighting district accounts presented by Fran Thibodeau will be made to the tentative budget:**

**Meadow Ridge Lighting District – MR5182.4 – Change from \$845.00 to \$1,000.00**

**Palette Lighting District – PA5182.4 – Change from \$1,500.00 to \$2,000.00**

**Palmerton Heights Lighting District – PH5182.4 – Change from \$5,700.00 to \$6,700.00**

**Pinewood Lighting District – PW5182.4 – Change from \$2,300.00 to \$2,700.00**

**Riverview Lighting District – RV5182.4 – Change from \$3,800.00 to \$4,000.00**

**Sherwood Forest Lighting District – SH5182.4 – Change from \$2,800.00 to \$3,100.00**

**Tanglewood Lighting District – TW5182.4- Change from \$1,400.00 to \$1,500.00**

**Woodscape II Lighting District – WP5182.4 – Change from \$3,300.00 to \$3,500.00**

**Woodscape Lighting District – WS5182.4 – Change from \$4,000.00 to \$4,500.00**

The increase in the Independent Audit & Accounting Contractual Account A1320.4 from \$5,000.00 in the 2012 adopted budget to \$20,000.00 in the 2013 tentative budget was explained by Supervisor Jenkins. He said that the Town just had a three year audit done by the NYS Audit & Control and DEC has gotten a copy of the audit and by contract the Town is only required to have an audit done every two years so he thinks the \$20,000.00 can be reduced back to the \$6,000.00. The board members agreed.

**A1320.4 – Independent Audi & Accounting Contractual – Changed from \$20,000.00 to \$6,000.00**

Supervisor Jenkins noted that the Assessor's Contractual Account A1355.4 was increased by \$1,400.00 from the 2012 adopted budget. He said there are about seven or eight ongoing Article 7 Tax Certioraris.

Councilman Kusnierz asked if the account needed to be that high at \$71,400.00.

Fran Thibodeau advised that there has been \$10,000.00 spent year-to-date out of the assessor's contractual account.

**It was agreed to reduce the figure to \$40,000.00 from \$71,400.00 in A1355.4.**

Supervisor Jenkins spoke about the town hall building equipment account and contractual. There was \$500.00 in the tentative budget in A1620.2 for some equipment that may be needed for the **new municipal complex**. He then said that there may be a need to lease a new copier for the new building. He said they should **increase A1620.2 to \$2,500.00** in case we do have **to lease a copier**. If we don't then the money won't be spent.

Councilman Kusnierz asked why the contractual portion of that account was increased from \$30,000.00 that was in the 2012 adopted budget to \$35,000.00 in the tentative budget.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that we will be spending close to the \$30,000.00 by year's end.

Fran Thibodeau noted that \$19,000.00 has been spent year-to-date out of A1620.4.

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Supervisor Jenkins stated that the new building will be highly energy efficient, but there will still be costs.

**No change was made to A1620.4.**

Councilman Kusnierz noticed that the \$40,000.00 in the tentative budget under account A1990.4 the Contingent Account Contractual was not changed from the 2012 adopted budget.

He was advised that nothing has been spent from this account year-to-date.

Fran Thibodeau reminded everyone that the recreation department personal services account is expected to be in the negative at year's end by \$15,000.00.

Councilman Kusnierz asked we aren't going to make that same mistake twice are we? The answer was no.

Harry Gutheil asked when the new building will be done and Supervisor Jenkins replied that the target date is July 15, 2013.

Harry Gutheil stated that money should be budgeted to maintain the current Town Hall and then asked what the board intends to do with this building.

Supervisor Jenkins replied that there will be a small maintenance cost and he hoped they would make it surplus property and put it back on the tax rolls, including the old highway garage on William Street. **He said the board could look at the court's budget for utilities and maintenance and they may be able to reduce that account a little.**

Harry Gutheil reminded the board that there will be two insurance payments in 2013, one on each building.

At 6:57 p.m. the Town Board started discussing the highway budgets with Paul Joseph, Highway Superintendent.

The following roads were submitted by the highway superintendent to be done in 2013:

DB5112.493.4 Highway Improvements

Nova Chip

Reservoir Road from Burt Road to Fort Edward Road	\$63,450.00
Merritt Road	<u>\$66,000.00</u>
Total	<u>\$129,450.00</u>

Overlays

Windy Lane 640'	\$11,830.00
Marine Drive 1,350'	\$25,350.00
Hilton Drive (Feeder Dam to Windy Lane) 650'	\$12,220.00
Jamaica Road 1,050'	\$18,850.00
Rose Street 330'	\$ 5,915.00
Astoria Avenue 630'	\$11,310.00
Tulip Street 330'	\$ 5,915.00
Adams Road 805'	\$14,430.00
Pine View Drive 810'	\$14,625.00
Jennifer Drive 2,600'	\$48,815.00
Myron Road 2,100'	\$39,455.00
Congdon Road 1,700'	\$31,915.00
Connor Drive 1,125'	\$23,465.00
Pine Valley Drive (Nolan Road to Jerome Lane) 1,400'	\$26,325.00

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Shimming of Clark Road, Selfridge Road & Old Saratoga Road	<u>\$15,000.00</u>
Total	<u>\$305,420.00</u>

Supervisor Jenkins stated that with the sales tax revenue we will be receiving we will be able to increase the amount we send back to Saratoga County to be applied against the county tax levy from \$400,000.00 to \$800,000.00. He also noted that the fund balance in highway at the end of the year is expected to be \$900,000.00 and the tentative budget shows \$440,812.00 of that being used to balance the highway budget. He asked Paul Joseph if the road overlays in the tentative budget are in order by priority and Paul Joseph replied yes.

Councilman Kusnierz noticed that the amount of highway fund balance used in 2012 was \$99,538.00 vs. \$440,812.00 that is in the tentative budget and said this is a “four-fold increase”.

Supervisor Jenkins said that is because the fund balance went up last year due to unanticipated excess sales tax revenue received.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that there is \$200,000.00 in an equipment reserve fund for highway equipment and we could use that money to buy equipment in 2013 and the fund balance is pretty stable at this point.

Ed Tracy asked if the dip at Route 9 and Nolan Road could be fixed.

Supervisor Jenkins replied that Route 9 is a state highway and they would have to determine what we can do there.

Paul Joseph stated that the state didn't extend their apron enough. If the Town raised up Nolan Road at that spot then there would be a drainage issue, because we can't put a drywell in because there is a major phone line underground right there. He has been asking the state to address this.

Supervisor Jenkins stated the board has to determine if they want to try and do all of the roads on the list or not. He said he would assume that most of these roads are starting to crack on the edges.

Paul Joseph advised that there are 29 roads in the Town that haven't been touched since before 1992.

Supervisor Jenkins asked Paul Joseph if he could realistically get all of the roads on the overlay list done in 2013.

Paul Joseph replied yes.

Paul Joseph included Merritt Road on his Nova Chip list in the tentative budget. Councilman Vittengl asked Paul Joseph if he could pick up a little extra width on Merritt Road when he does the road.

Paul Joseph replied that a process called cold in place recycling would be used. This process involves the road being ground first and then a binder put down. Right now the profile is such that it dips in the middle of the road and after a rain storm there is more water on the road than off. He said the only place they could widen the road was from the high school entrance to Feeder Dam Road. The rest of Merritt Road is already at a width of almost 31 feet.

Councilman Vittengl stated that his point was that if he has the opportunity to redo a road then he would like to see it brought out to the maximum width.

Paul Joseph stated that there is a 5 foot walkway on each side of Merritt Road from the sharp corner by the front of the school out to Route 9.

Supervisor Jenkins asked about from the school to Feeder Dam Road.

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Paul Joseph replied that is where the road narrows the most.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that is the section of roadway that we have had a lot of problems with vehicles and pedestrians.

Paul Joseph stated that there is a utility pole right on the sharp corner that he is trying to get National Grid to move it back. Right now there is only a total of three feet off the edge of the road there.

Supervisor Jenkins said there are probably more children walking to and from Feeder Dam Road to school than from Route 9 to the school on Merritt Road.

Councilman Kusnierz asked if the cost to widen Merritt Road was included in the figure of \$66,000.00 to do Merritt Road.

Paul Joseph said the figure would include widening the road on that end. It would probably be about 1 ½ feet. He would choose to do it on one side of the road rather than both.

Councilman Kusnierz asked Paul if he would run into any problems with the property owners and Paul replied no.

Supervisor Jenkins suggested that they leave the DB5112.4 Highway Improvements as is for now. After October 31<sup>st</sup> he will do a fund balance analysis and let the board know where we are at with this account.

The equipment budget for highway was discussed next (DB5130.2).

The following pieces of equipment were requested by the highway superintendent to be purchased in 2013 and are listed in priority order:

1.	Loader to replace the Dresser [Estimated trade in value of Dresser \$14,000.00 to \$18,000.00] Price has risen over \$13,000.00 since 2011.	\$153,000.00
2.	Tandem Plow Truck w/Sander Body to replace Truck #17 the Freightliner	\$237,000.00
3.	Skid Steer to replace 2002 Skid Steer	\$ 52,000.00
4.	Used Bucket Truck	\$ 22,000.00
5.	Crack Sealing Machine	\$ 48,000.00

Councilman Kusnierz asked what was spent on equipment in 2012.

Supervisor Jenkins replied \$265,572.00.

Councilman Kusnierz stated that the request for 2013 is almost double.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that is because of the request to purchase a tandem plow truck w/sander body. He stated that there is an equipment reserve account that has almost \$200,000.00 in it.

Supervisor Jenkins mentioned that Paul has in the budget money for crack sealing on roads and that we normally hire someone to do this. If this is the case then we probably can remove the crack sealing machine from the equipment request list. He said it wasn't a priority item for the highway superintendent.

Paul Joseph said this was correct. He said it costs about \$17,000.00 to contract it out with the materials.

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It was the consensus of the board to remove the crack sealing machine in the amount of \$48,000.00 from the equipment request list for the highway department.

**DB5130.2 was changed from \$581,612.00 to \$533,612.00.**

Councilwoman LeClair asked about a screen for sand. She said the estimate was \$9,000.00 to rent one for a month to be able to use on the site of the new town hall. Paul spends about \$5,000.00 a year for topsoil to dress sides of roads, to do people's yards and when we need repair. We could use the compost at the transfer station if we could screen it. If in year one we had to spend \$9,000.00 to rent a screen to use on the site of the new town hall and \$5,000.00 in topsoil costs and if we spent \$20,000.00 to 30,000.00 the first year to rent a screen then in the first year, half the cost of a new screen is gone. We should invest it into a piece of equipment we can use.

Supervisor Jenkins asked what a used screen costs and Paul replied anywhere from \$15,000.00 to \$100,000.00. The one that he was watching on Auctions International ended up going for \$58,000.00.

Councilman Vittengl asked if we have done an analysis of equipment/inventory. He asked how many miles we put on our equipment and what condition the equipment is in.

Paul Joseph replied that it is not hard to determine the mileage. It is the wear and tear from the salt.

Supervisor Jenkins said we must have that information.

Paul Joseph replied that he did, but a lot of it is on an old computer that he can't even get to turn on.

Fran Thibodeau stated that she has a fixed asset list. If Paul gave her the mileage she could add that to the list.

Councilman Vittengl asked if he could get by with a used loader.

Paul Joseph replied that it is an option, but he would still have to go out to bid for one and right now they are still on the state contract.

Councilman Kusnierz asked how many hours are on the skid steer that Paul was trying to replace.

Paul Joseph replied close to 3,000 miles.

Councilman Kusnierz asked Paul if he was looking for a skid steer with tracks and Paul replied no.

Councilman Kusnierz stated that \$52,000.00 is a pretty high number.

Councilman Kusnierz asked Paul what warranted a new one.

Paul replied that the pump has been taken apart once already. The seals inside were replaced. The inside is showing major wear and there are major valve problems. He said we could be facing a repair bill of \$6,000.00 to \$7,000.00.

Councilman Kusnierz asked Paul if he could get another year out of the skid steer without doing a major rebuild.

Paul Joseph said he wasn't sure, there is a lot of milling to be done on the roads.

Councilman Kusnierz stated that if we could get another year out of the skid steer it would take some sting out of replacing the loader.

Supervisor Jenkins asked about the bucket truck that Paul had on his list. He stated that it was on the list for 2012 too.



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Paul Joseph stated that it was on his list for 2012 and it was on the year before.

Councilman Kusnierz asked Paul if he could remove trees with a bucket truck.

Paul Joseph stated that he didn't think they could take down some of the larger trees that Sears removes. Maybe some of the smaller ones could be. Some of the ones that Sears take down are craned down.

Councilman Kusnierz asked Paul if over the past two years, does he think that, half of the trees taken down are ones that we shouldn't mess around with.

Paul Joseph replied about 70% of the trees are between wires or a house. There are quite a few that his staff does take down themselves.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that if they left the bucket truck on the list and removed the skid steer and crack sealing machine then the total for equipment in DB5130.2 would be reduced to \$412,000.00 from \$512,000.00 and if we used the \$200,000.00 that is in the equipment reserve account to purchase equipment then that would bring the total down to \$212,000.00 and in 2012 we budgeted \$265,572.00 for equipment.

Councilwoman LeClair asked about the screen.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that if a used screen becomes available for purchase then maybe we can find the money someplace.

Councilwoman LeClair said she would hate to spend \$9,000.00 on a rental if we can buy one for \$20,000.00.

Supervisor Jenkins agreed, but he doesn't know how much it would cost to purchase one. The one at auction went for \$58,000.00.

**It was the consensus of the board to remove the skid steer and crack sealing machine from the equipment request list for highway and this would change the total of DB5130.2 from \$512,000.00 to \$412,000.00.**

The Highway Garage Account A5132 was discussed next.

Paul Joseph advised that someplace between when he was putting his budget together and when the tentative budget was produced, funding for asphalt for around the new highway garage in the amount of \$58,000.00 to \$62,000.00 was excluded from the tentative budget.

Councilman Kusnierz asked why that wouldn't be part of the capital project?

Supervisor Jenkins stated that it would be a capital project item and it would be shown as revenue.

Fran Thibodeau stated it would be revenue for the highway fund, but he is talking about a general fund item.

Paul Joseph stated that it wasn't figured into the costs of the project.

Councilman Kusnierz said he didn't think there was any money left in the capital project fund for the new highway garage and he was told that there is about \$30,000.00 to \$40,000.00 left in the fund.

Supervisor Jenkins said anything for the building would come out of the general fund.

Fran Thibodeau advised that a lot of equipment like desks and furnishings have been paid for out of the capital project fund.

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Supervisor Jenkins said it can be. The question is, is there enough for the asphalt in that account.

Harry Gutheil asked why the personal services line item in A5010 (Highway Superintendent) was up so much.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that there was money budgeted for a full-time highway clerk vs. a part-time highway clerk that we have right now. The highway superintendent requested \$32,240.00 for a full-time clerk. Supervisor Jenkins said he budgeted \$27,179.00 in for a full-time highway clerk, which is in line with most of our clerks. If Maureen doesn't accept the full-time position at that pay then we can lower that line item back down.

Councilman Kusnierz asked if the board had a discussion on making the highway clerk position full-time.

Supervisor Jenkins replied that they were having that discussion right now. He said the highway superintendent requested it. We looked at doing this two years ago.

Paul Joseph noted that the clerks in Town Hall work 35 hours a week and that Maureen would work 40 hours a week.

Supervisor Jenkins replied that he thought he arrived at the \$27,179.00 by calculating the rate she would get by 40 hours a week times 52 weeks.

Harry Gutheil stated that would be around \$13.00 an hour at 2,080 hours a year.

Councilman Kusnierz said he remembered when they discussed this before and it has to be an open competitive exam for the position and she has to be reachable to get the job and he recalled that she wasn't willing to run that risk.

Paul Joseph replied that Maureen is taking two of the civil service exams right now.

Harry Gutheil said the bottom line is there a need for a full-time clerk?

Supervisor Jenkins stated that a lot of times you call and there is nobody there to answer the phones other than somebody working on something and they don't drop what they are doing to get to the phone.

Harry Gutheil stated that there isn't anybody there on Fridays anyway during the summer.

Councilwoman LeClair said it isn't just answering the phones there is storm water reporting.

Supervisor Jenkins said his opinion is that it is a full-time position. We have been keeping it part-time, because she didn't want to work it full-time. He asked Paul how he calculated his number.

Paul Joseph said he calculated it based on a 40 hour week vs. 35 hours a week that the other clerks work.

Councilman Kusnierz stated that he has a problem with a new clerk starting a new position at \$32,340.00 with benefits. Regardless of the argument of whether we need it or not.

Supervisor Jenkins said he didn't have enough information before him based on what he calculated and what Paul calculated.

Fran and the board members tried to figure out how the salary for the full-time clerk in the tentative budget was arrived at. The Town Clerk said that if she figured correctly 2,080 hours times \$11.79 an hour is \$24,523.20 and Councilman Kusnierz said they had to factor in the 2% raise.

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Supervisor Jenkins said he took her hourly rate she has been getting plus a 2% increase times 40 hours a week times 52 weeks to come up with the \$27,179.00 that he put in the tentative budget.

Councilman Kusnierz said they would have to add in what the benefits cost, retirement, etc.

Supervisor Jenkins told Paul Joseph that he would have to let the board know if Maureen wanted to go to full-time or not. She would be entitled to benefits like everybody else, but it appears that the \$27,179.00 would be the pay scale based on how we treat all the other employees.

The Traffic Control Account A3310 was discussed next.

In the tentative budget for A3310.498 – Traffic Control – Signs the highway superintendent requested \$8,000.00 and the supervisor put in \$10,000.00. In A3310.499 – Traffic Control – Road Striping the highway superintendent requested \$24,000.00 and the supervisor put in \$23,000.00. Paul Joseph stated that he is almost done replacing signs so he lowered A3310.498 to \$8,000.00. He increased A3310.499 by \$1,000.00 in his request, because he was asking for more roads to be done in 2013.

Councilman Kusnierz asked what has been spent year-to-date on signs.

Fran Thibodeau replied \$5,522.00.

**It was the consensus of the board to change A3310.498 – Traffic Control – Signs from \$10,000.00 to \$8,000.00 and change A3310.499 – Traffic Control – Road Striping from \$23,000.00 to \$24,000.00.**

Ed Tracy asked where we stand with the Moreau Emergency Squad.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that the Moreau Emergency Squad requested a 35% increase. He said we are going to send out RFP's (Requests for Proposals) for emergency service.

Councilman Kusnierz asked how much has been spent out of DB1990.4 – Highway Contingent Account – Contractual.

Fran Thibodeau replied \$14,000.00 year-to-date. She said it looks like miscellaneous stuff.

Paul Joseph stated that there was a major repair to the Dozer out of this account.

Councilman Kusnierz asked what has been spent to-date out of DB5110.493 – Highway General Repairs – Road Materials & Shoulders.

Fran Thibodeau replied that it is broken down as follows:

DB5110.493.1	\$20,472.00
DB5110.493.2	\$16,493.00
DB5110.493.3	\$156,999.00

This concluded the discussion on the highway budgets at 8:05 p.m.

Discussion on the budget continued.

**Fran Thibodeau stated that the money budgeted for the nutrition agreement in A6772.4 has to be increased to \$2,890.00 from \$2,360.00 that is in the tentative budget. No objection from the board members.**

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The recreation department budget was reviewed.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that Councilman Vittengl and Councilman Kusnierz put this budget together. He said they would have to look at the personnel line item, because Fran said we will be short at the end of 2012.

Councilwoman LeClair stated that we are going to cut the full-time recreation director position to a part-time position in 2013 so that should help offset the shortfall.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that the payroll in that department has been cut quite a bit.

Ed Tracy asked if he heard right that they were making the recreation director's position part-time.

Supervisor Jenkins replied that they were eliminating the position and they will create the position of part-time program director.

Ed Tracy stated that under civil service they won't be able to hire someone full time for that position for another three years if they eliminate the full-time recreation director position.

Supervisor Jenkins replied that was not the board's goal. They think the department can run with a part-time program director if they change things around in that department. In his opinion the soccer program can be run by an organization like baseball and it will no longer be a town program. The whole board has to discuss this and other things. They think they can save money and still have a good job done in that department.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that the Moreau Community Center was in for a 2% increase.

In the solid waste management facility reserve fund estimated revenues page in the budget there is \$5,000.00 in line item LF2401 and \$618.00 in LF2801. The \$5,000.00 is the amount the industrial park paid in interest on the loan from the landfill fund. The \$618.00 is interest earned from the bank.

The budget for cemeteries (A8810) was reviewed. \$6,122.00 has been spent year-to-date from this account.

Councilman Kusnierz asked if shouldn't they earmark money for repairs to cemeteries if we plan to create a cemetery advisory committee.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that Reed Antis said that there has been minimal expense involved to restoring the cemeteries so far.

Councilwoman LeClair asked about tree removal in cemeteries.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that they raised this budget line item last year so it should be okay.

Councilman Kusnierz suggested that they add a cushion to the cemetery budget.

**It was the consensus of the board to increase the cemetery budget A8810.4 from \$2,000.00 to \$2,500.00.**

**It was also the consensus of the board to add \$15,000.00 in the general fund estimated revenues account for A3089 (Grant – Other) for a grant application that the supervisor is going to file.**

**It was also the consensus of the board to increase the town outside village estimated revenues account for mobile home park fees (B2770) from \$4,100.00 to \$5,500.00.**

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Supervisor Jenkins stated he estimated the hookup fees to be \$40,000.00 in 2013, because the Harrison Avenue apartments will be charged \$1,750.00 plus \$805.00 per unit. Also, Sisson Reserve is moving ahead with their next phase and there will be an additional 64 units there.

Councilwoman LeClair asked Supervisor Jenkins if the board was going to have discussions before the end of the year on consolidation of water districts.

Supervisor Jenkins said there was no way it would be done this year. There isn't enough time. The board members have to reach an agreement on what they want to do.

Harry Gutheil asked if Water District 1 was really expected to increase 400% in appropriations and Supervisor Jenkins said "sure".

Fran Thibodeau said part of it had to do with allocations.

Supervisor Jenkins said there were 501 new users. The Town Clerk said there are about 200 and Supervisor Jenkins said there are multiple users on some.

Harry Gutheil asked if the bond anticipation note principal is only \$22,000.00 for the new bond.

Supervisor Jenkins said it has to be allocated between all the water districts by law, because all the districts share the assets and all costs have to be allocated by a determinable usage fee, per the State Comptroller.

Harry Gutheil asked how the town could qualify for a grant for eligibility on a certain number of users when the costs are going to be shared by other users.

Supervisor Jenkins said we aren't applying for a grant and Harry Gutheil replied that the town got a zero percent loan and Supervisor Jenkins said all he knows is that is what the state comptroller said, because there are three water tanks and everybody shares them. There are water lines that everybody shares and there are hook ups to Queensbury that everybody shares. It all boils down to we share the assets. That is what the state comptroller said.

Harry Gutheil said he never heard of such a thing. He is having trouble accepting that other districts are going to pay the debt for a new district. Water District 2 bought and paid for their tank and paid to have it rehabbed. Now they are going to pay for somebody else's tank? It doesn't make sense. He said it is unethical and immoral.

Supervisor Jenkins said he is just telling him what the state comptroller said. Everybody will be paying the same rate.

Harry Gutheil stated that Water District 1 is going to take the new bond out and it is going to be paid by all the water districts.

Discussion followed on the \$22,000.00 debt service figure that was in account I9730 in the tentative budget for the bond anticipation note in Water District 1.

Fran Thibodeau asked Harry Gutheil if he recalled the \$128,000.00 payment that we had to make every year on the water tank in Water District 6. The state comptroller's office told Councilwoman LeClair that it should have been distributed amongst all the water districts and not just Water District 6.

Supervisor Jenkins said they didn't just tell Councilwoman LeClair. They told him and our attorney for the town.

Harry Gutheil asked if what he was hearing was that one water district is going to own all the assets, but five other districts were going to pay the debt.

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Councilwoman LeClair stated that she spoke with a gentleman named Doug Goodfriend who works for NYS Audit and Control when we started talking about consolidating water districts and she also spoke with Tim Burley to try and find out how other towns have handled this. She was told by Doug that anytime a piece of infrastructure is installed in a water district, that water district doesn't solely pay for that infrastructure. It should be distributed throughout all the users in the water system.

Harry Gutheil asked if when a new district comes on-line and there is no debt then they get on for free.

Supervisor Jenkins replied no they will pay the same rate as everybody else.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that everybody has been using the water tank in Water District 6 and Water District 6 users paid for the whole thing. He said that Water District 4 has a lot of fund balance and the entire town paid for most of the legal fees and costs involved in getting that money from GE and none of the other districts get a credit for that either. He said we should be going to consolidation. He said that we could establish a reserve fund for each of the six districts if the board members choose to. He is only saying what we have been told we have to do under the law.

Harry Gutheil said he would like to see the law.

Supervisor Jenkins stated he probably won't see it in the law. It is going to be a state comptroller's opinion, which is law for municipalities.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that he reworked the numbers in the Transfer Station budget and the appropriations of \$138,525.00 may be a little high, but it will be close. The revenues may be a little bit optimistic, but based on the September report the revenues are up 92% from the same time last year. So far the changes made at the transfer station have worked. We are actually back into a surplus. However, once we do our depreciation it may be a break even. If all remains the same we may be able to establish an equipment reserve account.

Fran Thibodeau stated that ever since they changed the hours at the Transfer Station we are making a profit.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that if we still had full-time employees in that department then we would still be losing money.

Supervisor Jenkins advised that the EFC is increasing our interest free loan for Water District 1 extensions by \$178,000.00 so we can complete the Sisson Road water hook ups between Bluebird Road and Fort Edward Road. The board may be asked to approve a bond increase next Tuesday night.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that the budget for the municipal office complex capital project does not show any funding in the tentative budget. This is because we don't normally budget for these types of projects, because it depends on what the funding source is. The budget runs as a negative until the project is complete.

Supervisor Jenkins said the board will have to rehash the highway budget.

At 9:05 p.m. two representatives from the South Glens Falls Fire Company were present regarding their budget.

Supervisor Jenkins advised that their request was for a 4% increase. He explained that the Town is living within a 2% tax cap. The difference between the tentative budget figure and their request was \$8,000.00. He asked what has changed to warrant the 4% increase request.

The gentlemen present said that they have outdated gear and some of the gear is worn out. They have a figure of \$25,000.00 in their request for new gear. By the time they hand out new gear the old gear has outlasted the life expectancy per NFA standards. It is getting to the point where all firemen will have old gear. They have to try and catch up. When a new volunteer comes in they will be assigned a set of gear that will last a couple of years. The air packs they have are not compatible with other mutual aid agencies and the equipment has to work together.

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Supervisor Jenkins stated that it would have been nice if Brian Abare was present to discuss the financial end of the budget request.

The Fire Company had in their budget request an air cascade system in the amount of \$20,000.00. It was explained that the system they have is antiquated and parts are hard to find for it.

Councilman Kusnierz asked if he was correct in saying that the sales tax revenue we receive can only be used for certain things.

Fran Thibodeau replied that it can be put in highway or town-outside or the general fund if there is no tax in that fund.

Councilman Kusnierz stated that from a fiscal standpoint he agreed with Supervisor Jenkins in that we are living within a 2% tax cap. He is very sensitive to tax increases, but in this case it looks like the Fire Company budget is up only about 1 cent per 1,000. He doesn't think there is any way the board can give the Fire Company what they are asking for through taxes, but maybe through sales tax revenues we can help the Fire Company purchase some equipment.

Supervisor Jenkins said that he would find out if we can do this or not.

It was agreed to leave the tentative budget figure at \$439,314.00 for the Fire Company for now.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that the board is not finalizing the budget tonight anyway.

A motion was made by Councilwoman LeClair and seconded by Councilman Vittengl to adjourn the budget workshop at 9:22 p.m.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

Workshop adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Fleury  
Town Clerk

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