

A budget workshop was held by the Town Board of the Town of Moreau on October 9, 2013 in the Town of Moreau Municipal Building, 351 Reynolds Road, Moreau, New York.

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

The Deputy Town Clerk called the roll.

Town Board Members Present

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

Also Present: Leeann McCabe, Deputy Town Clerk; Fran Thibodeau, Principal Account Clerk; Jeffrey McCabe and Timothy Alden, Town Justices; Members from the South Glens Falls Fire Company arrived at 7:30 pm; Members from the Moreau Emergency Squad arrived at 8:20 pm; Tim Johnston, Recreation Maintenance Director and Amy Alfonso, Recreation Program Director arrived at 8:53 pm.

The Court budget was discussed first with Tim Alden and Jeff McCabe, Town Justices.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that salary increases were at 4%. Judge Alden stated that was ok except for the Courts part-time employees. He thought with the savings from not having the old court, that it might be time to address the salaries of the part-time clerks. He stated that at \$10.80/hour, they get trained and they leave. Councilman Kusnierz asked if they were going to be looking at salaries again and Supervisor Jenkins said they would be. Councilman Kusnierz stated that with the volume of the work load they need to look at what they pay the other part-time positions. The cleaners and transfer station clerks make over \$11.00/hour. Judge McCabe stated that the part-time clerks do the same work as the full-time clerks. Judge Alden stated that there is JCAP money available in the amount of \$30,000.00 and some of that can be used by the Town such as architectural fees. Supervisor Jenkins thought that handicapped doors might be a suggestion. Judge McCabe stated that they would need an estimate of cost by the deadline of October 25th. They would need Town Board approval and a resolution after the October 22nd Town Board meeting in order to submit the request. Supervisor Jenkins stated that he would talk to Jim Mitchell to see if the new doors that are going to be installed will be able to open with a handicapped button. Councilwoman LeClair asked how long it would be before the court would know if the money has been awarded for that purpose. Judge McCabe stated that they would know within about a month.

There was some discussion regarding revenues that followed.

This concluded discussion on the Court budget.

Members of the South Glens Falls Fire Company entered the workshop at 7:30. Supervisor Jenkins stated that the only issue the Board has is with the equipment. He stated that it was a pretty substantial increase over last year's budget. Supervisor Jenkins went over some of the items on the equipment list and the prices. Ricky Meyers stated that the Fire Company is at the mercy of the State and the dates that are imposed on the equipment. The Fire Company can get in trouble if someone gets hurt using outdated equipment. Councilman Vittengl asked if the Fire Company rolls to an accident and they need a helicopter for air lift, the ambulance gets revenue from insurance, what does the Fire Company get? Ricky Meyers stated they get nothing. Councilman Vittengl asked if it could be billed to insurance. Ricky Meyers stated none of the company's bill because there is no paid staff to do it. Nick Quinn stated that even the City of Glens Falls doesn't and they have paid staff. Councilman Vittengl asked for them to make a check list of the equipment items that will expire, date wise. There were several items listed such as: turn out gear, boots, air masks, rescue rope, traffic cones, and hoses. If one section of hose fails, the entire hose needs to be replaced. Ricky Meyers also stated that they can't even get parts for the air packs they have, there aren't any vendors that sell the parts. Supervisor Jenkins stated that he needs clarification in the difference of the two request sheets. Councilman Prendergast stated that they need to prioritize and confirmed that the latest list is the higher priority. He stated that they've fallen behind with roads as well. Ricky Meyers stated that with the State mandates it's getting tougher. Councilman Kusnierz asked Fran what a .03 cent

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increase would do. Supervisor Jenkins stated they could go up a little more and stay within the tax cap. Councilman Vittengl asked about foreign insurance and the funding for the Fire Company banquet. He asked if that money could be used for equipment. Ricky Meyers stated that the 2% money they receive can only be used on the members. It's not legal for any other purpose. Councilman Vittengl asked about their fundraisers and Ricky Meyers stated the money they take in is for possible new lighting and new equipment for one of the trucks. Supervisor Jenkins stated that there is some room for adjustment but nothing significant without going over the numbers again. The Fire Company may have to take a loan for equipment and will need to know as soon as possible where the budget is at. Ricky Meyers gave his phone number and Keith Dickinson's number to the Town Board and asked them to call with any more questions. The Fire Company left the meeting at 8:20pm.

The Moreau Emergency Squad members entered the meeting at 8:21 pm. Fran gave a copy of the tentative budget to Steve VanGuilder. He stated that they were on schedule with about \$33,000 left in their Moreau account and with \$15,000 in the Northumberland account. He stated that he didn't put in his budget money for grounds. The drywells are sinking in. They've also spent a lot of money this year on legal fees.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that they've budgeted \$4,000.00 over last year's contract to \$204,000.00. Steve VanGuilder stated that last year's budget was for \$204,000. Supervisor Jenkins stated that he was correct and that there would be a 2% increase from \$204,000.00. Steve VanGuilder asked if a 4% increase would be possible. Helen Glen stated that they are trying to save money to replace the chassis on one of the ambulances. They'll save about \$50,000 by keeping the box. A brand new rig costs about \$180,000.00. Steve VanGuilder stated that the \$243,000.00 is a wish list. Supervisor Jenkins asked if they had an audit for last year. Steve stated that they had and he would get a copy to the Town Board. Supervisor Jenkins wanted to make reference to a couple complaints he had received with regard to billing. Steve said the fees were set by the Town. Supervisor Jenkins stated that when the original contract was signed the squad agreed that they wouldn't balance bill. He understands that there are legality issues now and Steve stated there were. He stated that Medicare and Medicaid law states that everyone has to be billed. Steve also said that there is a hardship application that people can fill out. Councilman Vittengl asked if runs were up or down and Ron Quinn replied that they were up. Call volume has increased due to the Home of the Good Shepherd. When the second building is built, calls will continue to increase. They asked that before the next phase starts that the town look at specs for ambulance services. Right now the first building isn't emergency service friendly getting people out on stretchers and maneuvering the ambulance outside.

The members of the rescue squad left the workshop @ 8:52 pm.

Tim Johnston, Recreation Maintenance Director and Amy Alfonso, Recreation Program Director entered the workshop at 8:53 pm.

Supervisor Jenkins stated that with the maintenance part of the budget, they held the numbers on request almost completely with a minor change in equipment. There's a truck in the budget for next year. Councilman Prendergast asked if there might be a truck that can be handed down from another department. The Water Department is getting a new truck but the old one would be for the new employee to be hired. Tim stated that the one truck is in pretty poor shape and that it's hard to even steer it down the road sometimes.

Some of the requests will come out of capital projects such as the paint striping machine and sod cutter. Councilman Prendergast asked if the Truck could come out of capital projects and Supervisor Jenkins stated that because it would be used off site he didn't think that would qualify for capital projects. Councilman Kusnierz asked how much we would be using a sod cutting machine. Tim stated that they're using it a lot right now. They're reworking the softball quads for the upcoming tournament to be held there next year. They are renting one right now at a cost of about \$70.00 per day. It is at the bottom of his wish list. Councilman Kusnierz asked which was a higher priority a truck or a tractor and Tim replied that the truck was. Councilman Kusnierz asked what they use the tractor for right now. Tim stated they use it two to three times per week working on the gardens and the fields. Something they could get onto the

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Fields with would be nice; he's looking at a compact tractor. The Heston tractor they have right now had to be welded by the highway department and now it rubs up against the body of the machine and when you use the bucket, it's off kilter. He thought instead of putting any more money into it, it could be traded in. Councilman Kusnierz feels that they do need a tractor at the park. A forty horse power with a bucket, you'd be looking at about \$28,000.00. Fran noted that if they were to purchase out of the HP fund and trade the Heston, she believes that it's owned by both Recreation and the Transfer Station. She's not sure if they trade it, if the money would have to go back into those funds. Supervisor Jenkins will check into this. Councilman Prendergast asked what comes out of contractual and Fran replied fuel, electricity, telephone, waste pick-ups etc.

Councilwoman LeClair stated that she has an appointment with the Town of Fort Edward to discuss a joint trail project, which could come out of the reserve fund.

Councilman Prendergast asked if they were working on the Sheriff's house and Tim stated they were removing some sheetrock in the bathroom, putting dry lock on the basement walls, tearing up some carpet and putting down new flooring. Supervisor Jenkins stated this should only take about a week to a week and a half and the sheriff's department could move back in.

Councilwoman LeClair stated that the beach building is in need of repair and Councilman Prendergast stated that the building out front is eventually going to need some work and if we're ever going to sell the old Town Hall building, we'll have to put some money into that as well. At some point we're going to have to set aside some money for repairs. Supervisor Jenkins stated that the beach building is about sixty years old. The land itself is owned by the Village of South Glens Falls. He's not sure what we can spend money on; it's a question for the comptroller's office.

The budget for the Recreation program director was discussed next. Fran stated that two computers can be taken off the budget as one has already been ordered for the program director. Tim is getting a new one as well.

Councilman Kusnierz asked if we were ok with the Maintenance part of the budget or are we reviewing it. Supervisor Jenkins stated he was ok with it. They need a new truck and the other items can be purchased as they come up because it comes out of capital projects.

Supervisor Jenkins asked about the programs. Amy stated that she didn't have a clear concept of the procedure when figuring the budget. She wasn't sure if they had to pay people first before they got their sign-ups. She now knows that she wouldn't be running a program unless she had the sign-ups. They are break even programs. So these numbers were made in ignorance of how the procedure works.

Amy went on to say that she would like to make the website more user friendly with more advertising and to be able to use it as a sign-up site. She would like to make the 197 Building nicer inside so that she can run fitness programs during the winter and possibly use it for Birthday Party rental space, events and other programs. She would like it to be a nice place for people to be able to use.

Fundraising was discussed and Councilman Kusnierz asked if we could sell fundraising space on our Recreation page. Amy stated yes as long as the rules allowed us to.

Supervisor Jenkins asked if her survey was completed. Amy said it was and just needs to go online. She went on to say that we have \$10,000.00 in grant money from the School that can be used this year. She can use that to start any free classes to gain interest in the programs. It can also be used for playground equipment.

Supervisor Jenkins asked if there was playground equipment in the Quad area yet. Councilman Vittengl replied no. The Supervisor stated that there are a lot of young children there. Councilman Vittengl thought we should order equipment now so it will be ready to be placed in the Spring. They also thought it would be a good idea to fence it in, being that the equipment will be close to the woods.

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Amy stated that we have \$2900.00 from the Saratoga County Youth Bureau for Youth Week that was held this year. We just need to apply for it. She said most people use the money for payroll. Fran will try to find an application for her.

This concluded the Recreation part of the budget. There is a workshop scheduled for next Wednesday.

The budget workshop concluded at 9:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Leeann McCabe
Deputy Town Clerk