

A Special Town Board Meeting was held Monday, October 3, 2014 at 4:00pm at Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York

PRESENT: Stephen D. Flach, Supervisor
Thomas E. Dolan, Councilman
Peter E. Masti, Councilman
George E. Langdon, IV, Councilman
Kenneth A. Burns, Sr., Councilman

ALSO PRESENT: Diane L. Millious, Town Clerk

Supervisor Flach opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPENING COMMENT

Supervisor Flach stated that the record should reflect the presence of a full Town Board

Supervisor Flach asked that Town Clerk Millious read the Notice of Special Town Board Meeting.

Town Clerk Millious continued by reading the following:

**NOTICE
SPECIAL
TOWN BOARD MEETING**

In compliance with Public Officer's Law, this will inform you that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans has scheduled a Special Town Board Meeting for Friday, October 3, 2014 at 4:00pm. The purpose of this meeting will be for the Town Clerk to submit the 2015 Tentative Budget to the Town Board. The meeting will be held at Town of Coeymans Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York.

**By Order of the Town Board
of the Town of Coeymans
Diane L. Millious
Town Clerk**

AGENDA

- Town Clerk's Presentation of the 2015 Tentative Budget

PRESENTATION OF 2015 TENTATIVE BUDGET

Supervisor Flach stated that the purpose of the Special Meeting was for the Town Clerk to present the Town Board the 2015 Tentative Budget.

Town Clerk Millious proceeded with the presentation of the 2015 Tentative Budget to the Town Board.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENT

Supervisor Flach read the following:

I am excited that as the Supervisor, knowing that I have great support from the current Board Members, I was able to make significant changes in this year's Budget that I feel will have a positive effect on our taxpayers and community members. As you all know, this Tentative Budget is mine, proposed to you the Board, and Department Heads, and typically will change somewhat after Budget Workshops and recommendations from the Board.

I am striving to save taxpayers money, while improving our parks, highways, and Police force. I feel strongly that sometimes spending more money on one area of service, does not mean that we are improving that area. I have decreased the Police Budget, after working out the number of full-time and part-time officers that are needed to provide coverage for the shifts necessary to ensure safety in our community. After many discussions with my Board Members, many of us agree that we want outside law enforcement to work hand in hand with our Police force, we do not wish to alienate them from our town.

For next year, I am proud that my office and the Finance Department will catch up to this century and will become computerized. The NYS Comptroller's office has joked with me about our paper ledgers and inability to transfer documents, etc.. electronically, and now we will be able to do so. It will take some transition time, but I am excited for this.

It has been suggested since the end of 2013, that I need to decrease the use of fund balance to balance the Town's yearly Budget. Our accountant has suggested this and since we are tracking towards a negative fund balance, this is critical in the 2015 Budget. Therefore you will see that I did not use any zero fund balance in Highway and A Fund's Budgets for next year.

I was able to decrease the use of fund balance, while decreasing taxes, and this was in part is due to the Lafarge Pilot Program income, as well as decreasing and consolidating areas of service, i.e.: communications, Police and Beautification Departments.

I do feel it is important to continue to give Department Heads and some of the Elected positions raises, as this has been neglected in the past several years. I also put in raises for non-union employees.

As all of you know, I do not consider the Supervisor's salary of \$45,000.00 to be a raise, as this is what it had been for years, until the past Supervisor and Board decreased it for the 2011 budget, due to the fact that the Supervisor was part-time. I feel strongly that in today's economy that \$45,000.00 dollars per year is not by any means an excessive salary for a person in my position, and if I am no longer here for the next term, I still believe that person deserves to make \$45,000.00 per year as the Supervisor. For 2014, my salary has been \$45,000.00 due to the fact the current Board voted to allow me to collect the \$15,000.00 as Budget Officer, as this is part of my job as Supervisor.

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Flach asked for a motion to adjourn the Special Meeting.

MOTION

On motion of Councilman Masti, seconded by Councilman Langdon, the Special Town Board Workshop was adjourned.

VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – SO MOVED

Time – 4:15 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

APPROVED – As Read October 27, 2014


Diane L. Millious, Town Clerk