

TOWN OF ULYSSES
WORKING SESSION 2011 BUDGET
October 5, 2010

**Audio available at www.Ulysses.ny.us

Present: Supervisor Roxanne Marino; Councilpersons David Kerness, Kevin Romer, Elizabeth Thomas and Lucia Tyler; Deputy Supervisor Sue Poelvoorde; and Town Clerk Marsha L. Georgia.

Supervisor Marino called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

Ms. Marino finalized the tentative budget and presented it to the Town Clerk on October 1, 2010.

Schedule Meetings

Before the Board started their review of the tentative budget they reviewed and scheduled additional budget meetings. Meetings set as follows:

- Oct. 13, 2010 @ 8:30 A.M.
- Oct. 22, 2010 @ 8:30 A.M.
- Oct. 26, 2010 @ 6:30 P.M.

Tentative Budget

Ms. Marino supplied an outline to the Town Board on the issues and the considerations she used to produce the tentative budget for 2011. Ms. Marino also noted that all of the original department requests are available and she has several Excel worksheets of supplemental information on particular aspects she will provide if the Board would like.

GENERAL FUND

Salaries

The Board discussed the salaries and a 1% across-the-board raise in all funds except the Highway where an overall increase of 3% to HWY employees as requested by Mr. Meeker, Highway Superintendent. Ms. Marino distributed a worksheet she received from the Town of Lansing specifying pay rates for hourly highway employees in many Tompkins County municipalities, so the Board could evaluate Mr. Meeker's request to make an overall salaries increase of 3%. She also distributed information from a summary Debbie Teeter (Enfield TB) prepared on salaries for many Town positions across the County.

NYS Retirement

The board discussed the anticipated increase in retirement expenses. The board suggested that the retirement increase in the budget did not match up with what had been presented at the county level. Supervisor Marino will investigate.

Youth Services

The Board discussed Youth Services at length because the County has reported that they are not funding Youth Programs making this very uncertain as to the expenditures and revenues in the 2011 budget.

Reserve Accounts in A Fund

The Board discussed the reserve accounts and what may need to be put aside in these accounts for 2011.

- Capital Reserve Buildings – left the same as 2010
- Employee Benefit Reserve - reduced \$4000 from 2010
- Audit Reserve - reduced by \$1000.

The Board went into discussion about the reserve accounts and the sales tax. Ms. Marino distributed a summary of all reserve accounts and also detailed information on projections on sales tax for 2011 and her outline of how much to use for the 2011 budget. Ms. Marino also distributed projected year-end 2010 unallocated fund balances and potential maximum use for 2011.

Ms. Marino asked that the Board very carefully consider the portions of sales tax and unallocated fund balances to be used in the 2011 budget as sales tax receipts are uncertain and using too much fund balance can deplete reserves.

HIGHWAY FUND

The Board discussed several appropriation accounts focusing on Equipment Reserve and Bridge Reserve. The Equipment Reserve has been increased by \$30,000 over 2010 and the Bridge Reserve was reduced by \$10,000 over 2010.

Ms. Marino explained Mr. Meeker's reasoning for this. Mr. Kerness said he would like to speak to Mr. Meeker again to see if either of these could be modified.

The Board reviewed the total balances of these reserve accounts.

The Board also reviewed the information that Mr. Meeker supplied on equipment replacement.

GENERAL PART TOWN FUND

The Board discussed the Planning PS account and what it included. The Board referred back to Ms. Marino's outline of considerations.

HIGHWAY PART TOWN

The Board discussed the Highway Capital Improvement fund of \$160,000 and having a long-term capital plan for roadwork in the future. The Board thought that the fund could be lowered slightly. Mr. Kerness will be glad to talk to Mr. Meeker.

FIRE PROTECTION

This account is the combined Fire and EMS contract with the Village of Trumansburg. The Board would like to see this line item divided out to reflect total Fire and total EMS if at all possible.

The Board discussed the proposal that the Village is working on to bill for EMS services.

The Board discussed another alternative to the Fire Contract in reference to EMS.

Health Care Consortium

Ms. Tyler previously emailed the Board that the Board has to appoint someone to serve on the Board of Directors for the Health Care Consortium.

Ms. Marino moved, seconded by Mr. Romer the following:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses appoint Lucia Tyler to serve on the Board of Directors for the Tompkins County Health Care Consortium.

Ms. Marino aye
Ms. Thomas aye
Ms. Tyler aye
Mr. Kerness aye
Mr. Romer aye

Adopted.

Ms. Marino summarized that before the next meeting she would update the Budget narrative as needed, print a tentative budget with % changes calculated and also try to print the tentative budget with page numbers.

The next budget meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2010, at 8:30 A.M.

Hearing no further business Ms. Thomas moved, seconded by Mr. Kerness to adjourn the meeting. Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 10:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha L. Georgia
Ulysses Town Clerk