

**MINUTES OF TOWN BOARD MEETING OF OCTOBER 25, 2021  
HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, 8529 MAIN ST., CAMPBELL, NEW YORK**

**PRESENT: Town Board Members:** Jeffrey Horton John R. Tschantre; Glenn Vogel, and James F. Drumm; **Town Clerk:** Michelle L. Seeley; and **Highway Supt:** Thomas A. Austin. **Bookkeeper: Wendy Oman**

**ABSENT:** Terry E. Wheat

**GUESTS:** Linda Baird, Joe Seeley, Wayne Crozier, Vicky Hargrave, Thomas Hargrave, Ida Austin, Thomas Austin, Lyle Koperczak, Norman Maynard

**Call To Order/Pledge /Roll Call/ Prior Minutes.**

Mr. Horton called the Public Hearing meeting to order at 7 p.m. at the meeting room of the Campbell Town Hall and led the pledge of allegiance. The Clerk took roll call: Terry Wheat Absent.

**2022 Preliminary Budget Public Hearing**

The Public Hearing on the proposed Preliminary 2022 budget opened for public comment at 7:02 PM.

**Public Comment**

Norm Maynard, Joseph Seeley, Thomas Austin, and Linda Baird

Mr. Maynard questioned what the difference between the adopted and modified budgets was, and asked if that meant the changes and added expenses added to the budget.

Jeffrey Horton stated that was correct.

Mr. Maynard then asked why there were so many “contractual” lines, one for each department.

Wendy Oman explained the accounts .1 or .11 is for personnel, .4 is contractual all expenses for that department, and .2 accounts are for equipment (computers etc.). All categories can be broken down into multiple parts, but for the ease of budgeting and billing the .4 accounts have been lumped into one category and are used to pay for supplies and expenses for the department.

Mr. Maynard brought up the Meet the Candidates meeting and stated that there were things that Tom had mentioned that he needed, and that all of the categories seemed to have had something removed. He also mentioned that a comment was made that the individual departments should be able to discuss their budgetary needs.

Wendy Oman explained that the line under the assessor’s payroll the 1711.70 line was COVID money that was not budgeted for this year. This COVID line has been removed from all of the departments. Also the money budgeted for equipment has been removed as no one asked for new equipment for 2022. These numbers are based on the budget sheets that the individual departments turn in at budget time. These requests are reviewed by the Board in executive session.

Thomas Hargrave questioned what the COVID money was.

Wendy Oman explained that in 2020 and 2021 she had to separate out COVID time from regular time. Even though the employees worked, the Town Hall was closed and the Town was limited on hours that could be worked. However, the employees still needed to be paid for their regular hours. Therefore half of the paychecks had to be placed into COVID money for recording purposes so the Town could be reimbursed through the Federal Government.

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Thomas Hargrave made the statement that he issued more permits than the Town has ever issued in a single year. He then stated that he did not work only part time, he worked his full hours.

Jeffrey Horton explained that the COVID line is just a way to track the money, all of the departments still had work that needed to be done. Since there is only one person in each department the Town of Campbell did not have the option of only doing part of the work.

Thomas Hargrave then asked if there was Covid Money coming back to the town.

Wendy Oman explained that the money would be coming back through the American Relief Plan (ARFA) approximately \$331,486.18 in total. The Town has received 50% \$165,069.16 so far. Those funds will be used for the town but cannot be used for personnel related items.

Wendy Oman stated that the use of the funds would be discussed by committee or brought to the Board for approval. The funds can be used over 5 years, and in different categories. The funds must be used according to FREPA guidelines and can be placed into the fund balance and used to complete projects over the next 5 years, but it must be documented. The parameters for the use of the funds changes regularly, and the money was received on Thursday (October 21, 2021).

Linda Baird questioned when the Town anticipated getting the funds and where the funds would be used.

Jeffrey Horton discussed new technology for the Town Hall and other projects.

Wendy Oman stated that she could document use of the funds for the new doors and lighting that were installed for COVID. All of these items must be documented and written and justified similar to a grant. The funds are not used in the budget but placed in a category that it has been received then reported semi-annually. The Town lost \$168,000.00 from the 2021 budget that can be claimed.

Joseph Seeley questioned if there were funds for essential workers. When and how that would be distributed.

Wendy Oman stated that there is a category for that and that it would be decided by the Board when and how that was distributed.

Supervisor Horton explained that the Board has been waiting for the final changes, and hopefully the round that came in on Thursday, will be the end of changes. Things have changed several times over the months.

Mr. Seeley then asked about pay raises. He was under the impression that if a person put in for (6%) the Board could give a raise up to that amount, but if they put in for (3%) the board could not go higher.

Wendy Oman stated the budget requests are just that, and are just for the Board to review in executive session.

Norman Maynard questioned the Casella Hakes payments.

Supervisor Horton explained that previously the landfill gave the Town money for road repairs based on an agreement with Thomas Austin to maintain the roads. On a good year they would pay \$60,000 and on an off year they would pay \$15,000. So the Town made an agreement to receive \$50,000 per year with a cap of \$100,000. If the maintenance cost is

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\$3,000 this year than \$47,000 remains in that account, that gives the Highway \$97,000 the following year for road repairs. If no money is used the following year then Hakes only gives the Town \$3,000 to bring the account to \$100,000. These funds are only to maintain Manning Ridge due to the excess traffic that the landfill brings. The other line is a host fee and is based on a percentage of dump fees paid. This line is subject to change.

Linda Baird questioned what the Town was doing with the ambulance contract for this year.

Supervisor Horton stated that the Town is following the contracted 1.5% increase for 5 years agreed on in the 2021 budget.

With no further questions or comments from the public, the Public Hearing was closed at 7:24 PM.

### **Tax Cap Override Local Law No. 1 of 2021**

Supervisor Horton read the proposed Local Law #1 of 2021:

Proposed LL#1 of 2021 (Verbiage)

#### **Section 1. Legislative Intent**

It is the intent of this local law to override the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the Town of Campbell, County of Steuben pursuant to General Municipal Law § 3-c, and. to allow the Town of Campbell, County of Steuben to adopt a town budget for (a) town purposes (b) fire protection districts and (c) any other special or improvement district governed by the town board for the fiscal year 2021 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of ' the' "tax levy limit" as defined by General Municipal Law-§ 3-c.

#### **Section 2. Authority**

This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law § 3-c, which expressly authorizes the town board to override the tax levy limit by the adoption of a local law approved by vote of sixty percent (60%) of the town board.

#### **Section 3. Tax Levy Override**

The Town Board of the Town of Campbell, County of Steuben is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year 2022 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the limit specified in General Municipal Law, Law-§ 3-c.

#### **Section 4. Severability**

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, individual, firm or corporation, or circumstance, shall be adjusted by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgement shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its application to the, person, individual, firm or corporation, or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgement or order shall be rendered.

#### **Section 5.**

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

**RESOLUTION #8 of 2021** was offered by Glenn Vogel and seconded by John Tschantre as follows:

*WHEREAS*, at the Town Board meeting held October 4, 2021 the Town Clerk was directed to set a public hearing on the tentative Local Law #1 of 2021 as a local law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law Section 3-c, October

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25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. to hear all interested parties on a proposed local law entitled "Tax Cap Override Law",

*WHEREAS*, a Notice of Public Hearing was duly advertised in The Leader on October 18, 2021 and notice was duly posted on the sign board in the Town Hall; and

*WHEREAS*, said public hearing was duly held on October 25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., with no public comment offered;

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Town Board hereby adopts said Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2021 entitled "Tax Cap Override Law", a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part of this resolution, and

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED*, that the Town Clerk be and she hereby is directed to file same as Local Law #1 of 2021, to enter said Local Law in the minutes of this meeting and in the Local Law Book of the Town, and to give due notice of the adoption of said local law to the Secretary of State of New York.

***Adopted by Roll Call vote: Horton-Aye; Drumm-Aye; Wheat-Absent; Tschantre-Aye Vogel-Aye***

**Adjournment.**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was, upon motion by James Drumm and seconded by Glenn Vogel, adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



MICHELLE L. SEELEY  
Campbell Town Clerk

**DATED:** October 28, 2021.