

**MINUTES OF BUDGET WORKSHOP OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HUNTER HELD ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2024, AT 6:00 PM AT THE TOWN HALL LOCATED ON RTE. 23A IN TANNERSVILLE, NEW YORK.**

Present:	Sean Mahoney(arriv. 6:32pm) Ernest Reale Dolph Semenza	Supervisor Councilman Councilman
	Corina Pascucci	Town Clerk
Others Present	Lara Hamrah-Poladian Ariel Woolheater Rose Santiago Robert Blain MarySusan Timpson(arriv. 7:12pm) Plus, all names on attached listing.	Budget Officer Ambulance Administrator Code Enforcement Officer Superintendent of Highways Town Justice
Absent:	David Kukle Raymond Legg	Councilman Councilman

Supervisor Mahoney calls the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

**MVP**

Supervisor Mahoney makes a MOTION to renew with MVP with the current plan, increase the sponsored deductible by \$250.00 for single and \$500.00 for family coverage by the town. Seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes -3-                      Noes -0-                      Absent -2- (Legg, Kukle)

Budget Officer note – Motion above resulting in \$3,250 and \$6,500 out of what it is going up to on 12/1/24 which is \$4,650 and \$9,300.

L. Hamrah-Poladian states the deductible is based on usage so she will not be increasing the budget.

**HIGHMARK**

As per the Town Board leave as if for retirees, L. Hamrah-Poladian reduced A9060.8 by \$14,000.

**AMBULANCE** – salaries recalculated at 3%.

Supervisor Mahoney states there is a desire to simplify the ambulance pay rates, which are currently four different rates of pay. The board wishes to compensate employees fairly without all the differential pay rates. The board asks Ariel to run numbers with the payroll department, check with other ambulance services to see how they do ambulance payroll and then present scenarios to the board.

**BUILDING/CODE ENFORCEMENT**

R. Santiago states there are currently 139 permitted short term rentals in the Town of Hunter, adding Granicus is reporting approximately 200 in the town. She states some owners have now decided to rent seasonally (30+ days) and not use the home as a short-term rental. Also, some units have since been sold. She adds that Granicus has many properties listed as unidentified and she is still doing a lot of work by hand as it still is not the full package up and running. She states the address id is working, the hotline seems to be working (she asks that the number be put on the website) however, the mailings are not up and running. She states that Granicus does not send letters certified return receipt to the town may not be able to use this module. She adds that most of those who received letters are working on coming into compliance but a lot of the letters that went to LLCs are being returned.

Discussion on asking the Town Attorney if the Building Department can emblazon their door like a stop work order.

B2770 budget \$85,000 for STR revenue. This was increased from what the department originally submitted (\$30,000).

Supervisor Mahoney states the board never adopted the new building rate fees. He asks the Code Enforcement Officer to submit those rates for the next meeting for the board to adopt.

Supervisor Mahoney asks the CEO to prioritize getting all existing short-term rentals permitted over trying to bill people from the past who are no longer running a short-term rental and are no longer listed on a platform.

### **JUSTICE COURT**

Supervisor Mahoney states it is the board's desire to have a single full time court clerk. Justice Timpson states this is what is reflected in the budget and is the plan for January.

L. Hamrah-Poladian suggests the town place a general ad for one full time employee and one part time employee to begin gathering resumes.

Supervisor Mahoney asks the Town Clerk to forward him the draft help wanted ad in the morning.

### **LIGHTING**

L. Hamrah-Poladian suggests offsetting the lighting districts using fund balance to reduce what needs to be raised by tax.

SL1 \$500.00

SL2 \$9,000.00

SL3 \$700.00

She has budgeted \$200,000 of fund balance for A, \$25,000 for B, \$110,000 for DA and \$60,000 for DB.

L. Hamrah-Poladian states she can work a tax rate with removing the \$60,000 from DA5142.2 and the \$31,500 from DA5142.21 and leaving the \$110,000 for DA fund balance.

R. Blain states the town was awarded the bid for the 2021 Western Star Dump truck from the Village of Tannersville for \$143,000.

**PUBLIC HEARING BUDGET**

Supervisor Mahoney makes a MOTION to hold a Public Hearing on the budget on 10/29/24 at 6pm with a budget workshop to follow. Seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes -3-                      Noes -0-                      Absent -2- (Legg, Kukle)

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilman Reale makes a MOTION to go into Executive Session at 8:38 PM to discuss the employment history of individuals. Seconded by Supervisor Mahoney.

Ayes -3-                      Noes -0-                      Absent -2- (Legg, Kukle)

Supervisor Mahoney makes a MOTION to come out of Executive Session at 9:02 PM. Seconded by Councilman Reale.

Ayes -3-                      Noes -0-                      Absent -2- (Legg, Kukle)

**PAY RATE CHANGE**

Supervisor Mahoney makes a MOTION per a suggestion from the Town Clerk to increase the hourly rate for Jayne Bogus to \$21.00 per hour effective immediately, as well as increasing the hourly rate for Debra Reme to \$20.00 per hour effective immediately. There will be no cost of living raise of 3% for these two employees in 2025. Also, Debra Reme will be compensated four (4) hours of holiday pay for each legal holiday to mimic existing part time employees. Seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes -3-                      Noes -0-                      Absent -2- (Legg, Kukle)

Supervisor Mahoney makes a MOTION to adjourn at 9:06 PM. Seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes -3-                      Noes -0-                      Absent -2- (Legg, Kukle)

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Corina Pascucci, Town Clerk, RMC  
Town of Hunter