

The Seneca Falls Town Board held a Budget Workshop on Wednesday, October 7, 2009 in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 81 W. Bayard Street.

Present were Supervisor Peter Same; Councilpersons Duane Moore, Lucille Cook, Stephen Dougherty and Timothy Snyder. Also present was Beverly Warfel, Account Clerk.

Supervisor Same called the Meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. A roll call was taken of the Board Members and all were present.

B-Fund – Zoning & Planning: Mr. Turkett stated basically, with the exception of salaries, all the line items remain the same as this year. He thanked the Board for last year's increase; it was very generous and it brought him closer to midpoint in the Amtek study, as well as some other communities and the Village. That brought him to midpoint at 15 hours per week. The revenue that was brought in last year was \$15,332.00, which covered his salary.

Mr. Turkett stated the Amtek study at midpoint shows \$20.28 an hour. He documented 20 hours a week which brings a salary of \$21,091.00. He has been in the position for eight years, and he is requesting a salary of \$20,000.00. The Village currently pays about \$16,500.00 for two people, and in March, they will be getting an increase. Mr. Turkett said he is at \$15,000.00, and he is requesting \$20,000.00 because midpoint is \$21,000.00; most of the Employees in the Town are at midpoint. Brief discussion followed.

Mr. Turkett stated his appointment is a yearly appointment; the position in the Village was made a civil service position for Code Enforcement Officer. Discussion followed relative to Mr. Turkett's conversation with the Personnel Officer Frank Sinicropi relative to a civil service position.

Mr. Turkett stated he spent additional hours over the 20 hours a week helping to expedite projects, such as the Wal-Mart, Hampton Inn, Rite-Aid, the Noble Road Condos, Route 414 Car Wash, patio homes, etc. He said he doesn't base the number of hours or the effort based on what he makes - he does what he needs to do to get the job done.

The Board continued to review the Budget. Debt Service (V9720) is based upon what the debt is that has to be paid that year. Fire Contracts (SF1-4310.4) is contractual – nothing can be changed. Ken-Mor Street Lighting (SL5182.4) was lowered a little bit because the fund balance has been gradually building each year. Refuse (SR8160.4) remains the same as it is contractual.

Bridgeport Sewer District: Mrs. Warfel indicated that \$20,000.00 of the Fund Balance will be used potentially. Mr. Same stated typically, what is in the Budget for expenses doesn't get spent, so every year, there is a little increase in Fund Balance. The current Fund Balance is \$500,000.00; the projected Fund Balance as of January 1, 2010 will be \$356,559.96.

Water/Sewer Administration (SW1-8310) – Mrs. Warfel stated this is for West Seneca Falls Water & Sewer; \$10,000.00 is in the Budget for repairs – there is no debt service. Bridgeport Area Water (SW2-9720) is debt service plus interest. Bridgeport Fire District – Mrs. Warfel explained that they levy a tax for the people in that District to raise the money to run their Fire Department; the Town has no control over this Budget.

Recreation: Mr. Same stated Mr. Spina was given the same challenge as other department heads were given. He has submitted adjustments to his Budget in the amount of \$35,000.00. Mr. Spina stated the Rec/Parks Budget worksheets that were submitted on September 20<sup>th</sup> showed a decrease of \$10,000.00 in the Rec/Parks Budget and \$11,800.00 in the Vince's Park Budget from the 2009 Budget. He asked that the Board keep this in mind as the Budget is discussed that it is already lighter than it was in 2009.

The adjustments that Mr. Spina made were discussed. The lawn mower (RC7180.21) can be pushed off for two years. He will be purchasing two Elliptical machines (RC7180.292) instead of three. Tree trimming (RC7180.43) can be removed. Mr. Spina presented options for added Income. He noted adding \$5.00 to registrations for all youth sports/adult recreation programs could bring in approximately \$3,000.00 more. Also, adding \$10.00 per program for all youth summer camps could bring in approximately \$2,000.00 more. Mr. Same asked what other communities are charging; Mr. Spina replied our Rec is a little cheaper. He noted summer camp fees have not been raised in about ten years. After brief discussion as to increasing fees, Mr. Same said he feels they should be raised because they have not been raised in years.

Mr. Spina referred to the Summer Play Program, and said the School has been hesitant to give them prices on busing for programs. He discussed this with Mr. McKeveney, and he will give them a solid price; they will take the cost of the bus and add it to the cost of the program, and that is what they will charge (this year, they took in about \$6,200.00, and the cost of bus transportation was \$7,500.00). Mr. Spina stated they have to keep that Summer Play Program free because the Town receives State Aid, so they have to offer a free summer program. Further discussion followed.

Mr. Spina mentioned the option of increasing the rental for Community Center Rental for private parties by \$25.00; it is now \$50.00. Mr. Dougherty suggested increasing the rental fee by \$10.00 or \$15.00. Mr. Snyder stated Mr. Spina polled some people regarding the \$25.00 increase and they didn't have a problem with it. After brief discussion, Mr. Same stated he didn't think the \$25.00 increase was a problem.

Mr. Same stated he thinks the options to increase fees are all reasonable. Mrs. Cook said the Town won't get State Aid unless it offers a free program. Mr. Spina said the Summer Play Program is designated as the free program. He added it is a vital program for many kids who, in the summer time, might be left alone. Brief discussion followed.

Vince's Park: Mr. Same asked if there is a charge for the use of the small room in the pool area at Vince's Park. Mr. Spina replied that he and Mr. Korzeniewski spoke about that. They are going to advertise it heavy in the winter and in the spring. The charge is \$50.00 for residents and \$75.00 for non-residents. Mr. Same said there is an income coming from that room.

Mr. Spina stated he took out Line Item for Insurance (SP7110.417) - \$5,250.00; it's been there for years and has never been spent. Playground Equipment (SP7110.455) was decreased by \$3,000.00; he can do without adding more equipment. He took out \$700.00 from Equipment for the pool (SP7180.21); they shouldn't need much equipment. The total decrease in the Budget by taking out these items is \$8,950.00.

Mr. Spina mentioned options for increased income. The pool usage fees can be reinstated. If you have 6,000 swimmers at \$2.00 per person, income can be increased by \$12,000.00, but you may not have 6,000 swimmers if you charge a fee. He noted the Recreation Commission is against pool usage fees – they feel that free swimming is best for kids. He mentioned the Seneca County Swimming Lessons, and said they can institute a fee of \$.50 per kid which should bring in \$1,000.00. Discussion followed relative to fees for the pool.

Mr. Same asked how the Board felt about charging for swimming at the pool. Mr. Dougherty was not in favor of charging a fee for pool usage. Mr. Snyder said he is not in favor of charging a fee for pool usage, but he is in favor of charging the County for use of the pool for swimming lessons. Mr. Same said he doesn't think there is enough money involved in the County to even charge (\$1,000.00). He added if the Board wanted to put a fee on it - that is fine. The Board agreed on instituting all of the above changes except the charges for swimming for Seneca Falls Residents. Mr. Same said this would increase revenues by \$8,500.00. He added between Vince's Park and the Recreation Program, the total decrease is over \$50,000.00. Mr. Spina stated if you add that to what he took out in September, it's almost \$75,000.00.

Mr. Same asked about the Kids' Territory playground equipment. Mr. Spina replied it is a problem; if the Board asked him to get another year out of it, he would have Mr. Nicholson get after it and see what he can do. He doesn't think by 2011, it will be a safe area for kids. He said Mr. Marquart spoke to the Gentleman who did the pole barn at Kids' Territory and he would take the lumber out and take it away. He spoke to Mr. Morrell about it, and Mr. Morrell said it would be legal; this would save the time it would take to do it. Mr. Same remarked that it is a well used playground. Mr. Spina stated when they built it in 1990, there was a 15-year life on it; Mr. Nicholson has done a great job in trying to keep it maintained. Discussion followed as to whether or not money was put in the Budget for the playground equipment.

Mr. Same asked what the cost would be; Mr. Spina replied the quote was \$125,000.00 with demo – he would have to get a new quote. Mr. Same stated he realizes the Board has to do something. He asked the Board to discuss what it wants to do, which it proceeded to do. Mr. Same said he thinks it should be a 2011 project. He added Mr. Spina has made some good headway. He doesn't know how the Board should address the playground equipment. He suggested letting it go for another year. The Board was in agreement. Mr. Spina said he would have Mr. Marquart contact the Gentleman to see if he would be willing to wait another year to take the lumber out.

The Board discussed the full time Court Security person that was requested by the Judge. Mr. Same stated he doesn't think the Board is in a position to add a full time person – it's adding an expense that the Town can't really afford at this point. Mr. Moore noted it's a far cry from \$25,000.00 to \$43,000.00 (the Judge put \$25,000.00 in the Budget for this position). Mrs. Cook stated after looking at all the numbers, the Town cannot afford it. Mr. Snyder said it obviously puts it more in prospective when you add the benefits. After brief discussion, the Board agreed to take the \$25,000.00 out of the Budget for this position. Mr. Same said we need to make sure the doors are locked. Mrs. Cook commented that the doors should stay locked until 9:00 A.M. each day.

Projected Fund Balances were discussed, as well as items that were taken out of the Budget.

Mrs. Cook stated Finger Lakes TV (A8989.49) has asked for more money this year; she doesn't think it should go up every year. Mr. Dougherty suggested decreasing it to \$2,000.00. The Board was in agreement. Mr. Dougherty asked about the line item for Gateway Signs (A8989.43). Mr. Same said this has been in the Budget for 3-4 years, and nothing has been done. The Board agreed to decrease this line item to zero. Reflective

Numbering (B3410.41) was mentioned. After brief discussion, it was decided to decrease this line item to zero.

The Board discussed the Seneca Falls Fire Department's request for funding – a depth finder/GPS System, two remote controlled search/spotlights and four rescue life jackets for a total of \$2,880.00. Mr. Same stated the Board helped with the boat motor this year, and it will try to modify the boat launch behind the Community Center next year. After brief discussion, Mr. Same said the response would be the Board helped them with the boat motor this year, and it will try to modify the boat launch next year. He added it will not be put in the Budget – at this point, the Board doesn't have the finances to do it.

Mrs. Cook mentioned the line item for Miscellaneous (A7550.43); it was reduced to \$2,500.00. Mr. Snyder asked about Red Jacket Fire Department's request; Mr. Same replied it's in the Budget.

Salaries were discussed by the Board. Mr. Same stated the Board took into consideration the requests made by Steve Turkett, Don Wood and Susan Sauvageau, and elected to not grant their requests. Steve Turkett's salary will not change other than 2%; Susan Sauvageau's salary will change by 2%, and Don Wood's salary will change by 2% - the Administration stipend and the Construction Manager stipend will stay the same. The Town Board, Town Supervisor and Town Clerk's salaries will be increased by 2% (rounded out to the nearest \$5.00). Employees will get a 1% cost-of-living increase and an additional increase up to 1% depending on their evaluations.

Discussion followed relative to the Dissolution Meeting to be held tomorrow Evening. After discussion, a motion was made to locate and hire a legal Firm with expertise in dissolution by Lucille Cook and seconded by Tim Snyder. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Being there was no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the Meeting by Stephen Dougherty and seconded by Lucille Cook. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

NICALETTA J. GREER  
Town Clerk

The Seneca Falls Town Board held a Special Meeting on Thursday, October 8, 2009 in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 81 W. Bayard Street.

Present were Supervisor Peter Same; Councilpersons Timothy Snyder, Stephen Dougherty, Lucille Cook and Duane Moore. Also present was Patrick Morrell, Attorney for the Town.

Supervisor Same called the Special Meeting to order at 6:05 P.M. A roll call was taken of the Board Members and all were present; the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Mr. Same stated the Board was asked to schedule this Special Meeting as the Dissolution Committee has a plan in a draft form of the services the Village currently provides, and they are asking the Town Board how they can continue those services should dissolution go through. He noted the public will get an opportunity to comment after the Dissolution Committee makes their presentation and the Board interacts with them.

Chairman Philip Dressing explained the process and presented the following plan, asking the Town Board to indicate support that could later be turned into Intermunicipal agreements to take over Village services:

1. Planning. The Planning proposal provides for the continuation of the Boards, Commissions, Historic District, Zoning codes and enforcement under Town management.
2. Administration. Transfer current service obligations, assets and personnel to the Town.
3. Public Works. Move Village responsibilities, assets and some staff to the Town. A lighting district would be created for current Village boundaries.
4. Water & Sewer. Transfer assets, equipment, people and debt to Town control while changing nothing regarding customer base and services provided.
5. Debt. Debt, other than fire and water and sewer debt, would be paid down by current Village funds or a

