

**MINUTES OF THE BUDGET WORKSHOP HELD OCTOBER 17, 2019 AT THE THURMAN TOWN HALL 311
ATHOL ROAD, ATHOL, NEW YORK COMMENCING AT 6:30 PM....**

PRESENT: Brenda Ackley, Councilwoman

Joan Harris, Councilwoman

Douglas Needham, Councilman

Gail Seaman, Councilwoman

Cynthia Hyde, Supervisor

RECORDING SECRETARY: Susan E. Staples, Town Clerk

Supervisor Hyde called the meeting to order at **6:30 pm**. She asked how many of you have changes to the Budget that was prepared. **Councilwoman Seaman** noted **Cynthia** we have a lot of changes that.....We just need to go line by line. **Supervisor Hyde** noted we are going to go through them line by line, and you are going to vote on each change. We are all going to vote on each change. We are not going to do it like we did last year. **Councilwoman Seaman** noted no you don't vote on each change. Because no.....**Supervisor Hyde** continued noting yes we are so the **Town Clerk** can record it. **Councilwoman Seaman** replied that is not how it is done because we are not going to accidentally give you a Preliminary Budget. That is what a vote does. So we decide what we are changing, and then we vote on the entire thing. That is how you vote. **Supervisor Hyde** responded well no, no because if we don't vote on each change then you won't know who is making all the changes. **Councilwoman Seaman** interrupted noting we take the concessious. No we take a consenious. Absolutely that is why we (inaudible) have a copy. **Supervisor Hyde** asked do you have your changes written down **Mrs. Seaman**. **Councilwoman Seaman** replied I have some suggestions for people. **Supervisor Hyde** responded (inaudible) changes. OK then let's hear them because I don't have any changes so you get started. **Councilwoman Seaman** suggested the following changes with **Councilwoman Ackley and Councilman Needham** agreeing to the changes.

Tentative 2020 Budget Preliminary 2020 Budget

General Fund Revenues

OTHER TAX ITEMS

Other Payment in Lieu of Taxes	1,000	2,000
Real Property Tax Interest & Penalty	2,620	2,620
Occupancy Tax	40,000	45,000
Non-Property Tax Distribution	400,000	350,000

DEPARTMENTAL INCOME

Town Clerk Fees	378	275
Copy Fees	8	50

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	Tentative 2020 Budget	Preliminary 2020 Budget
Dog Control Fees	630	200
Vital Statistic Fees	120	0
Refuse and Garbage Charges	9,227	11,500
<u>USE OF MONEY AND PROPERTY</u>		
Interest and Earnings	100	100
Rental of Real Property	200	100
<u>LICENSES AND PERMITS</u>		
Licenses	300	300
Marriage Licenses	35	35
<u>FINES AND FORFEITURES</u>		
Fines, Forfeits of Bail	1,000	1,000
<u>SALES OF PROPERTY & COMPENSATION</u>		
<u>FOR LOSS</u>		
Sale of Surplus Scrap	500	1,500
<u>STATE AID</u>		
State per Capita Aid	22,000	20,000
State Aid Mtg Tax	15,000	11,000
Programs for the Aging	1,800	2,000
State Aid Youth Program	1375	1375
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES	\$496,293.00	\$449,055.00
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES		
<u>TOWN BOARD</u>		
Town Board PS	13,296	12,784
Town Board CE	3,000	3,000
TOTAL	16,296	15,784

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JUSTICES

Justices PS	6,000	5,720
Justices PS-2	6,084	5,600
Justice EQ	1,500	1,500
Justices CE	3,000	3,000
TOTAL	16,584	15,820

SUPERVISOR

Supervisor PS	11,232	10,800
Sec/Bookkeeper Personal Services	33,400	19,500
Supervisor CE	4,000	4,000
TOTAL	48,632	34,300

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Director of Finance P/S	2,200	0
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TAX COLLECTION

Tax Collector PS	3,250	3,184
Tax Collector CE	2,580	2,500
TOTAL	5,830	5,684

ASSESSORS

Assessor Chairman	12,500	11,000
Assessor PS	12,500	11,000
Assessor CE	3,275	3,275
TOTAL	28,275	25,275

TOWN CLERK

Town Clerk PS	20,280	19,200
Town Clerk PS-2	6,240	4,000
Town Clerk CE	2,550	2,000
TOTAL	29,070	25,200

ATTORNEY

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Attorney CE	7,000	7,000
	Tentative 2020 Budget	Preliminary 2020 Budget

ENGINEER

Engineer CE	15,000	15,000
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ELECTIONS

Elections CE	1,500	1,500
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BUILDINGS

Buildings PS	6,000	8,000
Buildings CE	30,000	40,000
TOTAL	36,000	48,000

SPECIAL ITEMS

Unallocated Insurance	25,000	25,000
Municipal Association Dues	1,600	1,600
Contingency Account	10,000	10,000
TOTAL	36,600	36,600

TOTAL GENERAL GOV'T

SUPPORT	242,987	230,163
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PUBLIC SAFETY

ANIMAL CONTROL

Dog Control PS	3,060	3,000
Dog Control EQ	200	200
Dog Control CE	1,800	1,800
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	5,060	5,000

HEALTH

REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

Regis. of Vital Stats PS	1,082	1,040
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LABORATORY

Laboratory CE	2,000	2,000
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AMBULANCE

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Ambulance CE	50,000	50,000
	Tentative 2020 Budget	Preliminary 2020 Budget
TOTAL HEALTH	53,082	53,040
TRANSPORTATION		
<u>SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAY</u>		
Supt. Of Highway PS	43,555	42,104
Supt. Of Highway EQ	1,200	1,200
TOTAL SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAY	44,755	43,304
<u>GARAGE</u>		
Garage CE	20,000	20,000
<u>STREET LIGHTING</u>		
Street Lighting CE	1,000	1,000
TOTAL TRANSPORTATION	65,755	64,304
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE & OPPORTUNITY		
<u>VETERAN'S SERVICES</u>		
Veterans Services CE	250	250
<u>PROGRAMS FOR THE AGING</u>		
Programs for Aging CE	7,500	7,500
<u>OTHER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</u>		
Tourism CE	40,000	45,000
TOTAL ECONOMIC ASSIST. & OPPORTUNITY	47,500	52,750
CULTURE AND RECREATION		
<u>YOUTH PROGRAMS</u>		
Youth Programs CE	1,375	1,625
<u>HISTORIAN</u>		
Historian CE		50
TOTAL CULTURE AND RECREATION	1,375	1,675

Tentative 2020 Budget Preliminary 2020 Budget

HOME & COMMUNITY SERVICES

REFUSE AND GARBAGE

Refuse/Garbage PS	23,000	23,000
Refuse/Garbage CE	20,000	20,000

CEMETERIES

Cemeteries PS	4,600	4,600
Cemeteries CE	700	700

MISC. HOME & COMM SERVICES

Personnel Services	6,000	5,200
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TOTAL HOME AND COMMUNITY

SERVICES	54,300	53,500
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EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

State Retirement	15,000	15,000
Social Security (Town Share)	17,000	17,000
Workers Comp	14,300	14,300
Unemployment Insurance	1,900	1,900
Disability Insurance	500	500
Medical Insurance	30,000	30,000
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	78,700	78,700

TOTAL ESTIMATED

APPROPRIATIONS	549,009	539,132
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HIGHWAY FUND REVENUES

LOCAL SOURCES

Real Property Tax		
Transportation Services	269.713	269.713
Interest & Earnings	500	500
Sale of Surplus Scrap	500	500

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STATE AID

State Aid/CHIPS 204,000 204,000

TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES 474,713 474,713

HIGHWAY FUND EXPENSES

MAINTENANCE OF ROADS

General Repairs PS 297,544 297,544

General Repairs CE 50,000 50,000

IMPROVEMENTS

Capital Outlay 203,881 184,240

BRIDGES

Capital Outlay 5,000 5,000

Contractual 5,000 5,000

MACHINERY

Contractual 100,000 100,000

BRUSH & WEEDS

Personal Services 5,600 5,600

SNOW REMOVAL

Personal Services 37,000 37,000

Contractual 125,500 125,500

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT &

CAPITAL OUTLAY

Equipment 125,000 100,000

EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

State Retirement 55,000 55,000

Social Security 26,021 26,021

Unemployment Insurance 1,000 1,000

Disability Insurance 1,000 1,000

Medical Insurance	125,000	125,000
	Tentative 2020 Budget	Preliminary 2020 Budget
TOTAL ESTIMATED APPROPRIATIONS	1,163,046	1,117,905

ENTERPRISE FUND

Estimated Revenue

Other Home &

Community Services 5,090

Discussion: Supervisor Hyde noted you have saved only \$44,601.00. Where are you going to find the other almost 100,000? **Councilwoman Harris** noted some people think he has too many employees over there. Maybe he needs to fire a couple. **Councilwoman Seaman** stated I don't think so **Joan. Supervisor Hyde** noted the problem is....The problem is.....**Councilwoman Harris** noted I don't think that, but I know that people think that. **Supervisor Hyde** noted the Tax Cap if you can't stay under it you have to override it guys. That is why I wanted to do that Resolution because just in case. **Councilwoman Seaman** interrupted her noting **Cynthia** it can be done now if it has too. **Supervisor Hyde** stated we have to call a Public Hearing. **Councilwoman Seaman** noted yeah we do. **Supervisor Hyde** noted then we have too.....I am hoping that there is still time in order to do the process. **Councilwoman Seaman** noted let's see what this comes out to. **Supervisor Hyde** with all those changes it come out that you still need to cut almost a 100,000 to stay under the Tax Cap. **Councilwoman Seaman** replied well you know what I think we have some additions to do. **Supervisor Hyde** noted and that.....To override that Tax Cap, and stay with at least you know kind of like this Budget would have cost 70 cents per 1,000. So if you have a house that was assessed at 100,000 your taxes would go up \$70.00. **Councilwoman Seaman** replied you offered us a 17.34% increase in taxes. That is what it adds up to. **Supervisor Hyde** noted you like to make it sound really scary. 70 cents per 1,000 isn't all that scary. And you have to remember that the State of New York has a big chunk of land in Thurman, and they pay a great big huge share of the taxes. **Councilwoman Seaman** interrupted noting last year.....**Cynthia** (inaudible) taxes never come off. They only get bigger. She continued they pay only what they want to pay, and the point of it is it still ends up 17.34%. So why don't we just do it the way we are supposed to dear. **Supervisor Hyde** asked and what way is that. **Councilwoman Seaman** responded the right way by thinking about the taxpayers. **Supervisor Hyde** noted I don't know where else you are going to cut. You already made all your cuts. Is there any more to cut. **Councilwoman Seaman** responded **Cynthia**. **Supervisor Hyde** remarked 100,000 is a lot to have to cut. I don't know where you are going to find it. **Councilwoman Ackley** asked where can we go back and make room for or is it may be possible to get the playground equipment. **Councilwoman Seaman** replied actually that can be budgeted right in the.....That can be budgeted right in the Occupancy Tax because **Mike Swan** said it could be used for that. **Supervisor Hyde** stated excuse me what are you going to use the Occupancy Tax for. **Councilwoman Seaman** replied the playground equipment. It can be used for that. **Supervisor Hyde** noted you want to cut.....You are trying to stay under the Tax Cap, but you want to buy playground equipment. **Councilwoman Seaman** replied for kids using Occupancy Tax you bet ya. **Supervisor Hyde** noted you are trying to find almost \$100,000.00 to cut, but you want to buy playground equipment. That makes a lot of sense. **Councilwoman Seaman** noted **Cynthia** what part of Occupancy Tax do you not understand. Like Queensbury uses their

Occupancy we (inaudible). **Supervisor Hyde** noted what is using Occupancy Tax money for playgrounds have to do with trying to stay under the Tax Cap. **Councilwoman Seaman** responded actually Occupancy Tax is what the County gives u so it is already OK. **Supervisor Hyde** noted this is like a joke. It is a total joke. **Councilwoman Seaman** responded no it is actually budgeting. You haven't done it though. **Supervisor Hyde** remarked no it is not. It is not budgeting. It is **Gail** playing more games with the Town of Thurman, and the Town of Thurman will suffer for it because **Gail** thinks somehow, somehow she gets at **Cynthia**. Well it doesn't hurt **Cynthia**, it hurts the whole town. **Gail's** games have hurt the town for two years, and here she is playing her last game. **Councilwoman Seaman** interrupted noting **Cynthia** you are the one who hasn't done anything for the town. **Councilwoman Harris** asked OK what are we doing here folks. **Supervisor Hyde** replied playing games. Playing really, really bad games. **Councilwoman Seaman** noted let's see what we have forWell what we can do is we can have another Budget Meeting, but we can also just approve a Preliminary Budget then we have at least the changes we made approved, and we can work from there. **Supervisor Hyde** asked OK is there any more changes that you want to make in this Budget before we call Preliminary? **Councilwoman Seaman** responded I think we went line by line. **Supervisor Hyde** replied you did. OK so are we all set you are going to call this Preliminary. **Councilwoman Seaman** noted OK now just to put this into perspective right now for the General Fund for the 2020 Budget we have proposed \$539,492.00. **Councilwoman Harris** asked about the figure, and **Councilwoman Seaman** repeated it. She continued in the 2019 Budget the proposal was \$573,905.00 so we are actually less than the proposal was for the 2019 Budget. **Supervisor Hyde** noted also we are going to have people that are going to have to work less hours. People making less pay will work less hours so don't think you are getting something for all these cuts. Cause you are not. You are losing from these cuts. OK, don't be fooled. **Councilwoman Seaman** interrupted noting no actually it doesn't matter. She continued so once the numbers are done I would like to propose that we at least pass these changes for a Preliminary Budget, and then we have until the end of November to work on this if we.....After a Public Hearing if we need to change anything else, and if we need to add or subtract. **Supervisor Hyde** noted OK you want to call a vote. Roll call. The **Town Clerk** noted roll call vote to the changes in the budget. **Supervisor Hyde** noted on the changes that the Board made tonight. **Councilwoman Seaman** noted to adapt as these as the Preliminary Budget. **Supervisor Hyde** noted if it passes. **Councilwoman Ackley** made a comment and **Councilwoman Seaman** noted all's that we are voting on is the changes we made line by line. **Councilman Needham** noted this is the Preliminary. **Councilwoman Seaman** noted this is the Preliminary it can be changed at any time before the end of November. The **Town Clerk** asked OK we ready for the vote. **A Roll Call Vote Was Called.**

The Board Voted as Follows: Ayes~3 Ackley, Needham, Seaman, Nays~2 Harris, Hyde

Discussion: **Councilwoman Ackley** asked if you say no then why didn't you disagree when we were going through the lines. **Councilwoman Harris** replied I am not going to argue with her (inaudible) idiots. **Supervisor Hyde** noted we have to call a public hearing, and we are going to pass the Resolution to do the Tax Cap override. **Councilwoman Seaman** stated we have to have a Public Hearing for that. **Supervisor Hyde** noted first we have to do the Resolution which I did not bring down. We had the Resolution in the last meeting packet that you all voted down so let me go get it, and we are going to have to.....Are you going toDo you guys want to override the Tax Cap or at least hope that we have enough time now to override the Tax Cap or not before I go walking upstairs. **Councilwoman Seaman** noted you might as walk, and go get it. As long as we have a Preliminary Budget we can think about that.

Supervisor Hyde responded no, no you have to think about it tonight. Do you want.....Do you want to go ahead.....**Councilwoman Seaman** replied that is what I said go up and get it. **Supervisor Hyde** asked so are you willing to pass it. **Councilwoman Seaman** replied no we are willing to hold a Public Hearing, and then if we want it passed we have to pass (inaudible). **Supervisor Hyde** noted we have to pass the Resolution to introduce it. Yes that doesn't mean it passes it means we will have a public hearing. **Councilman Needham** asked if we could pass it right now. **Councilwoman Seaman** noted we can't pass it we have to have a Public Hearing on it first. **Supervisor Hyde** asked how many days notice do you need to do a Public Hearing. The **Town Clerk** replied I think it is 5 days notice I believe. **Supervisor Hyde** noted let' see I have to change this date. **Councilwoman Seaman** noted 5 business days. **Supervisor Hyde** noted today is the 17th we should have probably like the 28th or 29th. **Councilwoman Harris** asked of what. **Supervisor Hyde and Councilwoman Seaman** responded October. **Supervisor Hyde** noted we really should adopt a budget before the election because you really absolutely wrong to deliberately wait to adopt the Budget to see who is going to win. That is ridiculous. **Councilwoman Ackley** asked what does the Law Book say that is what I want to know. I don't care about the election. **Supervisor Hyde** stated it has to be adapted by the 15th. **Councilwoman Seaman** stated of November. **Supervisor Hyde** continued noting but **Mrs. Seaman** is making it very clear what she wants to do because she is playing games. It shouldn't matter who wins, who loses the Budget isn't for the person who was elected. It is for the people of this town. It is for to operate the town, and to play games with a budget is a disgrace. It is a disgrace. It is a total disgrace. How about either....You won't be able to put it in tomorrow. The **Town Clerk** replied I will come in, and put it in in the morning. **Supervisor Hyde** asked what. The **Town Clerk** noted I will come in in the morning, and put it in. **Supervisor Hyde** asked so do you want to have it on one, two, three, four, five. Maybe we should have it on the 28th or 29th just to be safe. **Councilwoman Harris** stated the 29th. **Supervisor Hyde** noted the 29th is a Tuesday. **Councilwoman Harris** noted cause the 28th is a very special day. **Supervisor Hyde** noted so do I have a motion.....**Councilwoman Seaman** asked is the 29th OK with everybody else. **Councilwoman Ackley** replied no I have sports that night so if you don't want me to be here go ahead. **Councilwoman Seaman** noted why don't we do it on the 28th then. **Supervisor Hyde** asked you want to do it on the 28th. **Councilwoman Harris** replied I guess, but make sure you bring me a birthday cake. **Supervisor Hyde** asked the rest of the Board if the 28th was good for them. The **Town Clerk** asked what time. 6 o'clock. **Supervisor Hyde** noted well I am waiting to see if the 28th is good for **Brenda**. OK the 28th. 6 o'clock or 6:30. 6:30 was agreed upon. **Supervisor Hyde** noted let me add to this (the Resolution). We are going to hold a Public Hearing, and..... We will do it the same night. Do I have a motion to get a Resolution to introduce a Local Law, and provide notice of Hearings on the floor.

RESOLUTION

Resolution # 74

On a motion introduced by **Councilwoman Harris** and seconded by **Councilwoman Ackley**

RESOLUTION INTRODUCING LOCAL LAW AND PROVIDING FOR NOTICE AND HEARING

RESOLVED that local law "TAX LEVY LIMIT OVERRIDE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020" is hereby introduced and be it

RESOLVED that the Town Board will hold a Public Hearing on local law "TAX LEVY LIMIT OVERRIDE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020" at 6:30 pm on October 28, 2019 and be it

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RESOLVED to hold a Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget on October 28, 2019 immediately following the Public Hearing on the local law and be it

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk will publish a notice of the hearings in the newspaper.

Discussion: Supervisor Hyde asked If there was any questions.

Motion Carried: Ayes~5 Ackley, Harris, Needham, Seaman, Hyde, Nays~0

Motion to Adjourn: On a motion by **Councilwoman Harris** and seconded by **Councilwoman Seaman** the meeting was adjourned at **9:08 pm**.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan E Staples, Town Clerk

October 29, 2019