

November 18, 2022 the regular Town Board monthly meeting/ Public Hearing for the 2023 Budget was held beginning at 7 P.M. with Councilman Raymond absent. Supervisor Ferguson led the pledge to the flag.

The Public Hearing was called to order at 7:01. A discussion about the removal of DA5132.4 in the amount of \$70,000 from the Highway Budget and placing it in General Budget was explained by Sup. Ferguson that it will remain in the Highway Budget as a slush fund to cover any unexpected expenses arising from the lack of State Aid assistance or shortfalls. The percentage increase of salt and sand, benefits for employees and back pay from the past year of contract negotiations that has yet to be determined was not included in the Highway Budget because there was overestimated amounts placed in the previous Budgets and there is left over money to cover the increases. Sewer District #1 will have an increase in their Operation and Maintenance Fee for 2023 to \$800 and Supervisor Ferguson noted that the district is aware of the increase as is the SD#1 Association Committee due to the Sewer District #1 Project for the future. Highway Superintendent Hobus once again reiterated from a past audit conducted by New York State Comptroller's Office it was recommended that DA5132.4 be placed in A5132.4 and Sup. Ferguson said he would put the \$70,000 in the General Budget. Mr. Hobus asked about the possibility of the town acquiring a credit card for extensive purchases so that those purchases do not have to be made using his personal credit card accounts. Sup. Ferguson stated that he is still working with Community Bank and getting all the necessary paperwork to make it happen. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:54 p.m. and the roll call vote on the adoption of the 2023 Town Wide Budget is as follows: Councilman Wilbur-AYE; Councilman Barber-AYE; Councilman Brown-AYE; Councilman Raymond-ABSENT The 2023 Budget was passed as presented by the Budget Officer. Copies are available in the Clerk's office.

A motion to accept the previous month's minutes was made by Coun. Brown and was seconded by Coun. Barber and all were in favor. A motion to pay the audited bills was made by Coun. Wilbur and was seconded by Coun. Barber and all were in favor.

Old Business: None

New Business: The monthly financials were given to the board and are on file in the clerk's office. **Resolution #15-2022** titled **Budget Adjustments** for reallocating monies around to cover costs was moved by a motion by Coun. Brown and seconded by Coun. Barber and all were in favor. An inspection was recently done by Washington County Code Enforcement for the outside stairway on the Town Hall and it has been determined that they will need to be replaced to be safe as a second exit to the building. A new panel box is necessary so therefore an inspection will need to be done once the project is complete since the power will need to be disconnected. Due to the extent of the replacement a public notice will need to go into the Whitehall Times stating that the town will be accepting sealed bids to be opened at an upcoming board meeting and will need to be placed in the paper for 3 executive weeks. The project will include a new set of stairs, an overhang roof and panel box installed for electricity. A motion to accept a donation of \$50 for the use of the town hall recently was made by Coun. Wilbur and was seconded by Coun. Barber and all were in favor.

The flagpole was in need of repair and Jim Brown fixed it.

Brought to the attention of the Town Board by Marilyn Borden was that the public beach buildings and grounds located in Huletts Landing are sorely in need of repairs and provided photographs to the board members in an email. Sup. Ferguson referred her concerns to Matt Jones at the county to see what can be done.

Highway Superintendent's Report: The crew has been busy getting ready for the winter season by stocking up on salt and sand. Mr. Hobus brought up that the town needs to readdress an issue with a town employee that borrowed money against his NYS Retirement and that the Supervisor needs to complete some final paperwork so that the loan can begin to be paid back on the employee's behalf. Sup. Ferguson requested that the employee come to him with all necessary papers to start the process.

Monthly bills for October are as follows:

GEN-\$4678.31; HWY-\$24597.21; SD#1-\$797.36; SD#2-\$152.90

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:44 p.m. No further discussions were had. Respectfully submitted, Marcinda Wilbur Town Clerk

Attendance: Jean Ferguson, Linda Barber