

Present: Mayor: Jim Cheney
Trustee: Joe DeBrock Trustee: Michael Cheney
Trustee: Billy McNicholas Trustee: Howard Hughson

Also Present: Clerk/Treasurer: Jill Seifert, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer: Melissa Lahr, Code Enforcement Officer: Ben Wheat & Police Chief: John Storer. Christy Howard (5:30-6:00).

5:00 pm: Mayor Cheney called the meeting to order.

LL #3-2025 A Local Law to Adopt Regulations Pertaining to Cannabis Retail Dispensaries and Cannabis On-Site Consumption Establishments.

5:00 pm - Public Hearing opened.

Mayor Cheney invited any public to comment.

5:01 pm – Public Hearing closed.

Jim addressed the Board; everyone has had a chance to review the law in its entirety. In our ongoing effort to address some outstanding laws from the past, this is one of a few laws that should have been enacted previously in order to have some say as to where these businesses are allowed (M-1 & C-1) and what their hours should be. Jim inquired as to the next step, Jill responded that the law will be reviewed by the Village Planning Board on Wednesday, March 26th and sent to Ontario County Planning for review at their upcoming April 9th meeting. Pending any comments from the Planning Boards, we could proceed by completing the SEQR and adopting at the April 14th Board Meeting.

Budget Discussion:

Mayor Cheney and the Board reviewed the proposed budget line item by line item. The following are some of the items discussed:

General Fund

- Tax rate decreases from \$5.53439/\$1,000 of assessed value to \$5.50704/\$1000 of assessed value.
- Tax levy increases \$10,653 from \$532,666 to \$543,319; complying with the 2% tax cap mandate. Motion by Trustee DeBrock, 2nd by Trustee Hughson and carried authorizing override of the tax cap if for some reason it becomes necessary. Conservative on all other revenue items.
- Village Clerk's Office – Additional wages to facilitate hiring and training plan prior to Jill's retirement. Additional work station included in equipment \$3,500 plus VMR videoconferencing equipment. Contractual is up \$10,000 for grant administration.
- Village Barns (62 Mill St) – Normal expenses. \$2,250 in equipment for a new parts cleaner.
- Village Hall (8 Banta St) - .421 Utilities - NYSEG, Energy Cooperative & Empire Natural Gas has more than doubled from last year, need to look at ways to conserve. Equipment \$19,075 includes funds for furnace repairs/replacements, the next zone of addressable smoke/fires, Milwaukee & EGO tools dedicated to the building. Contractual – normal expenses plus striping lots, repairs/maintenance to exterior basketball court and certified mulch for playgrounds. Payroll line item includes 540 hours of Ben's time plus 25% of full-time summer employee. From reserves \$25,000 as 50% of potential parking lot expansion on west side, Jill to ask Josh.
- Police – reduced salaries to a more realistic number. Equipment - removed tasers, included additional speed sign \$4,000. Removed potential renovation cost, can be taken from fund balance if we decide to do after reviewing the use of the entire building/space.
- Fire – Left the budget as requested, reasonable. Reserves will be funding the purchase of the Spartan 4Guys Engine Chassis in the amount of \$538,000.
- Streets – Equipment – Removed fuel station upgrade \$15,500, will talk to the Town when/if it fails, to make an informed decision. Projects – stone & oil, Pleasant & Eagle plus crack seal \$16,500. Moved Mill & Pave of S. Newark & Park St to Chips \$107,000. Reserves – Removed Backhoe 420 XE.
- CHIPS – plan on using \$107,000 of the \$405,000 available as noted above.
- Snow – normal expenses. Equipment – new V plow for toolcat \$7,350.
- Street lights - \$30,700 carried out.
- Sidewalks – \$30,000, left high from last year, Josh is planning on Chestnut, Park & Pleasant.
- Parks – normal expenses.
- Youth Program – small increase to contractual for live music at events etc. PCC's request of \$35,000, increased from \$33,000; discussion needed regarding contract etc.
- Library - \$58,000, flat.
- Historical Society – \$6,500, flat.
- Zoning – half of Ben's salary pointed here. Equipment – removed F150, print scanner and iplan table, authorized ipad pro \$1,500. Contractual – higher than previous years for obvious reasons, includes annual GoGov fees \$11,040. Reduction in fees generated from permits per new policy.

- Transfer Station – revenue is trending upwards. No rate increase this year, but will need to look at next year. Per Josh's request, bumped attendants' wages \$1.50/hour.
- Beautification – Full-time summer help reinstituted, 75% of time at \$20.00/hour, \$21,600. Reduced full time employees' wages for this department. Equipment – Toro zero turn 96" \$46,000 in addition to the Cub Cadet zero turn 72" from 24-25 budget year, \$1,000 hitch/cargo carrier to transport push mower without lifting into truck bed. Increased contractual for start of downtown upgrades before NY Forward kicks in.
- Shade Trees – flat at \$15,000.
- Retirement – projected paperwork substantial increase.
- Workers Compensation – 24-25 amount is 21.2% decrease, historical claims aging off of data.
- Appropriated Fund Balance - Planning on using \$221,000 from the fund balance.
- From Reserves – \$563,000 - as discussed above.

Water

- Water rate to increase by 1.00 to \$7.25/100 Cubic Feet, we have held off on rate increases and absorbed Newark's increases, this is no longer feasible.
- Expenses - Included wages & material for a project on South Wayne, offset by infrastructure grant monies in revenue. Equipment - \$2,500 for an additional meter reading "gun" and a tablet, not purchased last year. Planning on reserve money to both Tower and WSIF. Large increase in annual electric paid to Town, rate had not been adjusted in many years.

Sewer

- Sewer rate to increase to \$27.50 per unit/per month or \$82.50 per quarter. Additional increases needed to fund the Plant upgrade.
- Normal expenses with the exception of engineering fees, this is offset on revenue side as reimbursable from already awarded funding. Equipment – \$2,000 new computer. Substantial amount planned for reserves.

Public hearing for proposed budget will be at the April Board Meeting; Monday, April 14, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

6:59 pm With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill K. Seifert
Clerk/Treasurer