

Village of Schuylerville
Workshop
December 30, 2019

Present;

Mayor Carpenter

Trustee Colvin

Trustee Drew

Trustee LeBaron

Absent;

Deputy Mayor Young

Mayor Carpenter stated that he would like to open the meeting with the beginning of budget discussions. Mayor Carpenter informed Trustee Colvin that the previous year, before Whitney's term began, the board used a live, shared google spreadsheet with a column for each trustee and the mayor, to allow the trustees to enter their own figures for the budget lines. These entries would be discussed at the budget meetings scheduled throughout the months of January and February, which would be open to discussion with the public as well.

There is also a spreadsheet that lists all salaries for village employees.

Trustee Colvin asked if we could have the amounts that the employees receive in health insurance benefits included in the salary spreadsheet, as well as the costs for health insurance for retirees. Mayor Carpenter asked Heyman to add these benefits in a column after the salary, and then to add a column to show the total of both. He also asked for a column that would show the projected health insurance benefits for the 2021 fiscal year.

There was some discussion regarding hiring part-time seasonal help in the DPW department to assist with the workload during the summer.

Mayor Carpenter asked Heyman to include numbers for the projected cost of adding two part time seasonal employees., these employees would not be eligible for overtime.

Mayor Carpenter noted that Fire Chief Myers had submitted his budget for review.

Trustee Colvin asked Treasurer Heyman to confirm the amount that Myers had listed for the payment on the bond for the recently purchased engine. Heyman stated that she would check this figure.

There were two resolutions up for review to amend the budget. Mayor Carpenter asked Heyman to clarify the second transfer. Heyman explained to the board that historically the payroll for the DPW to bring sludge to the dump was posted to a G account, but that this was not a true reimbursement, as there were significant other costs associated with the disposal of the sludge. These include health insurance, retirement and taxes. The A account associated with sewer work done by DPW should increase as well as the revenue account for DPW work done for sewer, as the general fund would be reimbursed these expenses by the sewer fund.

The board reviewed the Town of Greenwich fire protection contract. Mayor Carpenter noted that the contract had been reviewed by Attorney Klingebiel, and that he had requested that the contract be amended to reflect an issue that he had regarding insurance coverage, and that this had been done.

The next item up for discussion was a review of some quotes for a pedestrian crossing sign. Trustee LeBaron stated that he felt that the problems associated with persons driving through the crosswalks while pedestrians were crossing should be a matter for the police to address. He felt that this should not be the responsibility of the village. Mayor Carpenter stated that he would reach out to the school to request that the officer assigned to the school could begin issuing tickets for those drivers who fail to obey the NY state law to yield to pedestrians in the crosswalks. The board briefly discussed the upcoming 2020 census. Mayor Carpenter advised that the numbers of participating residents would have a direct correlation to the opportunities we could realize for grants. He suggested that we could possibly include a flyer in the next sewer mailing encouraging the residents to participate in the census.

Trustee LeBaron stated that he felt that on days when there are snowstorms on Tuesdays, that the DPW should only pick up trash, not recycling. He thought that there could be a flyer inserted in the mailing to announce this. He felt that this would help to get the word out to those residents who do not use social media. Trustee Colvin stated that he felt that this should be included in the alternate parking insert that is provided to the residents in the November billing as well. The board agreed.

Mayor Carpenter mentioned an item that was not on the agenda. He stated that he had an appointment with Mr. Dixon, the owner of the property that borders the northern and eastern side of the Easton property on which we will be harvesting the timber. Also present at the meeting will be the forester who is handling the project, Wayne Tripp. This will be to discuss the possibility of using Mr. Dixon's land to access the property.

Trustee LeBaron asked if Mayor Carpenter had heard from Attorney Klingebiel regarding the Victory Mills project. Mayor Carpenter stated that they had determined that Victory local law determines that a unit is one dwelling and is not based on the number of bedrooms. He stated that there was going to be a meeting to discuss this, and that tentatively it had been scheduled for either the 8th or the 10th of January. He informed the board that if the meeting was on the 8th he would be able to make it, but that if they held it on the 10th, he would need a trustee to attend. Trustee Colvin stated that he would be willing to come back from work to attend the meeting.

Trustee LeBaron asked why the water board was only allowing the new brewery to have a meter, and not allowing any other resident or business to have a meter. He stated that he felt that it was unfair to provide a meter for one and not for the rest. Trustee Drew clarified that this was a pilot program, since the board had no other existing business to compare to the brewery concerning the amount of water that would be used. He said that currently the board is charging 3 units, but that this could be increased if the board found that the brewery used more. Trustee LeBaron expressed concern that this could open up the board to litigation. Mayor Carpenter asked Trustee Drew to consult the water board attorney on this matter.

Trustee LeBaron expressed strongly that he felt that the water board should be metering the water. Trustee Drew reminded Trustee LeBaron that the water board had a larger immediate priority to take care of in the replacement of the SCADA system for the water plant. This will cost the board \$240,000.00. The board is currently working with CT Male to try to get a grant to assist with this cost. Mayor Carpenter also noted that he felt that the village board was moving in the right direction by their commitment to becoming a climate smart community and working through this committee to achieve points that would assist in grant opportunities such as these.

Trustee Colvin made the motion to adjourn, Trustee Drew seconded the motion, all in favor, meeting adjourned.