

**TOWN OF DEERPARK
TOWN BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2009**

Meeting was held at Town Hall, 420 Route 209, Huguenot, New York 12746

Attendance:

Supervisor: Gary Flieger

Councilmember's: Liam O'Neill, Gary Spears, Viola Sinsabaugh and Karl Brabenec

Accountant: Rob Schultz

Budget Workshop Called to Order 7:35PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Karl Brabenec: What I'd like to propose is, we had some discussion on the part timers and the part time help here; as a personal opinion I'm still in favor for part time help in the Supervisor's Office, Assessor's Office and the Town Clerk's Office; however being that it is an election year and the make up of the Board is going to be different, there's three different candidates for Supervisor, three different candidates for Town Clerk, that kind of thing, plus with the fact that with the Supervisor's Office that position remains full time, that vote failed, also the Assessor's Office, that vote failed; so what I'd like to do, just so it's in the preliminary budget is bump the Deputy Town Clerk on A1410.1 back up to \$29,151, which is the same as last year, and the reason I want to do that is so any incoming Town Clerk, or regular Town Clerk can have the option whether they want to keep the person full time, or they want to go to part time, or however they want to do it, but if we don't budget the money it's not going to be possible. **Viola Sinsabaugh:** That's true if it's not there you're not going to have it. **Gary Spears:** It's already in the budget so... **Gary Flieger:** It was my mistake because... **Liam O'Neill:** I brought that mistake to Rob's attention today... **Karl Brabenec:** It was lowered to \$14,000 and I'd like to bring it back to \$29,151.

Motion to set Deputy Town Clerk's Salary

Motion made by Karl Brabenec, 2nd by Viola Sinsabaugh, to set the Deputy Town Clerk's salary back at \$29,151, the same as last year, for the 2010 budget.

VOTE: 4 AYES: Gary Spears, Viola Sinsabaugh, Karl Brabenec and Gary Flieger

1 NO: Liam O'Neill

MOTION CARRIED

Gary Flieger: While we're doing mistakes in here can we go to page G6, the part time clerk 2, line 3620.1, we put at \$10,200 but when you do the math it needs to be \$10,400. Part time is 1040 hours a year.

Motion to set Part time Clerk #2 Salary

Motion made by Karl Brabenec, 2nd by Gary Flieger, to set Part Time Clerk #2, line 3620.1 at \$10,400.

VOTE: 5 AYES: Gary Spears, Karl Brabenec, Liam O'Neill, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger

MOTION CARRIED

Liam O'Neill: Now, clerk # 1 stays? **Gary Flieger:** Yes. **Viola Sinsabaugh:** Stay's at what? **Karl Brabenec:** Well actually I just want to double check those numbers because it's 1040 hours and I don't know if I computed it that way, these are numbers that I computed, I figured it at \$12.50 per hour and she's making \$10.00 an hour. **Gary Spears:** She's making \$10.83 per hour now and we voted to give her a \$2.00 per hour raise to make it \$12.83. **Karl Brabenec:** So you want to do \$12.83? **Gary Spears:** That's what the vote was. **Karl Brabenec:** No the vote was \$12.50. **Viola Sinsabaugh:** That's right. **Karl Brabenec:** I have no problem with \$12.83. **Viola Sinsabaugh:** I think what we were looking at as a board, and I believe it was Gary who said that he felt that we should give a raise on merit, that's the only word I can think of, because if somebody was worthy of that, that they should get a raise... **Gary Spears:** Actually I wanted to give her a raise because I felt she was underpaid. **Viola Sinsabaugh:** Okay, those were your exact words. Now I think we agreed to this, I think the entire board agreed to this, we are above 8% in our levy right now, we have to some how come down. I understand how we feel about this, but I also think how can you say that one person out of everyone that is working here, even though it may be a good point to take, one person deserves to have a raise while no one else in this entire building can have a raise, I think, although you may want to do well, long story very short, I think you're saying that the other people are not worthy and I feel that's wrong. So I think maybe we should just consider, if we're going to give raises to people then we give it to all that has always been my thing. **Gary Spears:** No that's crazy. **Viola Sinsabaugh:** I think this is something you should consider as being fair to everyone, right now you're saying one person and that is saying that the other people who work here and do their jobs, not one other person is worthy of another raise, so I think we should consider this, keep it as it was this year, nobody gets any raises, I'm not saying nobody deserves it, we don't have the money, I think if we're looking for a way to bring this budget down we've got to count every cent, I feel that everyone should be equal in this, no one gets a raise, that's all I have a say. **Gary Spears:** Listen, look at the facts, she's making \$10.83 an hour, she's been here for going on six years, she's the lowest paid employee we have; you have a girl in the Assessor's Office doing basically the exact amount of work and you're paying her \$17.33 an hour... **Viola Sinsabaugh:** And been here how long? **Gary Spears:** I don't know, 8 years, 9 years... **Viola Sinsabaugh:** Okay... **Gary Spears:** So it's okay with you to pay her 6 or more dollars an hour for basically the same amount of paperwork?

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Viola Sinsabaugh: In you're question right now you also have another person in another department, and I will not mention which department because you seem to be on the Assessor's Office for some reason,...Gary Spears: Pick another one, how much an hour does your girl make? Flo Santini: I don't know off hand. Viola Sinsabaugh: You have another department with a clerk, bookkeeper in that department and that person is making \$16.00 and a little change, and has been working for the town for 16 years, so to me your reference means nothing. Gary Fliieger: I'd like to for everyone to get their point out here, it's not open for rebuttal, just get your point out here and then we'll take a vote on it, or else we're going to discussions all night on this. Gary Spears: This biggest problem this town has gone through in 8 our 10 years is you give everybody a blanket raise, so somebody that's already making \$20 is getting twice as much in a raise as a person that's making \$10, that's crazy, you give people raises based on \$0.50 or \$0.75 per hour, you can't run a business with what this town's been doing for 6 years, you'd be in bankruptcy. Thank you for proving my point. Karl Brabenc: I know you said at the previous meeting there was a time when the board looked at the judges salaries and said they were out of whack, this is kind of what we're looking at with this clerk position, we have two clerks that pretty much do the same thing in that department, however one has been here longer than the other, it seems that this clerk here has done a good job, there's nothing that seems to be wrong in that department and we're just trying to bring that back up to snuff, just like you were trying to bring the judges salaries up to snuff. Viola Sinsabaugh: That was department heads years ago. Gary Fliieger: My thoughts on this whole thing is it's an entry level \$10.00 an hour job, she's making \$10.83, she's been in there for a long time, five or six years, but the big thing that leans me into rewarding her heavily this year and a \$2.00 raise is a hefty raise, is because she stepped up to the plate, went back to school and took the education on the civil service portion of that job, passed the exam and was the highest score in the County, she has brought a higher asset to that job; I want to reward her for that because she has brought back more knowledge to the department and it's been used, and that to me is why I would like to go through with that. Not just because she sits there and does the same job she did six years ago, she's more of an asset to me now and I want to reward her for it. Liam O'Neill: Vi, you're saying you want to go back on that and keep the salary constant? Viola Sinsabaugh: I'm saying to keep the salary constant. Liam O'Neill: Similar to everyone else that no one gets a raise? Viola Sinsabaugh: That's right, fair for one fair for all. And who are we to say that someone else is not worthy? Karl Brabenc: I just want to see if we were correct, because I think what I did was we did 20 hours a week, 52 weeks, at \$12.50 an hour, that's how I came up with \$13,100, but I just want to see if we're correct on that. Liam O'Neill: You're a little off. Gary Fliieger: I have written down on my sheet \$12.83. Liam O'Neill: At \$12.50 an hour, 1040 hours is \$13,000. I think it's noteworthy that she's been in here for six years, stepping up to the plate, furthering her education, but again, we don't have things in place, I think our intentions are in the right place but we're shooting from the hip and we're being inconsistent because things aren't in place to recognize a merit based increase in salary, and I actually had misgivings about that vote previously so if it comes up again I'll vote to maintain the present salary.

Motion to increase Part time Clerk # 1 Salary

Motion made by Gary Spears, 2nd by Gary Fliieger, to pay the part time clerk #1 in the Building Department \$12.83 an hour for her 1040 hours.

VOTE: 2 AYES: Gary Spears and Gary Fliieger

3 NO'S: Viola Sinsabaugh, Liam O'Neill and Karl Brabenc

MOTION FAILED

Karl Brabenc: So that motion failed. Rob Schultz: So what number is going in the budget? Karl Brabenc: Right now it's still \$13,100. Rob Schultz: It stays \$13,100, okay. Viola Sinsabaugh: Something's not right in there. Liam O'Neill: She's still got a raise with the \$13,100. Karl Brabenc: We're arguing over a \$0.30 raise. Liam O'Neill: We're arguing over a principal actually. Rob Schultz: So did you change anything here tonight? Gary Fliieger: We changed the part time clerk #2 to \$10,400. Viola Sinsabaugh: We just agreed to go back to the \$13,100? Karl Brabenc: Correct, it stays at \$13,100 because this motion just failed. \$13,100 is what we voted on 2 nights ago so that's record, unless it's changed tonight by some motion, the motion we just made failed so it's not changed, it stays at \$13,100. Viola Sinsabaugh: On the vote that we just made we said no to what? Karl Brabenc: We said no to \$12.83 an hour, which would have meant that line item for \$13,100 would have gone up to \$13,343; but I voted no on that because I think it needs to be at \$13,100. Liam O'Neill: Vi, the reason you are having trouble is because you think it should actually be lower. Viola Sinsabaugh: Yes. Liam O'Neill: So do you want to make a motion? Viola Sinsabaugh: I think it should be the same as last year. Liam O'Neill: Last year's number was \$12,263. Viola Sinsabaugh: I think it should remain the same as it was last year, fair for one fair for all. Karl Brabenc: We don't know what rate of pay was factored in for that because that was a point of ambiguity because both lines were mashed together, so that's why it needed to be separated this year. So you want it to be at \$11,263? Viola Sinsabaugh: I said \$12,263 because that's what was in there last year.

Motion to put part time clerk #1 salary at the 2008 rate

Motion made by Viola Sinsabaugh that the Part Time Clerk #1 salary be put back to what it was last year.

No second on the motion, motion fails

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Gary Flieger: What I'd like to do is go page by page and if there is no discrepancies on that page we'll move on to the next and then we'll bring it back as adopting the general budget and then we'll move on and go page by page in highway and adopt that. Is that okay with you Flo? Flo Santini: I think you've got to adopt it as a whole, I don't think you adopt two different parts. Gary Flieger: Okay let's go through and see if we have any changes.

Gary Spears: Police I think we should discuss for a second. Last year we had \$680,000, we know that we had a \$60,000 employee not working, so if you put a \$60,000 employee back to work, that should free up \$60,000 worth of shifts.

Gary Flieger: Well, no, because you've got to figure those shifts were being pulled by a lesser employee, but I think we took out too much. Gary Spears: No, I think we should take out more. First of all the year to date is, we're now into the fourth quarter by two weeks or three weeks, and he's at 75% of the budget, so he's going to be under probably \$10,000-\$15,000 this year, so \$680,000 right away should be \$665,000 and then you're bringing back a full timer that we paid \$60,000 to sit home.

Liam O'Neill: That's true but in her stead we had \$50,000 of labor covering those shifts. Gary Spears: Yeah, but that's already added in. Liam O'Neill: So next year there won't be that \$50,000. Gary Spears: That's what I'm saying, you don't need that \$50,000. Liam O'Neill: So instead of \$50,000 it'll be \$60,000 which is a \$10,000 increase.

Gary Spears: Now, when she comes back to work that \$50,000 that we paid in part time labor disappears completely because she's back working. Karl Brabenec: Because you're paying \$50,000 and \$60,000 right now, and now that she's back to work you're only paying \$60,000. Gary Spears: Instead of paying \$110,000 as we did last year we're going to pay \$60,000, so that's a \$50,000 bonus back to us plus the \$15,000 short fall that he's going to have in the year to date, so that's \$65,000 so you figure out their 3% raise on that.

Gary Spears: So you can go down to \$640,000 from \$680,000, still leave your \$15,000 cushion that you have for unused shifts. Gary Flieger: I think you're right in your numbers, but I'm uncomfortable with if we have to bring in another officer or something. Gary Spears: You can soften it. Gary Flieger: I don't want to soften it, I want to leave it at the \$640,000 and take \$20,000 of the money you just saved it set it someplace else in case we have to put it back in there; move it out of his budget and put it in our contingency. Gary Spears: We already have \$50,000 in our contingency.

Motion to set line A3120.1

Motion made by Gary Spears, 2nd by Liam O'Neill, that we set line A3120.1 Police Personal Services at \$650,000 because we have a full time officer back in employment.

VOTE: 5 AYES: Gary Spears, Karl Brabenec, Liam O'Neill, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger
MOTION CARRIED

Motion to set line A9050.8

Motion made by Liam O'Neill, 2nd by Gary Spears, that line A9050.8 Unemployment be dropped back down to \$2,500.

VOTE: 4 AYES: Gary Spears, Viola Sinsabaugh, Liam O'Neill and Gary Flieger

1 NO: Karl Brabenec

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to set line A3005

Motion made by Viola Sinsabaugh, 2nd by Karl Brabenec, to set line A3005 Mortgage tax at \$115,000 down from \$120,000.

VOTE: 2 AYES: Viola Sinsabaugh and Karl Brabenec

3 NO'S: Liam O'Neill, Gary Spears and Gary Flieger

MOTION FAILED

Motion to set line DA1990

Motion made by Karl Brabenec, 2nd by Liam O'Neill, to remove the \$25,000 out of line DA1990 Highway Contingency Fund for 2010.

VOTE: 5 AYES: Gary Spears, Karl Brabenec, Liam O'Neill, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to set line A1560

Motion made by Karl Brabenec, 2nd by Viola Sinsabaugh, to set line A1560 Safety Inspection fees at \$ 125,000 down from \$150,000.

VOTE: 5 AYES: Gary Spears, Karl Brabenec, Liam O'Neill, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to set line A1560

Motion made by Liam O'Neill to drop line A1560 Safety Inspection down to \$100,000.

No second on the motion, motion fails

Motion to set line DA5110.1

Motion made by Karl Brabenec, 2nd by Gary Spears, to set line DA5110.1 General Repairs Personal Service at \$480,000 down from \$490,000.

VOTE: 5 AYES: Gary Spears, Karl Brabenec, Liam O'Neill, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger

MOTION CARRIED

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Motion to set line DA5110.4

Motion made by Karl Brabenec, 2nd by Liam O'Neill, to set line DA5110.4 Contractual Expenses at \$130,000.

VOTE: 5 AYES: Gary Spears, Karl Brabenec, Liam O'Neill, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger
MOTION CARRIED

Motion to set line DA5112.2

Motion made by Liam O'Neill, 2nd by Karl Brabenec, to set line DA5112.2 Community Development at \$60,000.

VOTE: 5 AYES: Gary Spears, Karl Brabenec, Liam O'Neill, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger
MOTION CARRIED

Motion to set line DA5140.42

Motion made by Karl Brabenec, 2nd by Gary Spears, to set line DA5140.42 Fuel at \$70,000.

VOTE: 5 AYES: Gary Spears, Karl Brabenec, Liam O'Neill, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger
MOTION CARRIED

Motion to set line DA5142.4

Motion made by Karl Brabenec, 2nd by Liam O'Neill, to set line DA5142.4 Snow Removal Contractual Expenses at \$60,000.

VOTE: 5 AYES: Gary Spears, Karl Brabenec, Liam O'Neill, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger
MOTION CARRIED

Motion to set line DA5142.1

Motion made by Liam O'Neill, 2nd by Viola Sinsabaugh, to set line DA5142.1 Snow Removal Personal Services at \$45,000.

VOTE: 3 AYES: Viola Sinsabaugh, Liam O'Neill and Gary Flieger
2 NO'S: Karl Brabenec and Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to set line DA4589

Motion made by Karl Brabenec, 2nd by Viola Sinsabaugh, to set line DA4589 Federal Aid-Other Transportation at \$560,000.

VOTE: 5 AYES: Gary Spears, Karl Brabenec, Liam O'Neill, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger
MOTION CARRIED

Motion to adopt the 2010 Preliminary Budget

Motion made by Gary Flieger, 2nd by Liam O'Neill, to adopt the 2010 Preliminary Budget.

Discussion: Karl Brabenec: I think we can further decrease the tax rate by making the positions part time so I'll be voting no on the preliminary budget.

VOTE: 4 AYES: Gary Spears, Liam O'Neill, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger

1 NO: Karl Brabenec

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to set a Public Hearing

Motion made by Karl Brabenec, 2nd by Gary Spears, to set a Public Hearing on Thursday, November 5, 2009 on the 2010 Preliminary Budget at 7:30PM at Town Hall.

VOTE: 5 AYES: Gary Spears, Karl Brabenec, Liam O'Neill, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger
MOTION CARRIED

Motion to adjourn 10:03PM

Motion made by Karl Brabenec, 2nd by Viola Sinsabaugh, to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: 5 AYES: Gary Spears, Karl Brabenec, Liam O'Neill, Viola Sinsabaugh and Gary Flieger
MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted by,

Florence T. Santini
Town Clerk