

RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING
November 17, 2009

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook, Dutchess County, New York was convened in public session at the Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook at 7:30 pm.

Present: Supervisor Sue Crane
Councilman James Ross
Councilwoman Micki Strawinski
Councilman Harry Colgan
Councilman Robert McKeon
Town Clerk Sue McCann
Also Present: Business Manager Deb Marks

Supervisor Crane welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's report for the period October 1, 2009 - October 30, 2009 was read as follows: Total local shares remitted to Supervisor - \$1,048.63; Amount remitted to County Treasurer for Dog Licenses - \$68.15; Amount remitted to NYS Ag. & Markets - \$6.00; Amount remitted to NYS Department of Health for Marriage Licenses - \$22.50; Amount remitted to NYS Environmental Conservation - \$3,268.38; Total State, County & Local revenues - \$4,413.66.

Town Clerk Sue McCann announced the new burning regulations. Burning barrels are no longer allowed to be used, no burning leaves, paper, garbage or building materials. Only brush and limbs can be burned. Residents are encouraged to call her office if they have any questions. Burning is prohibited March 15th – May 15th.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Supervisor Crane opened for a short public comment period.

Vicky Perry commented that it is important that the Town Board delivers a zero percent tax increase. The County is very likely going to be introducing a new waste recovery fee that we'll be seeing the same time we see our Town tax bill. Even if Red Hook brings in a zero percent increase, we taxpayers are going to see an increase because of what the County is doing to us. She read that about one in every seven households is now struggling to put food on the table. The Town Board would be serving the people if they would find a way to reduce the cost of our local government.

Tom Theilman, Pastor of the United Methodist Church in Red Hook, is concerned about the increase. In the past month they've had about 180 people at their food pantry which is a significant increase from last year. Many have lost their jobs and are coming for help to try to make ends meet. It is getting more difficult for residents to pay their taxes. If the Board could keep it close to zero it would be appreciated.

Pat Hildenbrand, Red Hook Village Police Sergeant, said the previous speakers brought up good points about people losing their jobs. There has been a huge increase in major crimes and he gave some examples. Crimes escalate because of the economy. It is becoming hard to cover the amount of call volume coming into the Town. He asked that the Board consider putting on another day of police services to best serve the residents of Red Hook.

Anne Rubin understands that the Highway Department budget is a large one to the Town. She would like to hear how our Town Board can increase savings.

Denis Collet, CAC member, understands that the solar expansion grant was turned down, but when you see the benefit to the community and that it is an investment that has a couple of returns economically and environmentally, the payback would be within three to four years if we get this approved and from there forward it would be a positive cash flow to the Town. He urged the Board to consider passing the proposal to resubmit for the second round of funding.

Councilman McKeon asked if it would be better to have the people from Hudson Valley Clean Energy speak before moving on with the discussion. He suggested getting an update from them on what the possibilities are for resubmission.

The Board agreed to hear from Hudson Valley Clean Energy.

RESUBMISSION OF NYSERDA APPLICATION

Jeff Irish, President of Hudson Valley Clean Energy, explained that they worked with the Town to submit an application in August for funding for a solar system that would essentially fill the applicable roofs of the Town Hall building and have over 90% of it paid for by Federal stimulus money through a NYSERDA program. Round one of the grants were decided upon by NYSERDA. There were 37 proposals and they only accepted four of those projects. They've since had a debriefing with NYSERDA who told them what was deficient in the project. It was because of lack of technical detail in their submission. They do have the information. There is a second round of opportunity in our region so they proposed that the Town resubmit by Monday, November 23. He said they've run numbers and did the rest of the engineering to fill out all the pages. There are decreases in prices so they can lower the price of the system by about 4% and at the same time increase the annual energy by 5% based on what they proposed the first round. What he needs is a decision on what level of funding the Town would want to participate at. In round one the Town proposed \$12,000 leaving approximately \$131,000 to come from Federal stimulus money. That comes to around 8% and some of the Board members he talked to suggested getting up to about 10%, the reason being that it is a competitive bidding process. He has a feeling the Town is going to be bidding against dozens of municipalities in the region. That is why they lowered their price. The next decision for the Board is to vote whether or not to submit an application for the second round.

Supervisor Crane asked him if the 10% would be about \$14,000.

Jeff Irish responded that would put you at about 10.1%.

Supervisor Crane asked if \$15,000 would be better. We already voted on \$12,000, so we are asking for an additional \$3,000 for what payback?

Jeff Irish responded around four years at current electricity prices. He explained some specifics. The life of the system is approximately 25 years. You'd enjoy 20 to 21 years or so of free electricity and actual operating savings to the Town.

Supervisor Crane doesn't think there is a Board member who wouldn't agree to \$3,000 more to get that kind of payback.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Ross moved to approve \$15,000 for resubmission of the grant.

Adopted	Ayes	5	Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, McKeon
	Nays	0	

BUDGET DISCUSSION AND ADOPTION

Business Manager Deb Marks presented the changes from the previous meeting. The total annual increase if you live in the Village, and your home is assessed at \$300,000, will go up by \$11.00 for the whole year. If you live in the Town, based on a \$300,000 home, your taxes will go up \$25.00 for the whole year. It is quite a reduction from what we originally had.

Councilman Ross said that brings the public up to date to where we are as of right now. He asked if anyone had additional line items they wanted to discuss.

Councilman McKeon started with the subject of a realistic projection for mortgage taxes. He wanted to encourage the Board to increase their projection. After speaking to the County Clerk's Office, he obtained the amounts for the second payment of fiscal year 2009. It is actually slightly higher than expected. It is \$125,916 which is quite a significant jump from the \$74,000 figure we had the first six months. He thinks it underscores the fact that we can raise our estimates for next year to \$175,000. He reiterated that we raise our estimate for mortgage taxes and suggested raising the figure to at least \$190,000 to even be remotely accurate.

Councilman Ross said he was comfortable at \$175,000 because he doesn't want us to get into the position where we are overestimating our income or revenue. However, this year we budgeted \$290,000 and we are getting just over \$200,000. If we stayed flat with the payment that is due this month, we would be looking at \$250,000. He told Councilman McKeon that he could go along with \$190,000. He still feels it would be a conservative estimate of what our anticipated revenue would be.

Councilman Colgan is comfortable with \$190,000 with the same logic.

Councilman McKeon thanked Bryan Cranna who forwarded the information from the County Clerk's Office. It was quite timely and helpful.

Councilman Ross explained the changes on the revenue side in the A Fund and how it applies to all three funds.

Councilman McKeon brought up line items in the B Fund that he wanted to address. He gave his proposed reduction amounts.

The Board reviewed and discussed the line item issues Councilman McKeon recommended.

Councilman Ross explained that the 2010 Board can modify anything in the budget with the exception of elected official's salaries.

Supervisor Crane, in regard to the Association of Towns meeting, said the Board could make the adjustment if the desire was expressed. She then is opposed to reducing that line any further.

Councilman Colgan wants to reduce everything they can to keep the taxes down.

Councilwoman Strawinski understands how important continuing education is but she thinks there are free online classes available.

A majority of the Board agreed to keep the line at \$2,500 with Supervisor Crane against it.

Councilman McKeon referred again to the A Fund as it applies to the Attorney fee. We have a contractual arrangement which calls for a retainer of a certain amount. There are a couple of specialized situations that cannot be budgeted for. He thinks it is important to find savings from as many places as possible. He called our Town Attorney to see if she would be willing to try to honor a budget request of reducing that \$60,000 figure to \$55,000. She showed tremendous sensitivity to our situation and was happy with their conversation. He suggested reducing that particular line item from \$60,000 to \$55,000.

The Board discussed the issue.

Councilman Ross commented that it is a retainer fee that we negotiated with our Attorney. If she is willing to accept \$5,000 less, it would be foolish to say no if that is in fact the way it happened.

Supervisor Crane asked Attorney Chale if she wanted to speak and tell the Board how she feels.

Attorney Chale replied very briefly that she is sensitive to what the Board is trying to do in terms of keeping the budget down. She will work with the Board regarding her use of time.

The Board thanked Attorney Chale.

Councilman McKeon kept within the A Fund and turned to the line issue regarding sidewalks. We go out to contract for sidewalks and think we need to look at going out to bid or finding an employee situation so we don't have to have a separate firm come in to shovel sidewalks.

Business Manager Deb Marks explained that is in the DB Fund and they would bill the A Fund. We would still have to pay for it.

Councilman McKeon suggested cutting that line item from \$6,000 to \$3,000.

Councilman Ross would not be in favor of cutting it in half. If we want to talk to our Highway Department and do it in house he thinks it would be prudent for us to see what it actually does cost us with our own Highway Department this year if we choose to do it that way.

Councilwoman Strawinski asked about the walkways in question.

Councilman Ross pointed them out.

The Board discussed the recommendation of cutting the line to \$3,000. The majority agreed it would be prudent to keep it in house. It was decided to cut the line to \$3,000 with Supervisor Crane and Councilman Ross in disagreement.

Supervisor Crane asked if Councilman McKeon had any other significant savings to bring up.

Councilman McKeon responded that it all adds up. They've all brought up staffing and salary issues and he thinks that needs to be hashed out.

Councilman Colgan brought up the issue relating to the Building Department and thinks it needs to be addressed. Money should be taken out and address the staffing next year. His sense of the Building Department in theory is that they can run it half time, but it should be open every day for five days. What he suggested is take the lesser of the money and deal with it next year. He discussed the Zoning Officer in each area rather than remove the Building Inspector for the greater amount of money. To take the lesser out gives more flexibility in how we deal with it in January in terms of appropriate staffing.

The Board discussed the staffing of the lines in two different locations in the B Fund. They referred to their discussion from the meeting the day before regarding full time, half time and possibly reducing one to a quarter time position.

Councilman McKeon thinks that department is over staffed.

Supervisor Crane explained for those in the audience that we have a half time person in Zoning and we have a full time person in Zoning. When she left the meeting the night before she thought the Board was in agreement that the half time person understood that his position may be reduced to quarter time instead of half time. She asked if there had been a change.

Councilman Ross had the same understanding as Supervisor Crane.

Councilman McKeon said it was not his understanding. He thought Councilman Colgan got information from Civil Service.

Supervisor Crane said that she and Councilman Colgan were at the same meeting and discussed that when she was here.

Councilwoman Strawinski told her that Councilman Colgan had an additional conversation with Civil Service on the phone. She said the Board continued that conversation somewhat.

Councilman McKeon said he looked at other townships and we are spending quite a bit more money in that department than those of equal or greater size. There are some legal requirements regarding certain titles and positions. Only one of our two employees can actually fulfill that. We have some constraints we need to work with and he would not be in favor of keeping more than a full time equivalent in that department.

Deb Marks reminded the Board of the agreement the Town has with the Village of Tivoli.

Councilman McKeon understands that but the Village of Tivoli is asking for half a day. We can't possibly need more than the Village of Tivoli needs in the Town of Red Hook.

Councilman Colgan feels that it was decided coverage for the week was their objective and he tried to transfer that into dollars to deal with it. He is not sure what the right mix of people is. He'd have to talk to people on a different level.

Councilman Ross commented that they all must have been on a different page because they had this discussion at length last night. When they left last night's meeting they talked about the part time person at the present time being cut down to approximately one quarter time and he would still be an employee of the Town. The half time person is close to retirement as well and he thought they talked about keeping the full time person status quo.

Councilwoman Strawinski stated based on the letter they received from the half time person, he was not saying he was ready to retire.

Councilman Colgan is thinking in terms of the needs of the Town.

Supervisor Crane wants to make sure there is someone physically in the office.

Councilman McKeon does not share the same opinion as the rest of the Board and said the Town of Fishkill office is on a four day work week.

Town Clerk Sue McCann informed Councilman McKeon that all employees in Fishkill are on a four day work week. They work extra hours each day, so they do work the same amount of time.

Supervisor Crane thinks that is the worst comparison to make.

Councilman McKeon commented that Councilman Colgan has more expertise on the requirements of those titles, but he feels strongly to reduce that budget to one full time.

Councilman Colgan said they are really just discussing the money and dealing with the personnel issues in January. It gives us a variety of possibilities of what to do. He is proposing changing those two line items to half of what they are now.

On a motion of Councilman Colgan, seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski moved to take lines B3620.12 and B8010 and cut those in half.

Adopted	Ayes	4	Crane, Strawinski, Colgan, McKeon
	Nays	1	Ross

The clerical line in that office was discussed.

Councilman McKeon suggested that in lieu of eliminating the clerical line, halving it.

Supervisor Crane suggested setting that line at \$1,000 which the majority of the Board agreed to.

Councilwoman Strawinski stated that the Board is going to have to make tough decisions about staffing. She did more research this year and consulted with people who deal with personnel issues and showed them the staffing in the offices we have. Based on the level of expertise of those she consulted outside, she feels the Town Clerk's office is overstaffed for our sized Town and the kind of work that is done in there.

Town Clerk Sue McCann commented "you're kidding".

Councilwoman Strawinski recommended the Deputy Town Clerk position be reduced to part time.

Business Manager Deb Marks told Councilwoman Strawinski that she works here and has to stand in line to talk to the Town Clerk.

Councilman Ross commented that it is "absolute insanity" to do that. At last night's meeting they talked about recreation, the Recreation Park, and cutting programs. He is not in favor of all that because he thinks it's important. Now you are sitting here tonight and you want to cut our Town Clerk's Office?

Councilwoman Strawinski told him yes after a conversation she had with people that work in that human resources arena.

Town Clerk Sue McCann asked if she spoke to people at Bard.

Councilwoman Strawinski said it was someone in a human resources department in a corporation and she told Sue McCann that she doesn't need to respond to her.

Town Clerk McCann answered she thinks Councilwoman Strawinski does.

Councilman Ross reminds Councilwoman Strawinski that she does need to respond because the Town Clerk is an elected official.

Supervisor Crane said it is important that when you talk about Towns, you talk about equivalent Towns in population and geographic size.

Councilwoman Strawinski said she spoke to someone from a Town of equivalent size.

Supervisor Crane asked who the other Town was that she spoke to.

Councilwoman Strawinski said Rhinebeck has a lot less staffing, a little less population, but she thinks they have a little more activity in that office.

Supervisor Crane asked about Pleasant Valley.

Councilwoman Strawinski could not provide that information at that time.

Councilman McKeon commented that he did a survey of Deputy Town Clerks. They are part time in Rhinebeck which is maybe a tad smaller than Red Hook. He couldn't speak to the activity in that office. He also looked at Beekman who is larger than us and has a half time Deputy Town Clerk. He knows the Town Clerks Office is a very important office but when we look at expenditures it is in excess of \$100,000. He thinks it is something the Board has to address. New York State law allows the Town Clerk to appoint a Deputy Town Clerk. It doesn't have to be a paid position, it can be a volunteer position. He doesn't think this Town would work well if we didn't have at least a half time person.

Town Clerk Sue McCann clarified that she just completed nineteen legal sized page minutes of the October 31 meeting, which her Deputy spent days, and days, and days on. She is furious about this.

Supervisor Crane called a five minute break. She commented that the Town Clerk needs backup.

Nancy Guski commented that Sue McCann has helped her understand the workings of the Town. She is the face you see when you go into the building, she treats everyone with great respect and she absolutely is in support of Sue McCann and would be very upset if her situation would change.

Rosemarie Zengen commented that is the feeling of the entire community.

Councilwoman Strawinski understands that the Deputy Town Clerk is a tremendous help with the minutes but the minutes are supposed to be a snippet of information about what happens. While she appreciates the full narrative, there is no reason to type the entire meeting word for word.

Councilman Ross told her to watch PANDA sometime and listen to herself alone and how much of the pages may be taken up with different people of the Board. We worked hard to get the budget down and it is unconscionable to think she wants to slash different departments, one as important as our Town Clerks Office. Slashing was done in our Building Department. To start making cuts like that is certainly nonproductive and does not serve the taxpayers at all.

Supervisor Crane asked the Board to weigh in individually regarding cutting the Deputy Town Clerk's position to part time. She asked for yes or no answers.

Councilman McKeon thinks the Board has to look at appropriate staffing levels for our departments. He hasn't come to a determination on the issue.

Councilman Colgan said he is in the office a great deal and has daily conversations with both people in that office. He sees the activity and he sees the response of the public to that office. He likes what he sees and is very reluctant to do anything.

Councilwoman Strawinski asked what he was basing that on. We also have to consider two other budget lines that increase the salaries of the two employees in that office. If we are considering any cut in hours, that would be another area to look at as well. They were the tax collectors lines.

Town Clerk Sue McCann told Councilwoman Strawinski that the office collects about seven million dollars in four months.

Councilman McKeon thinks it is important to look at everything. In regard to the tax collection line, he wants to know why we are twice that of Rhinebeck. They should understand the salaries.

Councilman Ross thinks the Board stripped every one of our departments further than we should already and he cannot be in favor of any further reductions. Stripping our vital departments is insanity.

Supervisor Crane is not in favor of any further reductions.

Councilman McKeon just wants to make sure that is appropriate pay for that service.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Ross for discussion moved to pass the proposed budget as it stands.

There was no vote taken and the following discussion took place:

Councilman Ross would like to see where the proposed changes leave us. He asked if Deb Marks would run the figures.

Councilman McKeon wants to move on with the agenda while Deb Marks runs the numbers.

Deb Marks referred to medical insurance in the A Fund that needed to be changed. She explained the changes. She ran the budget numbers for the Board.

The Board discussed the reserve and revenue.

Supervisor Crane left the meeting. The Board moved on with the agenda while waiting for Deb Marks to return.

DICUSSION OF HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT APPOINTMENT

Deputy Supervisor Ross said we've had three resumes for the position.

Councilman McKeon thinks there are a couple of strong resumes and feels we should take the recommendation of our current Highway Superintendent and appoint Bucky Coon when the vacancy is created on December 9th.

Councilwoman Strawinski said we've been reminded time and again that we should take the recommendation of the Highway Supervisor. She respects his selection.

Councilman Colgan supports Bucky Coon. He brings a great deal of talent, knows the community, and serves the community very well.

Deputy Supervisor Ross recused himself from voting because he knows all three individuals and has had a working relationship with them. He thinks the world of all three of them.

On a motion of Councilman McKeon, seconded by Councilman Colgan move to temporarily appoint Arvine Coon to the position of Working Supervisor for the period of November 19, 2009 until such time as the vacancy is created.

Adopted Ayes 3 Strawinski, Colgan, McKeon

Nays 0
Recuse 1 Ross
Absent 1 Crane

On a motion of Councilman McKeon, seconded by Councilman Colgan, moved to appoint Arvine Coon as Highway Superintendent of the Town of Red Hook as and when the vacancy occurs with the expectation of December 10th, due to the retirement of our current Highway Superintendent.

Adopted Ayes 3 Strawinski, Colgan, McKeon
Nays 0
Recuse 1 Ross
Absent 1 Crane

REORGANIZATION

Economic Development Committee

Deputy Supervisor Ross reviewed the membership of the EDC.

Councilwoman Strawinski explained that the Board received two letters of interest for two vacancies on the Economic Development Committee. One is to fill a vacancy that expires at the end of the year and one is for a two year appointment.

Deputy Supervisor Ross asked the status of Ronald Moore.

Councilwoman Strawinski said he was not going to be reappointed for lack of attendance.

On a motion of Councilwoman Strawinski, seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to appoint Chris Clark to the unexpired term on the Economic Development Committee that expires on December 31, 2009.

Adopted Ayes 4 Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, McKeon
Nays 0
Absent 1 Crane

On a motion of Councilwoman Strawinski, seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to appoint Bob Airhart to the Economic Development Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2010.

Adopted Ayes 4 Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, McKeon
Nays 0
Absent 1 Crane

The vote was taken after the following discussion:

Town Clerk Sue McCann informed the Board that Bob Airhart is not a resident of the Town of Red Hook.

Councilwoman Strawinski commented that Ed Pruitt is not a resident of the Town of Red Hook and he's been on the committee for several years. Bob Airhart is the Managing Director of the Fisher Performing Arts Center at Bard College and would be a representative of education and arts on that committee. She feels he would be a good addition in rounding out that committee.

Councilman Ross asked about residency status for committee members.

Attorney Chale thinks it is ok for an advisory committee. It would be different for Boards such as the ZBA.

Councilman Colgan likes his skill in the arts and performance.

Planning Board

Councilman McKeon said we've waited months to fill that vacancy. There were two letters of interest but he would be supportive of moving our Alternate on the Planning Board to fill the vacancy that was created. He would ask the second individual to be the Alternate so that when

the next vacancy is created, perhaps they would be interested. It would give him an opportunity to see the Planning Board in process.

Councilwoman Strawinski spoke to the Planning Board Chair who has been unable to schedule an interview with the second applicant. She feels some urgency in moving forward with filling that vacancy.

Deputy Supervisor Ross does not feel the urgency. It is almost the end of November, the Planning Board doesn't have very many more meetings and this Town Board is going to be different starting January 1st. We've gone all year with these vacant positions. Especially in light of the fact that our Supervisor is not here, he doesn't see the rush to appoint for this very important committee. Councilwoman Strawinski herself said the Planning Board hasn't had the chance to interview possible candidates.

Councilwoman Strawinski said the Planning Board Chair has not been able to reach the individual to interview him.

On a motion of Councilman McKeon, seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski moved to appoint Planning Board Alternate Kristofer Munn to fill the vacancy that exists on the Planning Board with a term to expire December 31, 2013.

Adopted	Ayes	3	Strawinski, Colgan, McKeon
	Nays	1	Ross
	Absent	1	Crane

The vote was taken after the following discussion:

Councilman Ross does not feel it is proper to appoint at this time because the makeup of the Town Board will be different on January 1st. This Board is elected to serve the Town. It is a crucial Board and it is morally the right thing to do to wait until the new Board is seated. There is a lot of business that is as important as or more important than this that hasn't been completed. He does not understand the rush.

Councilman Colgan doesn't see this as an issue that concerns him.

Town Clerk Sue McCann commented that the ZBA alternate was not moved up when filling a vacant position.

Deputy Supervisor Ross agreed that the ZBA alternate was not moved up. He called for the vote.

The Board returned to the topic of Highway Superintendent.

Councilman McKeon asked about the salary for the Working Superintendent.

Business Manager Deb Marks took care of the paperwork for the position.

Deputy Supervisor Ross feels it is appropriate that the salary be based on a weekly basis of the proposed salary for next year as suggested by Business Manager Deb Marks.

Councilman Colgan agreed.

Deputy Supervisor Ross referred to the updated budget information received from Deb Marks.

Deb explained the changes that the Board asked her to make. The figures translate to an increase of \$6.00 in the Village and \$12.00 in the Town, both based on a house with an assessed value of \$300,000.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Deputy Supervisor Ross opened to questions or comments from the public.

Rosemarie Zengen commented , in regard to the appointment of the gentleman to the Planning Board, that it is clear that Councilwoman Strawinski and Councilman McKeon want to get their

friend in before the new Board is elected. There is no reason to do that. It is an intense appointment that will affect our community for years to come. It appears to her that Councilman Ross asked for more time but they just had to push it through to get their man in. As far as Sue McCann is concerned, anyone can see the wonderful job she is doing. To ask that she relinquish her assistant or to ask that Claire Horst get half or no salary is ridiculous. The people of Red Hook are watching.

Dick Hansen commented that in January the Board sought proposals for attorney services and took the higher of the two proposals. He suggested going out for a bid for attorney services in the interest of the taxpayers. Pick the one who will cost less, there was a \$20,000 difference.

Deputy Supervisor Ross told Mr. Hansen that the Town will go out to bid for all of our professional services every year or two. He doesn't know what the new Board will do but in general we go out every couple of years.

There were no more comments.

Deputy Supervisor Ross entertained a motion to adopt the Town budget presently before them.

On a motion of Councilman Colgan, seconded by Councilman McKeon for discussion, moved to adopt the Town Budget.

Adopted	Ayes	4	Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, McKeon
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Crane

The vote was taken after the following discussion:

Councilman McKeon thinks the Board made some decisions that are temporary that will help lower the tax impact and some that will have a lasting effect. He appreciates the work of the Business Manager, Budget Office and our independent Auditor.

Councilman Colgan said they essentially met a zero budget and it is going to be tough to manage it next year.

Councilwoman Strawinski appreciates Deb's work and she is very comfortable with her recommendations. She apologized for hurt feelings from her suggestion for discussion regarding the Clerk's office. It is an issue she thinks the Board needed to consider.

Town Clerk Sue McCann suggested talking to her first in the future. We've been talking budget for months.

Councilman Colgan thanked Deb Marks and Rose Rider for all of their help.

Deputy Supervisor Ross commented that it is a good budget. There are a few cuts that he thinks are too drastic and he was not in favor of them. However the majority of the Board did make the cuts and he feels it is a good budget with a few exceptions. He thanked Deb Marks, Rose Rider and Ted Eglit, then called for the vote on the budget.

On a motion of Councilman Colgan, seconded by Councilman McKeon moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	4	Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, McKeon
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Crane

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk