

April 24, 2012

Mayor Curran opened the Budget workshop at 7:00pm.

Attendance: Trustee Packet, Trustee Morrell, Trustee Locke, Trustee DelRossi, Michael Richardson, Treasurer Anne Marshall, Fire Chief Paul Pratt and a reporter from the Chatham Courier.

Trustee Locke expressed concern about the 2% cut and stated that she felt this was a good will gesture but the amount it gives to each household is not much. She stated that you would be better off putting it in the contingency fund. Trustee Locke stated that she understood the opposition to another working foreman for the DPW but would rather see another person hired to help the staff we already have with the workload.

Trustee Packet stated that the budget should be kept flat without a 2% cut since it is a rather small amount. She stated that money could be spent on the records retention filing for the basement and the compressor for the Fire Department. Trustee Packet stated that she is in favor of a Superintendent to maybe take over things like filling out the vouchers for payment of bills.

Trustee DelRossi stated that she is in favor of the tax cut and it gives a signal to the tax payer that we are going in the direction of lowering taxes. She stated that the budget is a work in progress and we will find deficiencies. She is in favor of the Superintendent who will be a liaison with contractors and this person can keep track of what needs to be done.

Trustee Morrell stated that although it is nice to show a direction we want to head toward, she is concerned about the flexibility of expenses ahead, you must look at the long term. Trustee Morrell is in favor of the Superintendent position stating that we need someone who is constantly focusing on the work and technical aspects of the jobs done by the DPW.

Mayor Curran stated that he is definitely in favor of the tax cut stating that it is symbolic of what he hears from the residents about their taxes. He stated that the Village could use the money but the 2% is worth more emotionally to residents. Mayor Curran stated that he is also in favor of the Superintendent and someone who would not be in the Union. He stated that we need a project manager especially for the parking lot behind Main Street since he does not have experience in dealing with this issue.

Trustee Locke clarified that the Village is not a factory and that union employees negotiate union issues. She questioned the scope of the work that a Superintendent would do.

Mr. Richardson commented that there will be a wage proposal from CSEA at the next regular Board meeting on May 10th. He also explained to the Board what would happen if the tax levy was left flat and the rate was left the same. He presented the summary sheet again to the Board.

Resolution # 187 was made by Trustee DelRossi to accept the expenditure portion of the 2012-2013 budget. Seconded by Trustee Morrell. Vote- Trustee Morrell, Trustee Packet, Trustee Locke, Trustee DelRossi, Mayor Curran- yes; no negative votes.

Resolution # 188 was made by Trustee DelRossi to accept the revenue assumptions that are non-property tax for the 2012-2013 budget. Vote- Trustee Locke, Trustee Packet, Trustee Morrell, Trustee DelRossi, Mayor Curran- yes, no negative votes.

Resolution # 189 was made by Trustee Locke to leave the tax rate as is, eliminating the 2% tax cut. Seconded by Trustee Morrell. Vote- Trustee Locke, Trustee Morrell- yes. Trustee Packet, Trustee DelRossi, Mayor Curran- no.

Resolution # 190 was made by Trustee DelRossi to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm. Seconded by Trustee Locke. Vote- Trustee Locke, Trustee Morrell, Trustee Packet, Trustee DelRossi- yes, no negative votes.

Barbara A. Fischer, Village Clerk