

September 28, 2015

A special budget session was conducted by the Lockport Town Board at 1:00 p.m. On Monday, September 28, 2015, at the Town Hall, 6560 Dysinger Road, Lockport, New York.

Present were: Supervisor: Marc R. Smith  
Council Members: Mark C. Crocker  
Paul W. Siejak  
Patricia Dufour  
Thomas J. Keough

Also present: Nancy A. Brooks, Town Clerk; Michael J. Norris, Town Attorney; and Kate Carter, Town Budget Officer.

**Town Fee Schedule Discussed**

Supervisor Smith opened the meeting by asking Mr. Norris to present the proposed Fee Schedule that would become effective January 2016. Mr. Norris explained the proposed changes from the fee schedule adopted in 2015. Action on this matter will be placed on the agenda for the October 7, 2015 Town Board meeting.

**Town Clerk**

The Town Clerk reported receiving a request from the New York State United Court System for a copy of the Town Board's resolution acknowledging that an audit of the Town Court's records for the calendar year ending December 2014 were conducted.

**MOTION (2015-256):** to approve the audit of the Town Court records for the calendar year of 2014, which was performed by the firm of Lumsden & McCormick, LLP, was made by Council member Siejak and seconded by Council member Dufour. The motion was CARRIED: AYES-5, NAYS-0. Voting AYE: Crocker, Siejak, Dufour, Keough and Smith.

**Supervisor's Comments Reports**

Supervisor Smith called for action on the following resolutions:

Cancellation of Current Healthcare Insurance Contract

**MOTION (2015-257):** to provide a 90-day Notice to Terminate Contract with The Alliance of WNY (Crown Benefits) for healthcare insurance effective 12/31/2015 was made by Council member Siejak and seconded by Council member Dufour. The motion was CARRIED: AYES-5, NAYS-0. Voting AYE: Crocker, Siejak, Dufour, Keough and Smith.

Approval of New Healthcare Insurance Broker

**MOTION (2015-258):** to approve the Walsh Jones Agency, Inc. as the Town's healthcare insurance broker of record effective 10/01/2015 was made by Council member Dufour and seconded by Council member Keough. The motion was CARRIED: AYES-4, NAYS-0. Voting AYE: Crocker, Siejak, Dufour, Keough. ABSTENTION: Smith (noting a conflict of interest).

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Budget Review

Kate Carter provided a line by line review of all changes since the September 16, 2015 Town Board budget review, stating that the only major changes were the addition of \$400,000.00 for principal & interest payments due in 2016 on the Town's Water Capital Improvement Bond and \$40,000.00 for the parks line item for equipment and capital improvement.

Discussion on the issue of the bond payment followed due to the fact that this change will force the Town to break the State's 1% tax cap which the Town has on each of its Special Districts. The current figures indicate that town-wide the amount to be raised by taxation will have a 7.37 % increase over that of 2015. Council Member Siejak asked if breaking the tax cap on this one district would prevent the Town from receiving other State property tax freeze credit, even though overall, the Town Budget as presented, would offer a slight decrease for the average household in 2016. The answer was not known and Supervisor Smith and Kate Carter will investigate this matter further.

Additionally, after reviewing the proposed 2016 Town Budget with David Miller, the Town Highway Superintendent, it was decided that the Highway Dept. budget appropriation for road construction will remain the same as was proposed on September 16, 2015.

There was also some discussion on changing a part-time clerk's position to a full-time position in the Building and Assessing Dept.

Supervisor Smith then requested that the budget as presented be approved as the 2016 Tentative Town Budget.

**MOTION (2015-259):** to approve the budget presented as the 2016 Tentative Town Budget was made by Council member Crocker and seconded by Council member Dufour. The motion was CARRIED: AYES-5, NAYS-0. Voting AYE: Crocker, Siejak, Dufour, Keough and Smith.

Supervisor Smith will investigate for further clarification on the State tax cap and will report to the Board.

**Adjournment**

**MOTION (2015-260):** to adjourn was made by Council member Siejak and seconded by Council member Crocker. The motion was CARRIED: AYES-5, NAYS-0. Voting AYE: Crocker, Siejak, Dufour, Keough and Smith.

The meeting was ended at 1:40 p.m. The Lockport Town Board will next meet at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, October 5, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy A. Brooks, RMC, MMC  
Lockport Town Clerk