

Minutes - November 7, 2013 - 6:30 PM

The Regular meeting for the Town of Fowler, the Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2013 overriding the County Tax Levy Limit for 2014, & the Public Hearing for the Proposed 2014 Budget was held on the above date with all members present. Also present were Town Clerk Sherrie Williams, Highway Superintendent Gary Williams, Justice Paul Lamson, Code Enforcement Officer Rick Whitford, Bookkeeper Gary Higgins, Kathy Moses, Dustin Fayette, Wanda Fayette, Debbie Tupper, Joanne Orford, Lynn Bishop, Eugene Bishop, Bob & Nancy Fuller, Tammy Hooley, Peter Devine, Vicky Cappellino, Stacey Hance, Mike Macaulay, Lillith Griffith.

Supervisor Cappellino called the meeting to order then proceeded with the opening prayer & the pledge of allegiance.

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine to approve the October 1, 2013 Meeting Minutes & seconded by Councilperson Randy Durham. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Randy Durham; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor Cappellino opened the Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2013 overriding the state tax levy limit for 2014 at 6:35 PM. This law is put in place every year as a precautionary measure by the town.

The 2014 Proposed Budget was discussed.

Peter Devine from the St. Lawrence County Housing Council reported on the progress of the CDBG grant. He provided a progress report on what projects have been accomplished so far.

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Six inspections & projects are out to bid. July, 2014 is the completion date for all the projects. The town Code Enforcement Officer will provide certificates of completion at the end of each project. The grants were based on income level of the applicant. The board discussed that need should be the requirement for the grants. The board thanked them for the report.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that there were 2 fuel bids for the Board to consider.

1) Tripp Fuels: Diesel Fuel \$3.14/gal.

Gas \$2.79/gal.

No. 2 Heating Fuel for Town Barn \$3.08/gal.

No. 2 Heating Fuel for Town Hall \$3.08/gal.

All prices based on escalating/de-escalating price based on current market price on day of delivery

2) MX Petroleum Corp.: Diesel Fuel \$3.2527/gal.

Gas \$2.9795/gal.

No. 2 Heating Fuel for Town Barn \$3.335/gal.

No. 2 Heating Fuel for Town Hall \$3.1793/gal.

All prices will move up or down based on the NYS OGS price posting for St. Lawrence County.

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine to approve Tripp Fuels low fuel bid & seconded by Councilperson Randy Durham. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Randy Durham; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

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Supervisor Cappellino reported that there is not a Veteran's Exemption from Real Property Taxation in place for the Town of Fowler. The different views of such an exemption were discussed. A work session will be set up to investigate how the exemption would effect the Town if it is implemented.

At 7:35 PM Supervisor Cappellino ended the Public Hearing for the Proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2013 Overriding the County Tax Levy Limit for 2014. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine to approve Local Law No. 3 of 2013 Overriding the County Tax Levy Limit for 2013 & seconded by Councilperson Karen Simmons. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Randy Durham; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

At 7:37 PM Supervisor Cappellino opened the Public Hearing for the 2014 Proposed Budget. The percentage of increase is 1.8% for the 2014 Proposed Budget. Different aspects of the 2014 Proposed Budget were discussed.

Code Enforcement Officer Rick Whitford reported that he has issued 6 permits for the month.

Councilperson Karen Simmons reported that the 3 World War II plaques will be done in a couple of weeks. Eugene Bishop reported that Historian Connie Bishop is feeling much better.

Councilperson Karen Simmons reported for Beaver Patrol Tim Prashaw that 2 beavers were taken for the month.

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Deputy Dog Control Officer Tammy Hooley reported that 11 complaints, 5 warnings, 2 tickets were issued by Dog Warden Neil Hooley. One dog was adopted out & 1 dog is in the kennel at this time. There needs to be a light installed outside of the kennel. She reported that the authorities ordered the dog put in the kennel & asked the board how long to keep the dog. Consensus of the board was for the Town to keep the dog in the kennel until the owner is able to pick up the dog.

Highway Report - Highway Superintendent Gary Williams reported that the Smith Road is paved & the shoulder will be put on soon. The CHIPS documentation is in & the money will be received December 18th. The trucks are being maintained & plows are on. He reported that all material from road work is being taken back to the lot for the Town to use in the future.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that he had the 2014 County Winter Maintenance Contract for the board to consider. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Natalie Spilman giving permission for the 2014 County Winter Maintenance Contract to be signed & seconded by Councilperson Karen Simmons. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Randy Durham; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Bookkeeper Gary Higgins received a letter from Zurick Disability Insurance that they will no longer be providing disability insurance for the Town on December 31st. He would like to sign the Town up with NYS Insurance Fund for disability. Consensus of the Board was for Bookkeeper Higgins to contact the NYS Insurance Fund

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for the Town's disability insurance.

At 8:37 PM Supervisor Cappellino closed the Public Hearing for the Proposed 2014 Budget. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Rick Newvine to approve the 2014 Budget & seconded by Councilperson Randy Durham. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Randy Durham; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilperson Randy Durham to declare the $\frac{3}{4}$ ton 2004 pickup as scrap/surplus & seconded by Councilperson Karen Simmons. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Randy Durham; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED. Consensus of the board was to put the $\frac{3}{4}$ ton 2004 pickup out to bid to come in at the December 3rd board meeting.

At 8:38 PM a motion was made by Councilperson Natalie Spilman for the board to go into Executive Session concerning a legal matter on Sylvia Lake & seconded by Councilperson Karen Simmons. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Randy Durham; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED. At 9:00 PM Supervisor Cappellino reported that the Executive Session is closed concerning a legal matter on Sylvia Lake.

Councilperson Karen Simmons reported that one of the grant projects is complete.

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Councilperson Rick Newvine would like to know how many Fowler residents have re-registered for the Star Program & is hoping everyone under 65 has registered.

Councilperson Natalie Spilman reported the 2014 newsletter will be worked on soon.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that a County bridge on Route 24 will be closed by the County for some repair next year. More details on the time frame of when it will be closed will be known next year.

Supervisor Cappellino reported that the next board meeting is December 3, 2013 at 7 PM in the Fowler Town Hall.

The bills audited for the General Fund were #233 - #255 \$6,847.57 & Highway Fund #161 - #179 - \$79,708.81.

A motion was made by Councilperson Natalie Spilman to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM & seconded by Councilperson Karen Simmons. Roll call vote showed Michael Cappellino; Yes, Rick Newvine; Yes, Natalie Spilman; Yes, Karen Simmons; Yes, Randy Durham; Yes. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Michael Cappellino; Supervisor Sherrie Williams; Town Clerk

Rick Newvine; Councilperson Randy Durham; Councilperson

Karen Simmons, Councilperson Natalie Spilman, Councilperson

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2014 BUDGET CHANGES

GENERAL REVENUE CHANGES

Real Property Taxes	\$135,000 Increase \$5,000
Other Payments Lieu of Taxes	\$4,000 Increase \$2,000
Int. & Penalties Real Prop. Tax	\$145,000 Increase \$8,000
Nonproperty Tax Distrib by Cnty.	\$185,000 Increase \$10,000
Interest & Earnings	\$100 Decrease \$400
Mortgage Tax	\$15,000 Increase \$3,000

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE CHANGES

Justice Court Clerk	\$3,000 Increase \$1,500
Justice Equipment	\$8,000 Increase \$500
Data Collector	\$25,000 Decrease \$5,000
Assessors Equipment	\$500 Increase \$300
Assessors Contractual	\$8,000 Increase \$4,500
Town Clerk Personal Services	\$22,750 Increase \$750
Town Clerk Contractual	\$4,000 Increase \$500
Attorney Contractual	\$9,000 Increase \$2,000
Bookkeeper Personal Services	\$7,000 Increase \$600
Bookkeeper Contractual	\$5,000 Increase \$1,500
Telephone Expense - Town Hall	\$2,500 Increase \$500
Central Printing & mailing	\$2,000 Increase \$200
Contingent Account	\$5,000 Increase \$4,000
Control of Dogs Contractual	\$5,000 Decrease \$2,500
Control of Other Animals	\$8,000 Decrease \$2,000
Parks Contractual	\$3,000 Increase \$500
Sylvia Lake Personal Services	\$8,500 Increase \$1,300
Sylvia lake Contractual	\$5,000 Increase \$3,000

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GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE CHANGES CONT.

Code Enforcement Officer	\$8,000 Increase \$1,200
Research	\$5,000 Decrease \$2,500
Hospital & Medical Insurance	\$20,000 Decrease \$15,000
Cemeteries Contractual	\$10,000 Decrease \$5,000
State Retirement	\$40,000 Increase \$5,000

HIGHWAY REVENUE CHANGES

Real Property Taxes	\$485,000 Increase \$5,000
Non Property Tax Dist. By Cnty.	\$185,000 Increase \$10,000
Interest & Earnings	\$200 Decrease \$300
State Aide	\$100,000 Increase \$10,000

HIGHWAY FUND EXPENDITURE CHANGES

Drug Safety	\$2,500 Increase \$500
General Repairs Personal Services	\$63,000 Increase \$1,000
General Repairs Contractual	\$95,000 Increase \$5,000
Permanent Improvements Pers. Serv.	\$22,000 Increase \$1,000
Permanent Improvements Contract.	\$250,000 Increase \$10,000
Machinery Personal Services	\$33,000 Increase \$1,000
Machinery Contractual	\$35,000 Increase \$5,000
Snow Removal Contractual	\$80,000 Increase \$5,000
State Retirement	\$45,000 Increase \$2,000
Unemployment Insurance	\$10,000 Decrease \$10,000
Hospital & Medicare Insurance	\$35,000 Increase \$5000

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HIGHWAY EXPENDITURE CHANGES CONT.

Installment Purchase Principal	\$28,300 Increase \$1,000
Installment Purchase Interest	\$2,200 Decrease \$1,000

FOWLER FIRE PROTECTION REVENUE

Real Property Taxes	\$38,000 Increase \$2,000
State Aid	\$1,100 Increase \$100

FOWLER FIRE PROTECTION EXPENDITURES

Fire Protection	\$38,000 Increase \$2,000
Payments on Fire Contracts	\$1,100 Increase \$100