

TOWN OF WHITEHALL
PUBLIC HEARING 7 PM ON 2018 TOWN BUDGET
PUBLIC HEARING 7:05 PM ON 2018 FIRE CONTRACT
REGULAR MEETING TO FOLLOW
57 SKENESBOROUGH DRIVE

October 18, 2017

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: George Armstrong – Supervisor
John Rozell-Councilperson
Stephanie Safka – Councilperson
Timothy Kingsley-Councilperson
David Hollister-Councilperson

OTHERS PRESENT: Town Clerk, Julie Millett; Highway Superintendent, Louis D. Pratt II; Town Attorney, Erika Sellar-Ryan; Whitehall Times Reporter, Matt Saari; Heritage Director, Carol Greenough; Compliance Officer, Vernon Scribner, John Millett Jr S.E.P. Rep., Teresa Austin, Amy Michaud, Patti Gordon and students from the Whitehall Central School Government Class. Supervisor opened up Public Hearing with Pledge of Allegiance to Flag and prayer. Public Hearing notice was posted in the Whitehall Times, town clerk signboard and town website on 10/5/17.

Supervisor opened the Public Hearing at 7 PM on the 2018 Preliminary Budget for the Town of Whitehall.

Supervisor asked for public comments.

None at this time so Public Hearing was closed at 7:05 PM.

Supervisor opened up the Public Hearing on the Fire Contract for 2018. Supervisor commented that the fire company wanted an additional 2% over the 3% offered by the Board with a one- year contract. Letter from fire company will be filed with the minutes. They also would like a panel box placed in the fire garage so they can get to it after hours. Right now, the panel box is located in the back of the town office.

Amy Michaud stated that the rescue squad never asks for money from the town and feels the fire company should have to work within their budget.
Close the Public Hearing on the fire contract at 7:12 PM.

Open regular meeting to discuss the 2018 Preliminary Budget and consider passing it.

Councilperson Safka and Kingsley would like to give the 3% to fire company and agree to pay for the panel box. Councilperson Hollister, Rozell and Supervisor agree.

Motion to pass the 2018 Preliminary Budget as the final Budget with the change of the fire amount to \$123,326 made by Councilperson Hollister and seconded by Councilperson Rozell.

ADOPTED **Ayes 5 Armstrong, Rozell, Safka, Kingsley, Hollister**
 Nays 0

Town Clerk gave attorney the 2017 fire contract so she could type up the 2018 contract with the agreed amounts for signatures.

Motion made by Councilperson Rozell to approve the 2018 fire contract at the 3% with the terms herein as follows SF Fund \$123,326 and First Responders \$10,600 seconded by Councilperson Kingsley.

ADOPTED **Ayes 5 Armstrong, Rozell, Safka, Kingsley, Hollister**
 Nays 0

Motion to approve prior minutes of September 20th and 25th, 2017 by Councilperson Hollister and seconded by Councilperson Rozell.

ADOPTED **Ayes 5 Armstrong, Rozell, Safka, Kingsley, Hollister**
 Nays 0

Heritage Report- verbal report by Carol Greenough

- Getting ready to close museum for the season.
- Annual Meeting for the Washington County Historical Society next week.
- Working on the LARAC Grant for music in the park for 2018.

Rec. Report-no report by Julie Eagan

Pat Norton called and stated that pole lights are out by tennis and basketball courts. Julie will need to get the numbers off the poles and call it in to National Grid to fix.

Dog Control Report- written report by Nancy Quell

Compliance Officer Report- verbal report by Vernon Scribner

- Reported to the Planning board that the Board wanted him to follow up on the procedures on the solar project. Planning Board wants Vernon to wait until they are finished with the project. The Methodist Church water line has been completed by the solar company.
- Supervisor stopped and spoke to the owner on corner of Cemetery Lane and County Route 12 with the violation of junkyard law. He told Supervisor that he is getting rid of stuff.

Town Clerk Report -written report by Julie Millett

- Rec. Center will need to be closed on 11/6 & 11/7 for Election Day.
- Inspectors would like food from Putorti's again around 5 PM.
- Received another \$100 from Ideal Dairy for the Rec. lunch program.
- Introduced Patti Gordon as being Deputy Town Clerk. Town Clerk has appointed her because she can have up to three deputies. Town Clerk's daughter is coming home from service and she

will be taking time off to be with her. She is asking the Board's permission to pay her at the same rate as her other deputy at \$12.36/hr.

Motion to accept paying Patti Gordon at the \$12.36/hr. through December 31, 2017 made by Councilperson Kingsley and seconded by Councilperson Rozell.

ADOPTED **Ayes 5 Armstrong, Rozell, Safka, Kingsley, Hollister**
Nays 0

Town Assessor Report- written report by Bruce Caza

Town Supervisor Report – written report by George Armstrong
Permission to approve WIC Contract for another year.

Motion to approve contract at \$900.00 for WIC to use Rec. Center location made by Councilperson Rozell and seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

ADOPTED **Ayes 5 Armstrong, Rozell, Safka, Kingsley, Hollister**
Nays 0

Teresa Austin is asking the Board to consider donating \$100.00 towards the flags for the street poles. She has been contacted by the Veterans to have flags put up.

Motion to donate \$100.00 toward the flags made by Councilperson Hollister and seconded by Councilperson Kingsley.

ADOPTED **Ayes 5 Armstrong, Rozell, Safka, Kingsley, Hollister**
Nays 0

Planning Board Report- written report by Gregg Chappell

Councilperson Kingsley has concerns on the solar. He would like things checked out now instead of when they are done to make sure things are done correctly. Attorney stated that if the Planning Board put certain conditions in the approval then at any point, even years later the solar company has to meet those conditions. If the solar company doesn't meet the conditions, then they won't get final approval. Tim wanted to know why no planning board members come to our meetings. Planning Board meetings are always the 4th Wednesday if any town board members want to attend.

Budget Officer Report & Transfers – written report by Joel Carpenter

Resolution # 49 Budget Transfers

Motion to pass budget transfers made by Councilperson Hollister and seconded by Councilperson Safka.

ADOPTED **Ayes 5 Armstrong, Rozell, Safka, Kingsley, Hollister**
Nays 0

Resolution will be filed in the Resolution Book and with the minutes.

Town Highway Report- verbal report by Louis D. Pratt II

-Highway monthly reports have been submitted to the Board for their review.

-Water and power will be turned off the canal wall November 1st.

-Ford 4000 was sold on Auction International for \$3,050. If for some reason they don't come through it will go to the next bid of \$3,000.

Motion to approve sale of Ford 4000 at \$3,050 or next lower bid of \$3,000 made by Councilperson Rozell and seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

ADOPTED **Ayes 5 Armstrong, Rozell, Safka, Kingsley, Hollister**
Nays 0

Motion to approve all reports made by Councilperson Hollister and seconded by Councilperson Safka.

ADOPTED **Ayes 5 Armstrong, Rozell, Safka, Kingsley, Hollister**
Nays 0

All Written reports will be filed with the minutes.

- Auditors will be here on October 30th & 31st.
- Grant updates by Councilperson Safka.
- Sent in final estimate for the \$80,000 grant and waiting to hear.

-Does the Board want to put ad in paper on Board of Assessment Review position. Amy Michaud has sent a letter of interest.
Board would like to hire Amy for the position.

Motion made by Councilperson Hollister to appoint Amy Michaud to the Board of Assessment open position and seconded by Councilperson Safka.

ADOPTED **Ayes 5 Armstrong, Rozell, Safka, Kingsley, Hollister**
Nays 0

-Use of park for Memorial Service on November 12, 2017.

Motion for use of park made by Councilperson Hollister and seconded by Councilperson Rozell.

ADOPTED **Ayes 5 Armstrong, Rozell, Safka, Kingsley, Hollister**
Nays 0

Supervisor would like to discuss the town health insurance. Our plan is to continue on with our current plan. Joel budgeted 13% and it looks like it will be 13.8%. Copy to be filed with the minutes.

Pavilion Report by John Rozell

He met with Canal Corp. and went through all the inspection violations that have been fixed. Jim Austin has completed all the ones that the Town is responsible for on the list plus a couple that the Canal Corp. was responsible for. One request is that the building needs to be open on both ends. Town Clerk mentioned that the north end doesn't shut properly and that is why it has not been unlocked. Canal Corp. needs to be aware of that issue.

-Code violation in the building that has to do with the cameras. Issue with the surge protector. It needs to be plugged into the outlet.

Lakes to Locks Report

John Rozell stated that the painting has been started by Jim Austin. The town should be reimbursed from Lakes to Locks for this and a few other things. Temp. should be left around 50 degrees for paint.

Board has signed Eagle Scout Certificate for Zachary Hollister recognizing him with this great achievement.

<u>ABSTRACT # 9</u>	General Fund V# 17-10-1/19	\$ 22,358.15
	B Fund V# 17-10-1	\$ 160.00
	Highway V#17-10-1/10	\$ 24,684.53

Motion made to approve the monthly vouchers by Councilperson Hollister and seconded by Councilperson Safka.

ADOPTED **Ayes 5 Armstrong, Rozell, Safka, Kingsley, Hollister**
 Nays 0

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:05 PM made by Councilperson Hollister and seconded by Councilperson Safka.

ADOPTED **Ayes 5 Armstrong, Rozell, Safka, Kingsley, Hollister**
 Nays 0

Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Millett
Town Clerk