

FIFTH 2019 BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING

OCTOBER 23, 2019

Present: Supervisor Evera Sue Clary; Town Council Members: Marcus Blanck; Bruce Ferguson; Harold Gilchrest; Howard Law; Town Clerk-Patricia Gilchrist; Clerk to Supervisor-Kathleen Chambers

Others Present: Travis Keys-Highway; Kim Erbe-Planning Board & Library; Rebecca Brown-Water Clerk & Library; Herb Perkins-LLP; Bob Graham-Salem Fire Chief; Tom Cassidy-Shushan Fire Chief; Peter Shaw-Shushan Fire Dep't.

Public Present: Brenda J. Levey

6:00 p.m.-Budget workshop meeting called to order by Supervisor Clary, followed by Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to sign & approve warrant for (1) Georgi bill & Abstract for (1) highway bill; passed unanimously 5-0 by the following Board members: Marcus Blanck; Howard Law; Harold Gilchrest; Bruce Ferguson; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

Salem Fire Dep't.-Chief Graham reported that he knew the decrease in the 2020 Budget am't. may not have been much but the NFPA has mandated the following for all departments:

1-All turn-out gear must be inspected/replaced; probably will have to purchase 15-20 sets of new turn-out gear @ \$2,500-\$3,000/set

2-Jaws of Life needs to be replaced; the Dep't. applied for a grant for this & was denied. This will be very expensive.

3-Twenty (20) air packs need replacing by 2021-\$150,000 to replace & grant has been applied for

4-Radios need to be switched from lo ban to high ban @ a cost of \$25,000--money was taken out of their new truck reserve to pay for this. Went in w/four other companies--Salem, Shushan, Cossayuna & Cambridge or it would have cost much more.

Both Bob Graham & Tom Cassidy hoped the Board would do whatever it could to consider the amounts asked for by each department. Both realize that times are tight but with these unfunded mandates, more & more money needs to be spent to cover the required costs. Supervisor Clary responded that the Board & the townspeople certainly appreciated everything both departments do & have done for their respective communities & would do the best they could. Both departments thanked the Board for their consideration.

2020 Budget-Review of Figures & Changes from 10/09/2019 meeting

Review of Water Dep't.-currently a deficit of-\$30,184 between Water Revenues & Water Appropriations, w/ appropriations being the larger figure! Raised the metered sales for 2019 budget from \$198 to \$238--a \$40 increase; no increase had been made since the system was first put in. After much discussion with Board & questions asked of Rebecca Brown the following was decided:

Resolution #87-Motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to raise **F2140-Departmental Income-Metered Sales** from \$96,985 to \$105,950--\$260/EDU (407.5 EDU's) from the \$238/EDU in the 2019 budget (still a deficit of \$-21,219 after the increase; more discussion to be had at next budget workshop); passed unanimously by the following Board members: Harold Gilchrest; Howard Law; Marcus Blanck; Bruce Ferguson; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

A1620.42-Contractual Exp. (Courthouse)-Bldgs. Generator-Down from \$3,000 to \$1,500 (All State Power serviced generator in 2014; Town paid then; did not come on in 2017 when there was a power outage but no bill provided to Town for this visit)

A1620.43-Contractual Exp. (Med Clinic)-Bldgs.-Down from \$3,000 to \$1,500

A4020.1-Contractual Exp.-Ambulance-Down from \$15,000 to \$13,000—Councilman Law explained he had gone to see Vicky Campbell, Captain of the squad; they do not ask for any increase from any Towns they service; reports provided for months of July, August, September of 2019 from Vicky. Howard explained that in the future, the squad should send a letter at the beginning of the budget process stating what figure they would be comfortable with in the budget.

A5010.4-Contractual Exp.-Sup't. of H'Ways-Down from \$3,000 to \$2,500 (Need to create a new line item for signs-Line 82(?) for \$2,500)

A6989.4-Contractual Exp.-Economic Development-Down from \$2,000 to \$1,000

A6989.42V-Contractual Exp. (Sewer Project Advisory Committee)-Economic Development-Down from \$3,000 to \$2,000; **Roll Call Vote:** Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary-Yes; Councilman Marcus Blanck-No; Councilman Harold Gilchrest-No; Councilman Howard Law-No; 3-2 against lowering from \$3,000 to \$2,000. **Motion made by** Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to go from \$3,000 to \$1,000 for this line item; **Roll Call Vote:** Councilman Harold Gilchrest-No; Councilman Marcus Blanck-No; Councilman Howard Law-Yes; Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary-Yes; passed 3-2

Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to add Chris Preble & James Carrolan to the Sewer Project Advisory Committee; passed unanimously 5-0 by the following Board members: Bruce Ferguson; Howard Law; Harold Gilchrest; Marcus Blanck; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

A7310.4-Youth Programs-Currently @ \$2,600 (Down from \$5,000)-Supervisor Clary spoke about the numbers for the Wash. Co. Office of Children & Family Services form that is filled out every year; the numbers do go on the census according to Sue @ the Wash. Co. Youth Bureau, who sent a letter re the same. Town rec'd. about \$200 more in funding for 2018 & 2019 over the 2017 figure rec'd. Herb Perkins did report that he called for Lunch, Learn n Play & they receive \$500 directly from the Youth Bureau. Leave figure as is for now; the Hebron swim program is for four (4) weeks, not five (5), from approximately 9:15-11:00 a.m. Brenda Levey talked to Stephanie Randalls about the program, as did Herb & Supervisor Clary to confirm this.

A1090-Int./Penalty on Real Property-Misc. Tax Items-Up from \$3,500 to \$4,000

A2610-Fines & Forfeited Bail-Down from \$5,000 to \$4,000

A2680-Insurance Recovery-Up from \$0 to \$1,200 (Georgi Ins.)

GM7450.1-Personal Svcs.-Museum (Georgi)-Discussion of salary increase for Wendy Bordwell; Councilman Gilchrest felt this should go up by \$2,000-- from \$12,750 to \$14,750. She has had an increase in rentals for both grounds & community room, more to do & doesn't get paid what others are paying for the same work.

Resolution #88-Motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to raise the salary from \$12,750 in 2019 to \$14,000 for 2020; passed unanimously 5-0 by the following Board members: Harold Gilchrest; Bruce Ferguson; Marcus Blanck; Howard Law; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

(Note: Revenue at end of Sep't. was \$27,993; expenditures were \$30,089)

DA5110.4-Personal Svcs.-Contractual-down from \$110,000 to \$108,750 (\$1,250 from here for signs)

DA5130.2-Equipment (New)-Machinery-Down from \$90,000 to \$40,000

DA5142.4-Contractual Expenses-Snow Removal-Down from \$100,000 to \$98,750 (\$1,250 from here for signs)

Resolution #89-Motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to take \$1,250 from summer budget & \$1,250 from winter budget (as stated above), creating a new Line Item number for signs in the amount of \$2,500; passed unanimously 5-0 by the following Board members: Harold Gilchrest; Howard Law; Marcus Blanck; Bruce Ferguson; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

Travis Keys presented the Board with the following scenario for the purchase of the two new boxes: BAN both boxes for \$100,000 with payment beginning in 2020. Town can piggyback off Oneida County, through Zwack, (or Trius w/same County-but Trius is about \$8,000 more). Will still be approximately 8 months before they are rec'd. but if ordered now before prices go up in December, price will be honored at current ordering price.

Resolution #90-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to BAN both boxes for \$100,000, piggybacking off Oneida County through Zwack, and start making payments in 2020 as soon as the BAN paperwork is done and executed. **Roll Call Vote:** Howard Law-Yes; Marcus Blanck-Yes; Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Harold Gilchrest-Yes; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary-Yes; passed unanimously 5-0.

DA9789.7-BAN payment of Truck Boxes-Add \$25,000 (Total will now be \$38,800)

Salem & Shushan Fire Departments-After much discussion about what was requested, where we are now and what to do, it was decided to put back the amounts originally requested for both fire departments.

Resolution #91-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to increase Salem Fire Protection by \$412--from \$167,690 back to original amount of \$168,302 & increase Shushan Fire Protection by \$123--from \$52,937 back to original amount of \$53,060; passed unanimously by the following Board members Howard Law; Harold Gilchrest; Marcus Blanck; Bruce Ferguson; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

Motion to adjourn-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to adjourn the fifth budget workshop meeting for the 2020 budget process; passed unanimously 5-0 by the following Board members: Howard Law; Marcus Blanck; Bruce Ferguson; Harold Gilchrest; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary; meeting adjourned @ 8:50 p.m.

Next 2020 Budget Workshop Meeting-will be held Tuesday, 10/29/2019, @ 6:00 p.m. in the Salem Town Office, as well as any & all other business that may come before the Board at this meeting.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk
Town of Salem

The following letter was received from David & Nancy Higby & requested that this be in this meeting's minutes:

To: Salem Town Board
RE: Budget allocation for Lunch, Learn & Play
Date: October 17, 2019
From: Nancy Hand & David Higby

Please read this into the minutes of the next meeting:

We regret we'll be out of town and will miss the budget workshop next week.

Recalling an earlier meeting in which Herb Perkins made a presentation, detailing the Lunch, Learn & Play program, we urge you to double the previous year's Town funding amount.

Herb made a strong case for supporting LL & P. Many people volunteer their time and resources. The argument against substantial Town funding seems based in a desire not to raise taxes. Government's ability to levy taxes exists to facilitate communities sharing costs broadly across the served population for infrastructure AND worthy programs.

By serving Salem youth in so many ways, LL & P adds value to, and builds a strong future for, this community. Please consider this request to increase the LL & P allocation with the same intent you concentrate on the roads, the fire department, the library, etc. and be generous!

Thank you.

Nancy & David