

**REGULAR MEETING
TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN
NOVEMBER 20, 2017**

The Regular meeting of the Town Board, Town of Stephentown was called to order by **Lawrence Eckhardt** at **7:03 PM** at the Town Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

(X) Supervisor Lawrence Eckhardt	(X) Highway Superintendent, Alden Goodermote
() Councilman Chris Demick	() Assessor, Jennifer Van Deusen
(X) Councilman William Jennings	(X) Legal Counsel, Craig Crist (arrived at 7:13pm)
(X) Councilman Philip Roder	
(X) Councilman Gerald Robinson	
(X) Town Clerk Stephanie Wagar	

A quorum was wasn't established.
8 from the Public were present

AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

- Claim #320-17 through #352-17 in the amount of **\$19,740.89** from the **General Account**
- Claim #212-17 through #226-17 in the amount of **\$92,650.91** from the **Highway Account**
- For a **Total of \$112,391.80** were audited and approved by the Town Board.

B. Jennings: we will get all back but \$1,000 from the Electrical Issue at the Transfer Station, covered by insurance.

L. Eckhardt: looks like we are in good shape.

A. Goodermote: CHIPs funds should come in next month.

MOTION BY: ROBINSON **SECONDED BY: JENNINGS**
VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY

Minutes of the **OCTOBER 9, 2017 Budget Workshop Meeting** were approved by the Town Board as written.

MOTION BY: RODER **SECONDED BY: ROBINSON**
VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY

Minutes of the **OCTOBER 16, 2017 Public Hearing #3 of 2017 Amended Dog Licensure Law** were approved by the Town Board as written.

MOTION BY: RODER **SECONDED BY: JENNINGS**
VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY

Minutes of the **OCTOBER 16, 2017 Regular Meeting** were approved by the Town Board as written.

MOTION BY: RODER **SECONDED BY: ROBINSON**
VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY

Minutes of the **OCTOBER 23, 2017 Public Hearing 2018 Preliminary Budget** were approved by the Town Board as written.

MOTION BY: RODER **SECONDED BY: ROBINSON**
VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY

TOWN CLERKS REPORT: The Town Clerk turned over the sum of **\$724.63** to the Supervisor for the month of **OCTOBER 2017**.

JUSTICE COURT REPORT: The distribution from the office of the State Comptroller, Justice Court Fund to the Town of Stephentown for the month of **OCTOBER 2017** was \$_____.

TRANSFER STATION REPORT: The Transfer Station deposited a total for the month of **OCTOBER 2017 \$7,**
Bags: \$ **4,164.00** C&D: **\$1,836.00** Metal: **\$37.00** Tires: **\$10.00**
Stickers: **\$975.00** Appl.: **\$30.00** Propane Tanks: **\$0** Electronics: **\$300.00**

B. Jennings: utility pole fell over had to replace the pole and wires, that's what the \$8,000 bill to M.K. Electric was for, asked Mike to give us a quote on putting up new lights, since the lighting is horrible, board discussed and agreed to install LED energy efficient lights.

ACCOUNT TOTALS:

GENERAL \$194,785.76	HIGHWAY \$411,532.17
GENERAL RESERVE FUND \$250,423.34	HIGHWAY RESERVE FUND \$298,157.94
BEACON ESCROW \$ 885.19	BEACON ESCROW FOR PLANT (BOND) \$5,000 & \$70,000

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC COMMENT:

L. Eckhardt: Newly Elected Officials meeting in Albany any elected official can attend, the Annual meeting is in February and expensive it's in NYC we send one person down, the passed few years Judge Meekins has gone.

P. Kueppers: Mary Grant sent a notice for a Meeting in Brunswick on the 13th two are going to attend.

L. Eckhardt: Veteran's had a great event, Library provided a great lunch

S. Menhinick: there was a very large attendance, says a lot with all the folks that showed up.

L. Eckhardt: water samples for the Town Hall came back good, December 10th at 6pm the Veteran's will have a tree lighting ceremony sponsored by the seniors.

P. Roder: Comprehensive Meeting next Monday, final meeting, looking to have a Public Hearing in January and then present it to the Board for a vote. Disappointed with the NRL meeting the other night, no permits or anything laid out.

L. Eckhardt: looking to have construction completed by 2019-2020, glad I spoke to them about the presentation, thought it went well and they were happy how it went.

B. Jennings: required to communicate with the communities they are impacting, they still have a long way to go. It was a good informational meeting especially for those who abut the property who it's going to effect. Interesting issues everyone needs to find out where this will impact.

L. Eckhardt: anyone with concerns can reach out to us.

P. Kueppers: heard other Town's who held meetings had poor attendance.

L. Eckhardt: Craig did you have anything?

C. Crist: a quick executive session.

L. Eckhardt: we will do resolutions first so people can go home.

REPORT FROM THE TOWN BOARD:

RESOLUTION #33 - 17

**LOCAL LAW #4 OF 2017 - TO OVERRIDE THE TAX LEVY LIMIT
ESTABLISHED IN GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW §3-C**

WHEREAS: the Town of Stephentown Town Board has prepared a budget for the 2018 fiscal year that will be in excess of the 2.3492% tax cap; and

WHEREAS: the Town Board is required to pass a local Law to Override the Tax Levy limit, and

WHEREAS: the Local Law #4 of 2017 To Override the Tax Levy Limit Established in General Municipal Law §3-c reads as follows:

Section 1. LEGSLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of this local law to override the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the Town of Stephentown pursuant to General Municipal Law § 3-c, and to allow the Town of Stephentown to adopt a budget for the fiscal year 2018 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the "tax levy limit" as defined by General Municipal Law § 3-c.

Section 2. AUTHORITY. This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law § 3-c, which expressly authorizes the Town Board to override the tax cap by the adoption of a local law approved by vote of sixty percent (60%) of the Town Board.

Section 3. TAX LEVY LIMIT OVERRIDE, The Town Board of the Town of Stephentown, County of Rensselaer is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year 2018 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise proscribed in General Municipal Law, § 3-c.

Section 4. SEVERABILITY. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance, shall be adjusted by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, firm, or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Section 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State, *now therefore be it*

RESOLVED: that Local Law #4 of 2018 be enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Stephentown, and authorizes the Town Clerk to file and publish in the required locations.

L. Eckhardt: don't have the exact % will have to get that to you once I speak to Maureen.

P. Roder: Unflattering when it's not really a 2%, the county gets the majority of it, it's misbetrade.

MOTION BY: ECKHARDT

SECONDED BY: RODER

VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY

RESOLUTION #34 - 17

ADOPTION OF 2018 BUDGET

WHEREAS: the Town of Stephentown 2018 Preliminary Budget was submitted to the Stephentown Town Board; and

WHEREAS: a public hearing was held Monday, October 23rd, 2017 at 7:00 PM, now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the 2018 Preliminary Budget is adopted as the 2018 Adopted Budget with a tax cap of 3.2% and that the Town Clerk files with the proper agencies. *(2018 Budget Attached)*

MOTION BY: RODER

SECONDED BY: JENNINGS

VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY

L. Eckhardt: we forgot to put in the Celebrate Stephentown Event, if the library plans to hold this event again we can certainly find funds like we did this year in the contingency fund for the portable units. The majority of our Budget is the Highway Fund, we have a great Highway Department and Superintendent that runs it. We also have really good equipment compared to other small towns.

S. Menhinick: to add to what PJ was discussing, minimum wage is much higher than the 2% cap the governor proposes.

L. Eckhardt: we have been putting funds away for replacing and fixing things.

P. Roder: We have gone up on taxes, but we are almost balanced, used to budget \$70-80k from the unexpended balance now we are budgeting \$20k this year.

