

Public Hearing
Of the Town Board of the Town of Cuba
Override Tax Cap of 0.063%

Held at the Cuba Library, 39 East Main Street, Cuba, NY

Present:

Supervisor: Robert Carney
 Council Persons: Joseph Miller, Steven Nease, Timothy Ramsey, Daniel McGraw
 Also, Present: Nancy Orcutt, Town Clerk, Chad Smith, Hwy. Supt.,
 Dustin Burch, Police Chief & Ambulance Administrator

Supervisor Carney opened the hearing at 6:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

With a only few members in the audience, Carney explained that a public hearing is necessary when the Town plans on overriding the State mandated tax cap. This year it is set at 0.063%. Discussion revealed the Town of Cuba will exceed the cap this year due to expenses we have no control over such as insurance and retirement costs to name a couple. The Town's spending has been maintained at a level rate. The town is providing services that are not "return revenue" services. These include police and ambulance services as well as road maintenance. These are roughly \$1.2 of \$1.7 million of the taxes raised. These are services we do not want to reduce, however equipment cuts have been made to keep the increase as low as possible. The Board and department heads feel any further cuts will put the Town in jeopardy. Since the cap had been introduced, the Town has been spending down reserves to the point there is not enough to draw from any longer. Overriding the cap is unavoidable.

At 6:44 pm Miller motioned to adjourn the Hearing, seconded by Nease. All were in favor, passed.

Public Hearing
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Budget Hearing

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Supervisor: Robert Carney
 Council Persons: Joseph Miller, Steven Nease, Timothy Ramsey, Daniel McGraw
 Also, Present: Nancy Orcutt, Town Clerk, Chad Smith, Hwy. Supt.,
 Dustin Burch, Police Chief & Ambulance Administrator

Supervisor Carney opened the hearing at 6:45 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Carney started the Hearing by asking permission from the Board to move money from the Contingency fund to the Historian account due to late submission of the budget request from the Town Historian. He would like to have new brochures printed promoting our town. The current ones are becoming outdated and are copies of copies, showing poor quality for presentation. He is requesting an additional \$200 to be sure to cover the cost of this and make sure his dues are paid. This would need to be transferred from one account to another, not changing the bottom line of the budget. After a brief discussion, it was suggested the transfer take place.

An error occurred in the placement of \$8,800.00 in the Sewer District #5 fund. It was inadvertently put into contractual fund rather than the personal services fund. The total will have to be redirected also with no change to the bottom line.

Further discussion revealed the only raises given were under contract with the exception of a \$1,000 raise for the Supervisor. Last year that position took a \$5,000 cut. Equipment funds for the Police Department and Highway Department were decreased approximately \$38,000 combined.

At 6:49 pm the meeting was adjourned by a motion from Miller and second from Nease.

Regular Meeting
Of the Town Board of the Town of Cuba

Held at the Cuba Library, 39 East Main Street, Cuba, NY

Present:

Supervisor: Robert Carney
Council Persons: Joseph Miller, Steven Nease, Timothy Ramsey, Daniel McGraw
Also, Present: Nancy Orcutt, Town Clerk, Chad Smith, Hwy. Supt.,
Dustin Burch, Police Chief & Ambulance Administrator

Supervisor Carney opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed Troop 708 of the Boy Scouts.

Exceed Tax Cap: With no further needs to be discussed, McGraw offered the resolution to override the 0.063% Tax Cap Limit set for 2017 due to expenses we have no control over and thousands of dollars in budget cuts from the Police and Highway funds to bring the increase in as low as possible. This motion was seconded by Ramsey. Roll call vote shows Miller, yea, Nease, yea, Ramsey, yea, McGraw, yea, Carney, yea. The Supervisor declared the cap override resolved.

Adopt 2017 Budget: Miller motioned to make the revisions to the Budget as discussed at the Public Hearing. McGraw seconded. Roll call vote shows Miller voting yea, Nease, yea, Ramsey, nay, McGraw, yea, and Carney, yea. The budget was adopted by a 4 to 1 vote.

Public Comments: Mary Raymond and Michael Weber commented on the informative article Carney had published in the Patriot concerning the Seneca Nations taking the Tracewell property off the tax roll and adding it to the reservation land. They both appreciate his efforts.

Board Comments: All board members thanked everyone for their hard work and efforts on the budget.

Supervisor's Comments:

- ❖ Carney received a letter from Catherine Young concerning the Seneca Nation of Indians and she and Joe Giglio will do what they can to support the town.
- ❖ MedEx billing fees are being reduced by \$3. Carney signed and returned the acceptance form.

Approve Minutes 10/11/2016: Ramsey motioned to accept the Minutes as presented by the Clerk. The second came from Miller, all in favor, passed.

Approve Supervisor's Report for September: The General Fund received \$30,292.03 and disbursed \$57,671.58 while the Highway Fund received \$280.72 and disbursed \$28,665.26. Miller motioned to accept the Supervisor's Report as presented, seconded by Nease. All in favor, passed.

Approve General & Highway Abstracts for October: The General Fund is \$35,499.79 and the Highway Fund totaled \$19,300.24 Ramsey motioned to accept the Abstract with the exception of voucher #681, which needs further review. This was seconded by Nease. All in favor, passed.

Clerk's Correspondence: The American Legion, Am Vets Post 1 and the VFW have all applied for renewal of their Bell Jar licenses. Pending background check approval, Ramsey motioned to grant the renewal of the licenses. McGraw seconded this motion, all in favor, passed.

Police Department Comments: Cuba Police responded to 254 calls to service for October and developed 25 cases from these. The Police Department handled 9 motor vehicle accidents. There were 50 traffic stops conducted with 39 Traffic Summons issued. The Police Department also handled 0 noise complaints, 4 motorist assists, 7 vehicle lock-outs, 1 parking tickets/complaints, 2 domestic disputes, and 11 other agency assists. The Police Department assisted the Ambulance on 6 calls. Pill drop/needle offs completed were 6. The Department conducted 2 safety car seat installations. Business funds escorts totaled 14. Patrols checked Cuba businesses and properties 56 times.

A grant for a security camera has come through and one for body armor valued at \$3800. These are both at no cost to us. There is a trauma plate grant in progress.

Ambulance Comments: Cuba Ambulance Service responded to a total of 29 calls to service for the month of October. Of those calls 13 were taken to Olean General Hospital, 4 went to Jones Memorial, 2 sign-offs, 1 was mutual aid, 0 were refusals, and 1 was taken by Mercy flight. 11 of these calls were critical care with Cuba handling 11.

Highway Department Comments:

Work performed in October included the following services:

- Patched roads damaged so to last water event
- Graded shoulders that had water damage
- Repaired Witter and Shaffer roads where water had washed out shoulder and head wall
- Mowing of road sides
- Ditching Farnsworth and Townline roads

Equipment Repairs:

- New sander controls installed on Sterling
- Installed two U-bolts on Mack
- Changed oil and greased 2015 Freightliner and Mack

Dog Control Comments:

- Investigated a nuisance barking incident on Cuba Lake. Complaint is unfounded as investigation revealed neighbors are having minor disagreements.
- Resident surrendered her dog over to Town and it was taken to Joyful Rescues
- Responded to complaint of unattended dog. Resident was new in town and was advised how to license dog.
- Dog running at large was taken to Joyful Rescues
- Reported to SPCA to pick up a Cuba dog someone dropped off. It was found running at large near the Cuba I-86 exit. Dog was unidentified and taken to Joyful Rescues.

Code Enforcement Comments:

- Permit written for a new house on North Branch Road
- Permit for a new roof on West Shore Road
- Permit for a new house on Little Road
- Performed one inspection

In order to receive the full amount due from CHIPS for road services, a resolution must be passed to acknowledge East Main Street Extension from East Main Street to the end of road for a total length of 0.09 miles, Hunt Road from County Road 20 to end of road for a total length of 0.14 miles and Maple Lane Extension from the end of road to Maple Lane for a total length of 0.04 miles are town owned and maintained roads. A roll call vote shows Carney, yea, Miller, yea, Nease, yea, Ramsey, yea, and

McGraw, yea. Motion approved 5 to 0. Complete resolution is attached at the end of the Minutes in official book.

Old Business:

- **False Alarm Resolution:** This topic will be tabled until the beginning of 2017.

New Business:

- **Real Property Tax Credit:** There is a tax exemption for persons over 65 years of age with limited income. The county, towns, school districts and villages have adopted the partial exemption for persons over 65 with limited incomes and set an income ceiling for such exemption. The ceiling for the basic exemption for those eligible is 50%, or in other words, they pay tax on only half of their assessment except for special district taxes such as fire protection districts. It is based on the total annual income. Any questions about qualifying for the program may be directed towards the assessor. Mr. Briggs is in his office at 15 Water Street on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9 am and 12 noon. He may be reached at 585-968-0129.

At 7:30 pm Miller motioned to adjourn to executive session to discuss litigation. Ramsey seconded, all in favor.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:06 pm where Ramsey motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Miller. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy A. Orcutt
Town Clerk, Town of Cuba