

**PUBLIC HEARING  
2010 TOWN OF HAMLIN BUDGET  
October 26, 2009**

The Hamlin Town Board held a public hearing on October 26, 2009 for the 2010 Town of Hamlin Budget in the Hamlin Town Hall located at 1658 Lake Rd., Hamlin, New York. The hearing was opened at 6 pm by Supervisor Roach who explained the location of the fire exits and defibrillator for those present.

Present: Supervisor Dennis Roach, Councilperson Breslawski, Councilperson Michael Marchetti, Councilperson Paul Rath, and Councilperson David Rose

Also present: Assessor Don Wells; Conservation Board Members Jason Baxter and Craig Goodrich; Assistant Historian Robert Kruger; Code Enforcement Officer Lee Nettnin; Planning Board Member Tom Jensen; Highway Superintendent Tom Ingraham; Deputy Highway Superintendent Steve Baase; Residents, Karen Jenson, Tim Slossar, and Rod Zulkosky.

Supervisor Roach stated the purpose of the Public Hearing is to review the 2010 Preliminary Town of Hamlin Budget. Supervisor Roach asked the Town Clerk to show proof of publication. Handouts were made available on the 2010 preliminary budget and a comparison report between the actual 2009 Budget and the 2010 Budget.

Supervisor Roach read the following statement:

*As an introduction to the 2010 budget, it should be noted that Town Board made it their top priority to protect the Hamlin taxpayers. The Board is keenly aware of the difficult financial situation being experienced by many of our residents. We know that many wage earners are unemployed or under employed. We know that many of our retirees have seen their retirement savings drastically eroded. We know that our seniors are not receiving a Social Security increase. All of us are impacted by increased taxes, surcharges and fees. Accordingly, it was Town Board's goal to do its part to not add to the heavy burden already carried by our taxpayers.*

*Town Board realized that achieving that goal would be difficult with the knowledge that we were going to be faced with one of the highest ever increases in NYS Employee's Retirement, continuing increased health care costs and diminished revenues from our major sources, particularly County sales tax. As you will see in our budget report, success was achieved and we have actually reduced the tax rate for 2010.*

*This could not have been done without the full help, cooperation and sacrifice of all our Department Heads and employees. As you review the comparison report between 2009 and 2010 appropriations, also known as spending or expenditures, you will see primarily decreases or zero change. In the few instances where there is an increase in spending noted, it is either mandated, such as retirement or workmen's comp, off-set by an equal reduction in another account, or the result of increased responsibilities, for example the increased cost involved with maintaining the Clarkson Union Cemetery, which was recently transferred to the Town.*

*Of special note is the fact that no Town employee, appointed official or elected official will receive a pay raise. Town Board wants it to be clearly understood that this action in no way reflects on the performance of these dedicated personnel, who typically go above and beyond*

*expectations in serving the residents of the Town. It is, unfortunately, a symptom of our difficult economic times. The fact that our employees understand this is another indication of their dedication to serving the public. On the positive side, their collective sacrifice on salary increases allows for the budget to include the increases to the employee retirement system and health and dental benefits for those who are eligible, and prevented us from reducing the number of our employees, their hours or their current wages.*

Supervisor Roach provided a Power Point presentation.

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

**Karen Jensen, 1 Roadside Drive** – Last year there was a revenue from Cemeteries, and there is not one this year.

Supervisor Roach stated: That reflects the Cemetery Association's checking account balance that was transferred to us and we had to establish an account line to receive that.

Karen Jensen: There was \$4,000 for Cemetery and you said that it is no longer under Parks.

Supervisor Roach clarified: We have both. We used some of our Parks Salary for mowing, We did have to increase our Parks Salary because our recreation building is going to require cleaning and maintenance on a daily basis during the months it is being used. The mowing for the cemetery will come out of Cemetery and Parks. The biggest increase you will see in Parks is actually going to be the maintenance of the recreation building.

Karen Jensen: Would you explain the Pedestrian Expenses and what differentiates that from taxing of the Sidewalk District?

Tom Ingraham stated: Most of Pedestrian Expenses are used for public sidewalk repairs. The Sidewalk District is only the Country Creek Estates Special District.

**Tim Slossar, 7 Fawn Meadows Drive** – Tom, when you started in the Highway Department, what were the starting salaries? Is there a set starting wage that you started at? Shouldn't there be a starting wage and a finishing wage with a cap on it and a start on it? Do we take that into account when we come up with these numbers and positions?

Tom Ingraham stated: I started out at just what Dave ended at.

Supervisor Roach explained: All Town Board Members come in at the same starting salary. By law you have to have all board members paid the same. You can't have incremental based on years of experience. I think you are also looking at the experience he has brought into it, and we are not a Civil Service job. He has the most people under him, the most responsibility, and it is certainly one that deserves consideration for the highest level of pay in the town. The organizational meeting is when the new administration appoints people and assigns a salary range. We have to use the highest number when we do the budget numbers. It will be up to the Town Board to make the salary appointments.

**Steve Baase, 708 Lake Road West** – I just want to clarify, when your organization meeting will be held.

Supervisor Roach stated: It is not scheduled yet, but it is usually the first Monday in January. That organization meeting is when salary appointments are made and new elected officials are sworn in.

**Ron Zulkosky, 862 Martin Road** – I have a question about the ADA addition that is going on as far as the accounting. Have you gotten your prices in? I am certain that it came in well under budget. How is it shown in here?

Supervisor Roach stated: That is being paid for out of a Community Development Grant. It is shown as Miscellaneous Revenue. It looks like it will be fully covered. It is paid by the County, so we get reimbursed based on what we submit. We won't be making extra money on that.

**Karen Jensen, 1 Roadside Drive** – Why doesn't the Library get their own fines?

Supervisor Roach stated: They are part of the Town, just like Recreation. It all goes into the General Account since we fund it. It is a source of revenue.

### **REQUEST TO ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING ON 2010 PRELIMINARY BUDGET**

**Resolution #260** Motion was made by Councilperson Rose, seconded by Councilperson Breslawski to adjourn the Public Hearing for the 2010 Preliminary Budget.

Polled votes: Councilperson Breslawski aye, Councilperson Marchetti aye, Councilperson Rath aye, Councilperson Rose aye, Supervisor Roach aye. Motion carried.

The Public Hearing was closed at 6:31 pm.

The Special Town Board Meeting was called to order at 6:32.

### **APPROVAL OF 2010 TOWN OF HAMLIN BUDGET**

**Resolution #261** Motion was made by Councilperson Rose, seconded by Councilperson Breslawski to approve the 2010 Town of Hamlin Budget as presented, except for Special Districts.

Polled votes: Councilperson Breslawski aye, Councilperson Marchetti aye, Councilperson Rath aye, Councilperson Rose aye, Supervisor Roach aye. Motion carried.

### **APPROVAL AWARDING TOWN HALL SOUTH ENTRY ALTERATIONS PROJECT TO THE NICHOL'S TEAM**

**Resolution #262** Motion was made by Councilperson Breslawski, seconded by Councilperson Rath to award the Town of Hamlin Town Hall South Entry Alterations project to the Nichol's Team, Inc. for a total contract amount of \$41,000.

Polled votes: Councilperson Breslawski aye, Councilperson Marchetti abstained, Councilperson Rath aye, Councilperson Rose aye, Supervisor Roach aye. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution #263** Motion was made by Councilperson Breslawski, seconded by Councilperson Marchetti to adjourn the Special Town Board Meeting at 6:36 pm. Polled votes: Councilperson Breslawski aye, Councilperson Marchetti aye, Councilperson Rath aye, Councilperson Rose aye, Supervisor Roach aye. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi A. Rickman, MMC  
Hamlin Town Clerk