

**Town of Ancram
Town Board
August 31, 2009
Budget Workshop**

Present:	Supervisor Thomas Dias	Councilman James Miller
	Councilman John MacArthur	Councilman Robert Mayhew
	Councilwoman Donna Hoyt	Town Clerk Monica Cleveland

Supervisor Dias called meeting to order at 7:00pm and read the section of the NYS law that pertained to budget workshops.

Mr. Dias showed the board that there was an increase of 1.96% for the 2010 assessments in the Town of Ancram. Mr. Dias stated that he would like to begin going through the budget starting at the very beginning.

1010.1 Mr. Dias suggested an increase to 14,500.00 for the budget line giving each councilman an increase of \$1,000.00 a year. Councilman Miller suggested that the amount stay same as last year. Councilman MacArthur suggested a 500.00 a year raise each. Mr. Dias suggested to raise this up because “the town has a larger base to work with this year”. Councilwoman Hoyt suggested waiting on this line and then come back to it later.

1110.11 – 1110.14 Councilman Miller suggested giving each justice a \$500.00 raise. Councilman Mayhew reminded the board that they have added an extra day for park hearings to their month. A question was raised as to where the deputy clerk is paid out of. Clerk Monica Cleveland stated that she was being paid out of 1110.4 It was suggested that another line be set up to pay the deputy clerk. The board felt that the actual budgeted amount could stay the same and still allow for them to receive a raise.

1220.1- Mr. Dias suggested putting for 1,000.00 more in salary and keeping the contractual the same. Councilman suggested Keeping the salary the same.

Accounting- cannot be changed due to an existing contract.

Councilwoman Hoyt stated that the accounts budget, used for the financial manager (Mr. Dias) to handle the budget, has never been touched. Councilman MacArthur suggested placing this money into the supervisors account. Mr. Dias did not want to eliminate the line. Mr. MacArthur suggested putting \$1000.00 into the supervisors account and leaving the \$500.00 in the line.

Assessor- Councilman Miller suggested a raise of \$500.00. As for Clerk Mary Boice, Councilman MacArthur suggested having her cut her hours. Mr. Dias discouraged this. He stressed that she is here days that others are not here. The board settled on \$9,000.00 in the clerk line and changing the contractual to \$2,000.00

Town Clerk- Councilwoman Hoyt question the pay for the tax collecting. She suggested keeping the Town Clerk salary the same and placing \$3,000.00 in the tax collectors account line. 1410.1- Mr. MacArthur suggested a raise to \$19,000.00 over all. Councilwoman Hoyt suggested putting \$3,000.00 in tax collector and keep town clerk the same again.

Attorney line will stay the same, the board decided.

Elections line will stay the same.

Buildings- The board decided to leave 1620.1 same. 1620.4 would include the proposed aluminum siding. Councilwoman Hoyt made a point to have the highway to do snow removal and to put this out for bids. Mrs. Hoyt suggested making the line \$40,000.00. Councilman MacArthur wondered if the board should raise the amount budgeted for oil. Councilman Miller reminded the board that the grants committee is working on obtaining solar panels for the building. Mrs. Hoyt wanted to increase the oil by \$1000.00. Councilman MacArthur argued that he does not want to be using the savings to make up the shortfalls. Councilwoman Hoyt stated she would like to see the board try to get the budget lines closer this year. Councilman Miller stated he felt the propane good for the year.

Mr. Dias suggested leaving central data leave the same. Councilwoman Hoyt suggested changing this to \$6,000.00 because of the costs of the website and the newsletter.

Unallocated Insurance. 19,000.00 budgeted and will stay the same.

No change to the municipal dues account.

Animal Control. Councilwoman Hoyt stated that this line is 13% in the hole. Mr. Dias stated that this was mainly mileage to pick up the dogs. \$4,000.00 budgeted for salary and \$1,000.00 for contractual.

Registrar- Clerk Cleveland stated that she did not see the need to change it from \$1,000.00, the current amount.

Ambulance- Councilman Miller suggested an increase to \$75,000.00. Councilwoman Hoyt suggested the amount \$65,000.00.

it was suggested a raise of \$500.00 for Superintendent of Highways.

The board agreed to place \$15,000.00 in the Garage account.

Councilwoman Hoyt stated that the street lightning has not used all of its funds so the board lowered it to \$1,000.00.

Councilwoman Hoyt suggested putting \$500.00 in 7620.4 and lower seniors 6772.4

\$1,000.00.

Parks- 7110.2 Councilman Mayhew stated that there needed to be a new filter system for the pool. Mr. Dias suggested take 7,500.00 that had not been spent off. Keep \$17,000.00 Councilman MacArthur suggested moving the \$7,500.00 to the account 7140.2 to put towards the park equipment with. Supervisor Dias stated that he felt this money should go towards a highway garage and that the children would only use the playground two months out of the year. Mr. MacArthur strongly disagreed and stated that he wanted it moved to Playgrounds- 7140.2 \$7,500.00.

Youth Programs- Councilman MacArthur suggested leaving at \$14,000.00 Councilman Mayhew suggested calling a pool guy for a quote for the next season. If Mr. Boice is not doing the mowing may not take care of the pool. The board discussed having separate bids on the pool and the mowing. Mr. Dias suggested leaving it as is. The Board discussed the breakdown of the mowing and the accounts to which it is charged.

Library account to stay the same.

Historian-Mr. Dias suggested an increase to \$1000.00 and the account 7510.4 to \$2000.00

Celebrations- The board decided to keep the account at \$3000.00. Mr. Dias suggested the town not have the Ancram Days next year and instead join the other towns in Taconic. Mrs. Hoyt and Mr. Miller disagreed with this and stated that all of the towns have their own community days.

Zoning- The following amounts were suggested 8010.42 \$1100.00 8010.41 \$3000.00

Planning- 17,000.00 Comp plan and farmland protection plan came out of this line. Zoning revisions will come out of this line as well. Mr. Dias stated that he would like to do the zoning without a consultant. Mr. Bassin stated that the town will need a consultant. Mr. Dias said that the board needs to go out and get volunteers and not hire a consultant. Mr. Dias stated that the town had to hire a consultant. Mr. MacArthur suggested leaving the zoning laws alone and not change them. Mr. Bassin stated that the town has to hire to hire someone, ½ will be paid for by grants. Out of pocket will be 10,000.00 and then the matching grant for 6,000.00 to 7,000.00. Mr. Dias suggested making the account 17,000.00.

Cemeteries- 2,000.00.

State retirement- 12% raise. \$41,000.00. Eliminate the unemployment insurance. Mr. Dias suggested moving Gladys health insurance to the highway. Highway Sup. MacArthur suggested raising the buyout. Tom Miller takes the buyout for \$1300.00. If town raised this to 3000,00 Mr. MacArthur would get out of the insurance.

The board will meet again on Thursday September 10, 2009 to discuss the budget.

Motion was made by Mr. Dias and seconded by Mr. MacArthur to adjourn the meeting.
Carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Monica Cleveland
Town Clerk.