TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION MEETING September 23, 2021

The Burke Town Board met for a work session on September 23, 2021 at the Burke Town Court House to discuss the budget. Supervisor Bill Wood declared the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said.

Roll Call:

Councilman:

Arnold Lobdell

Tim Crippen

Jim Otis

Keith Trudeau

Supervisor:

Bill Wood

Supt. of Highways:

Larry LaPlante

Town Clerk:

Judy Tavernier

Bookkeeper:

Linda Trudell

RJ Accounting Representative: Debbie Jeror

No Public Comments were made.

Highway accounts were discussed.

Funds can be transferred from General Fund to Highway Fund and be reimbursed to General Fund when CHIPS funds are received. CHIPS funds are for road paving projects to include manhours, equipment, materials, gas, etc. Debbie Jeror informed us that a better projection number should be developed. She has forms to assist with this. Discussed various highway accounts. Funding and purpose for each account was discussed.

Funds need to be moved from General to Highway to pay bills for rest of year. Resolution to be done at regular meeting in October to move \$90,000 from A200.1 and \$94,000 from DA200.2 for a total of \$184,000 to DB200.

Burke Fire Department is asking for a 2% increase in the budget. Consensus was no increase should be approved since ambulance department has been taken out of their budget.

Ambulance budget was discussed and determined to leave at same amount budgeted as last year.

Discussed NYSLRS funding and decided no change at this time. We will discuss again when contract is due. Debbie Jeror felt deficiency would be collected from the employees so Town would only be responsible for the estimated annual employer contribution. She will do more research and try to set up a meeting with NYSLRS Representative.

She also recommended we obtain quotes for town insurance next June before automatically signing up with current insurance carrier.

Reviewed changes to salaries and other budget items. Town Superintendent of Highways salary was discussed. Health insurance is currently part of his wages. It was suggested to continue health insurance and give a \$2,000 raise for the year 2022. Another suggestion was that he get the same retirement incentive given to the workers and no raise since the retirement incentive would be higher than the \$4,000 raise originally suggested. Larry will consider options and provide his opinion but ultimate decision will be up to the Town Board.

Food Pantry is serving 30 families a month with 10 from Burke. Adult Center would like parking lot paved and this could be an option for the community funds available from the solar project.

Still receiving a credit for disability insurance. Health insurance increased 6.3%.

ARPA funding plans need to be established by end of October 2021 but do not have to be spent until 2026. Various options were discussed.

Next year truck payments are 2 interest payments plus payment on principal – April \$10,200 plus \$1,710 interest. In October 2022 - interest \$1,595.25.

New account for scrap metal. Minor sales are gas for Adult Center and sale of grader.

A motion to adjourn at 9:22 P.M. was made by Keith Trudeau and seconded by Arnold Lobdell. Roll Call: Arnold aye, Tim aye, Jim aye, Keith aye and Bill aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Tavernier, Town Clerk