

A Special Budget Meeting of the Town of Avon was held on Monday, September 28, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. at the Opera Block/Avon Town Hall located at 23 Genesee Street, Avon, New York with the following members present:

PRESENT: Supervisor David LeFeber, Deputy Supervisor Thomas Mairs, Councilman James Harrington, and Town Clerk Sharon Knight MMC/RMC

ABSENT: Councilmen Malachy Coyne and Paul Drozdziel

VISITORS: None

OTHERS: Highway/Water Superintendent Tom Crye, Youth Board Recreation Chairwoman Emily Cosimano, Historians Maureen Kingston and Clara Mulligan, Town Justice Michael Torregiano, Code Enforcement Officer Brian Glise, and Sharon M. Knight MMC/RMC, Town Clerk

Supervisor LeFeber called the meeting to order and read the legal notice as follows:

REVISED
TOWN OF AVON
LEGAL NOTICE

RESOLVE that a special budget meeting has been scheduled for Monday September 28, 2020 at 4:00 P.M., at the Avon Opera Block/Town Hall Building, 23 Genesee Street Avon, New York 14414 for the purpose of budget discussions and any other business that might come before the Board.

By order of the Town Board
Sharon M. Knight, MMC/RMC, Avon Town Clerk
Dated: September 21, 2020

Supervisor LeFeber welcomed Highway/Water Superintendent Thomas Crye to the meeting to discuss the water and highway portion of the budget.

The following items were highlighted:

Water Department:

Water Reader request.

Conservative on revenue and expenses are okay.

One outstanding bond payment.

We are working on building fund balances for future development for replacement of lines.

Reduction of fuel expenses is expected.

Increase in the cost of Dump Days

It's expected the State will be providing a twenty percent reduction for Town's chips money

The DB reserves look good.

The DA was increased for machinery and fuel was reduced. Equipment machines types and replacement years. The tentative budget increases equipment by \$32,000.00.

Supervisor LeFeber requested the Asset list be provided to the Board as required by law to occur in September. Highway Superintendent Crye responded stating the list was provided to the Supervisor's Secretary.

Machinery – 2021 loader exchange, mower for excavator, and take out the 2012 pick-up and get a new one at approximately \$32,000.00 with plow. \$8,000.00 would be expected for the 2012 with 85,000 miles.

The dodge that we recently sold was seen on Facebook marketplace for \$4,000.00 we sold for \$2,800.00.

Tentative budget increase equipment by \$32,000.00 while considering expenses for the next four years to make sure we put enough in reserves to not require bonding for equipment. This will help to improve our rating.

Income from the County for work performed is very conservative. The last couple of years the County work has been to the South.

We are good for salt.

Additional discussion will be held regarding water rates. Tax dollars are not a part of the water rate.

The Boards goal is to have a preliminary budget at the next meeting and schedule adoption at the second meeting in October.

Supervisor LeFeber welcomed Emily Cosimano to the meeting to discuss the recreation portion of the budget.

The following items were highlighted:

Basketball would start in October but unsure what will happen this year in high school.

Minimum wage is expected to change from \$11.80 to \$12.50. It's understood the State's goal is \$15.00 per hour and that includes seasonal and part time.

Tennis instructors will be paid more than minimum wage.

Do not need supplies as we did not use anything this year.

Our new bookkeeping firm is suggesting changes in equipment to contractual.

We have had several unemployment claims for prior employees over the last year and half.

The dollars not spent will go to fund balance.

We have losses especially in the Court and twenty percent of CHIPS, sales taxes from the County has decreased all due to Covid.

Supervisor LeFeber welcomed Historians Maureen Kingston and Clara Mulligan to the meeting to discuss the historian portion of the budget.

The Celebration of the sign at the railroad was discussed with a large number of community members in attendance.

Maureen is expecting to end her service as Historian at the end of the year and would like to have the Town Board appoint Clara Mulligan to the position. She is a researcher and a student of our community. It was determined that the change would occur at the organizational meeting in 2021.

Discussion continued on a request to moving the Historian's office to the ground level floor. Currently the Village is storing their documents in that space. The current space does have an independent outside entrance. The first step is to get the space empty.

There was discussion on Paper Mill Park putting up signage and the need to address the graffiti. Teaching respect needs to be brought back. Our Village Circle was once treated in the manner that Paper Mill Park is currently being treated.

Congratulations was extended to the LeFeber Farm on their designation as the "2020 Farm of the Year" for Livingston County.

Maureen began to serve the Town in 1980 as its Historian. Her mother was the County and Town Historian and adhered to the mandatory retirement from the County at seventy-one years old. Celebrations have occurred in 1958 and in 1976. There is a need to finish the project at the Avon Driving Park which will allow for the track usage to increase.

Historian Kingston thanked the Board for their continued support for the office of Town Historian.

Supervisor LeFeber welcomed Michael Torregiano to the meeting to discuss the court portion of the budget.

There were comparisons of revenue over the last three years.

Bail reform and Covid have both changed the court's revenue.

Suspension of license and warrants can no longer be done by the Court.

Appearance ticket are issued.

Do not expect any conferences to be held next year and those dollars reduced the budget.

To reduce the number of people coming into court traffic infractions are being worked through the District Attorney's office.

Criminal is still handled in house.

There were no requests for a grant as the Court is all set. A new printer is coming.

The workload continues to be handled by the Clerks and they are kept busy. The reduction is the number of people coming into court. Scheduling also helps to reduce the number of people coming into Court.

The future is hard to determine.

Supervisor LeFeber opened discussion on the Cemetery, Paper Mill Park and School Resource Officer portions of the budget.

Supervisor LeFeber welcomed Tami Snyder to the meeting to discuss the Assessor portion of the budget.

The following items were highlighted:

Several cuts were made including the requested salaries of the Assessor and her Clerk. She asked the Board to review the one and one-half percent increase as others are getting more. Notification came Wednesday that the State will not be assisting with the 2022 update. We will need to contract out the work and last Thursday she determined the cost to each of her Towns would be \$4,000.00 and that she did not project out that cost when making her department requests.

Charging is now expected for on-line courses.

Small claims are not being held at the County and she spent several hours trying to organize skype.

The Attorney line item has increased.

She checked to make sure that both Attorney's will not be attending court. A request for financial support from the School and Village has been made.

The Article 7 with Barilla is expected to be done within a couple of weeks.

There was discussion on solar applications within the Town of Avon.

Approval was given by the Board to make changes to the Assessing Office.

Supervisor LeFeber welcomed Brian Glise to the meeting to discuss the Code portion of the budget.

Building permits were up this year but may have less next year.

Building supplies have increased.

Starting code codification next week.

Dutch Hollow Market is planning improvements.

It was requested to give his one and a half percent increase to his Clerk Kim McDowell.

He will be spending more time here next year than in past years as he will be retiring from his fulltime job. He currently records two hours per day and expects to be two, four, six or more after his retirement in February of 2021. Farmington is currently looking for Code Enforcement Officers. He can earn up to \$32,000.00 without a waiver from the State.

Supervisor LeFeber questioned if Brian would be interested in being in charge of the building maintenance for 2021.

The Town Clerk's budget was discussion with the following highlights:

Registrar shows a one and a half increase in salary.

There was decrease for the dog control as the Board is not in favor of a dog census and historical postage is lower than requested. They should be scheduled every four years and the last one was more than six years ago. The percentage of dog picked up by dog control show that more than fifty percent do not have rabies vaccinations.

Tax collection stayed the same. The estimated for 2020 was high.

All funds for conferences were removed. The IIMC conference that was canceled for this year still has a credit. A request will be made to refund those paid dollars. It was requested and the Board appeared to approve 2021 membership to the Association of Towns.

A request to replace the Deputy Town Clerk's computer with a laptop and docking station was approved and will be ordered this week. All other departments are okay except for the Assessor Clerk.

Approximately eight EZ Pass have been sold to date.

Christmas in the Village will not be taking place this year and the Employee Christmas Party will not be held due to risk.

Marriage licenses sales are very high. Foot traffic is not down in our office. Geneseo is not selling hunting licenses as they are encouraging people to go to Walmart. We fix loads of mistake made by Walmart. Loads of people are coming in for Notary service.

Supervisor LeFeber stated the following will need to be discussed:

The third-floor grant is moving forward, and it was requested to add money for the back-parking lot.

The budget hearing will be scheduled on October 8, 2020 to be held October 22, 2020.

On motion of Supervisor LeFeber, seconded by Councilman Harrington, the meeting adjourned at 6:23 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by, _____
Sharon M. Knight MMC/RMC Town Clerk