PUBLIC HEARING
2021 PRELIMINARY BUDGET
TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN
OCTOBER 26, 2020

The Regular meeting of the Town Board, Town of Stephentown was called to order by ***Lawrence Eckhardt*** at **7:07 PM** at the Town Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT:
(X) Supervisor Lawrence Eckhardt
( ) Councilman Philip Roder
(X) Councilman William Jennings
(X) Councilman Everett Madden
(X) Councilman Pam Kueppers
(X) Town Clerk Stephanie Wagar
( ) Highway Superintendent, Alden Goodermote
( ) Assessor, Jennifer VanDeusen

A quorum (X) was ( ) wasn't established.

0 from the Public were present

<u>REPORT FROM THE TOWN BOARD & PUBLIC COMMENT:</u>

W. Jennings: Suggests using more of the unexpanded balance for 2021 in the highway fund to get the increase of the overall budget under the 4%. Larry had suggested moving Aldie's 14.9% increase request to something a little more manageable like a 4 or 5% increase would agree to this.

L. Eckhardt: where Aldie was on this was if you look at the benefit package offered to the highway guys it puts them over $67k a year and he said he would hate getting paid less than what the guys working for him are. I agree he should not be paid less than the guys working for him. A 4% would put him at $68k. No one works as hard as he does. Concern moving forward if he chooses to leave would be want to start a new guy at that level. He said we should look at that next year.

W. Jennings: thinks we need to talk him into staying a few more years.

L. Eckhardt: Grafton did this when the last Highway Superintendent retired the new guy they gave a $6k increase. We are just shy of $20k over the tax cap currently. We can get a lot closer if we use more unexpended balance.

Board agreed that they would like to stay under the allowable tax cap this year, and still provide salary increases to the employees they agreed to using more unexpended balance funds to reach this goal.

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 7:34 PM
MOTION BY: JENNINGS **SECONDED BY: KUEPPERS**
VOTES OF: 4 AYE **0 NAY**

A **Workshop Meeting will be held **Monday, November 9th, 2020** at **7:00PM** at the Town Hall.

The next **Regular Meeting of the Town Board, Town of Stephentown will be held on **Monday, November 16th, 2020** at **7:00 PM** at the Town Hall.

Stephanie M. Wagar
Town Clerk