

Public Hearing – General Budget for 2014
November 6, 2013

The Town Board held a Public Hearing on the above date at 7:51 p.m. for the purpose of hearing comments for/or against the General Budget for fiscal year 2014.

PRESENT:

Richard Shea	Supervisor
Betty Budney	Councilwoman
John Van Tassel	Councilman
Dave Merandy	Councilman

ABSENT: Nancy Montgomery Councilwoman

Town Clerk Merando read the Public Notice.

Supervisor Shea reviewed the proposed budget for 2014. Supervisor Shea confirmed with the Garrison Ambulance that there would be a \$50,000.00 increase for 2014, as the Corp is hiring a 24/7 paid EMT. Derek Tudor, member of the Ambulance Corp stated that this is something that is needed to improve the services and response time.

Discussion then turned to the Garrison Fire Department and their intentions to purchase a large piece of equipment. The Town Board would like to have a better assessment of the existing tanker and it's roadworthiness; an independent vendor would complete the assessment and report back to the Town Board.

Joe Regele addressed the Town Board and reviewed Garrison Fire's financial situation, noting that there was a net profit of \$40,000.00 for 2012. In addition to that, they received a \$43,000.00 insurance settlement and sold a vehicle for \$40,000.00. Discussion continued with regard to the fire department's finances. There was a lengthy discussion with regard to the upcoming referendum to increase the fire department's Length of Service Award Program.

Supervisor Shea then moved on, noting that Continental Village Fire Department's budget was at 1.65%. He disagreed, stating that they are at 3%. He will contact them to further discuss the percentage and what the Town Board expects to see.

Lee Erickson questioned the Fire Marshall's proposed increase. Supervisor Shea stated that there would be an increase, due to his workload; however, it will not reflect the amount in the preliminary budget.

Joe Regele asked about sharing sales tax, at which time Supervisor Shea responded saying that he would like to see that. Supervisor Shea did point out that when the taxes are due, the Town is made whole; any delinquencies are left to the County.

Public Hearing – General Budget for 2014
November 6, 2013

Supervisor Shea completed the review of the proposed budget touching on some minor changes, with less than the 2% increase.

There being no further comments from the public, Councilman Merandy made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Budney, to close the Public Hearing at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tina M. Merando
Town Clerk