

October 17, 2023 – Budget Workshop Meeting

A Special Meeting of the Gardiner Town Board was held this morning at 10 AM. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the 2024 Budget. Present were Supervisor Majestic, Councilmembers Carucci, Wiegand, and Walls. Councilmember Richman was absent. There were 2± audience members.

PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR LOCAL LAW 2- TAX CAP OVERRIDE

At 10:05 AM the Town Clerk read the Public Hearing Notice for the Proposed Local Law 2- Tax Cap Override. Supervisor Majestic opened the hearings to the public for any questions and/or comments.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

Revenue-General Budget:

Increase Ulster County Sales Tax from \$320,000.00 to \$350,000.00

Decrease Mortgage Tax from \$225,000.00 to \$200,000.00

Line Added- Wireless Edge Rent- \$42,790.00/per year

Increase Summer Rec from \$82,500.00 to \$84,350.00

Increase Building and Alterations from \$75,000.00 to \$120,000.00

Revenue-Highway Budget:

Decrease Services to other Gov't from \$36,543.00 to \$32,000.00

Estimated Increase CHiPS ±13.2%

Increase Sales of Equipment from \$35,000.00 to \$60,000.00

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

On motion of Councilmember Wiegand, seconded by Councilmember Walls and carried, the public hearing was closed at 10:55 AM. Councilmember Richman was absent.

One resident spoke addressing their concern about taxes increasing.

ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW 2 – TAX CAP OVERRIDE

On the motion of Councilmember Wiegand, seconded by Councilmember Walls and carried to adopt Local Law 2- Tax Cap Override. Councilmember Richman was absent.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REQUEST

Superintendent Stiscia has formally requested the Town Board to carefully consider the addition of an extra employee to the Highway Department. It is with great concern that he highlights the mounting workload and increased responsibilities that have burdened the department. In particular, Mr. Stiscia has brought to the Board's attention that one of the Highway employees has received orders of deployment for 9-12 months in the Marine Reserves, commencing in 2025. The Highway Department requires an individual who possesses a unique set of skills and qualifications, making the search for a responsible and capable candidate all the more difficult. The Board has requested Brian to provide them with a comprehensive list of responsibilities that the Highway Department undertakes. This will enable the Board to gain a deeper understanding of the department's needs and facilitate their decision-making process.

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OTHER BUDGET ITEMS

Councilmember Walls addressed the Board her concerns regarding records storage and potentially adding an addition to the Town Hall.

ELECTED OFFICIAL SALARIES

Supervisor - \$55,125.00

Councilmembers 4 @ - \$7,000.00

Town Clerk / Tax Collector - \$55,000.00

Superintendent of Highways - \$74,454.82

Town Justices 2 @ - \$17,325.00

SCHEDULE NEXT BUDGET MEETING

The next Budget Workshop Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, October 25th at 10:00 AM.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilmember Walls, seconded by Councilmember Carucci and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 12:07 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julia Hansen, Acting Town Clerk