

NOVEMBER 7, 2012

The Town Board of the Town of Corinth held a meeting on November 7, 2012 at 4:30 PM at the Town Hall.

Present: Richard B. Lucia, Supervisor
Charles Brown, Councilman
Edward Byrnes, Councilman
Jeffrey Collura, Councilman
Rose E. Farr. Town Clerk

Excused: Joshua Halliday, Councilman

Public: None

After roll call and Pledge of Allegiance the following business was conducted:

The Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget for 2013 opened with Town Clerk Farr reading the Legal Notice published in the Post star on November 1, 2012.

Supervisor Lucia read the following statement regarding the proposed 2013 Budget:

**Public Budget Hearing
November 7th, 2012**

The 2013 Budget

Today we are presenting the preliminary Budget for 2013.

The budget process actually starts all year long, as we monitor the expenses and revenues twice a month, to make sure we are on the right track with the current budget, and what do we need to change for the next year's budget.

Naturally the economy plays a huge part in how the budget shapes up. Do we get more or less Sales Tax, are our Pilot agreements up or down in their revenues, is the market good for building, so there are revenues for permits. Are we getting interest on our investments or accounts? Does the fuel costs go up without notice, Energy Bills the same way, and it goes on and on to bring us to August when we actually start preparing for the next years budget.

Budget sheets go out to all department heads, to give us a guesstimate of what it will take to run their department next year. Has the equipment worn out, do we need new computer software, which runs the world now, and this is all done with actual cuts to their departments where they feel they can.

As Budget Officer I take all the sheets, all the actual expenditures and revenues, put together a tentative budget to present to the board, After many meetings, and interviews with the Department Heads, we come out with the Tentative Preliminary Budget, I take it back to the drawing board, tweak it to try and keep us at the same tax rate as last year.

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The Budget we are presenting today has a Town Tax Rate of \$1.520281 per thousand, compared to last year at \$1.542911. Going down \$0.02263 per thousand.

In Special districts, the highway, DB, going up ^{one} percent per thousand, The B Fund is the same at .40 per thousand, and all water and lighting districts are basically the same rate as last year.

The Special district, Fire Protection has jumped from .89 per thousand last year to .96 this year. This number is controlled by the Village budget for our town fire protection.

The Budget includes a 2% cost of living for all employees, some adjustments for job duties and descriptions, a new excavator lease and a pickup upgrade for the Highway Dept., By staying with the same Medical Insurance for the new year, we will see a cost of only 2.8 % in our insurance coverage compared to 6 – 9 % increase we could have faced.

The new budget will see a change in the Supervisors office personnel from 1 full time and 1 part time employee, to three part time employees, starting January 1, 2013.

All in All we feel we are presenting a very fair budget to the taxpayer again this year.

One thing you should be aware of, Saratoga County is also in their budget process, and are predicting maybe a 2.5% increase in County Taxes. This is not carved in stone yet; they are still working on budget through December. When you get your Town and County Tax Bill in January, please look at the rates of both governments, and realize the Town of Corinth

Town Tax Rate should be down from last year, and any raise will be on the county side. The county is trying to come up with ways to balance their budget from all the unfunded mandates and Medicare loss's from Maplewood Manor.

According to the 2% tax cap rate, again we could have raised taxes around \$80,000 more and still be within the Cap, but because we want to be as fair as we can to the taxpayer ~~and~~ ~~by~~ by not raising taxes and depending on fund balances and increased revenues, that could come to an abrupt halt in the future, depending on the economy.

We want to take a moment and Thank the Department Heads and employees for scaling down on their own, where they can and the being fiscally responsible throughout the year.

Comments

Councilman Collura said that he would not be taking a raise this year or any other year as long as he remained Councilman.

Councilman Byrnes thanked Supervisor Lucia for all his hard work and expertise during this budget time. He said that Supervisor Lucia had done an excellent job. Supervisor told the board that it was a pleasure to work on the budget with a group that could sit and discuss the items as a whole.

A motion was made at 4:35PM by Councilman Byrnes and seconded by Councilman Collura to close the public hearing.

RESOLUTION #278

ADOPTION OF BUDGET

A motion was made by Councilman Byrnes and seconded by Councilman Brown and the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes 4	Lucia, Brown, Byrnes and Collura
	Nays 0	
	Absent 1	Halliday

RESOLVED that the preliminary budget as presented be adopted as the budget for 2013.

RESOLUTION #279

ADJOURN

On a motion of Councilman Collura and seconded by Councilman Brown the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes 4	Lucia, Brown, Byrnes, and Collura
	Nays 0	
	Absent 1	Halliday

RESOLVED that with no further business the board adjourned at 4:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted.

Rose E. Farr, RMC
Town Clerk