

**UNION VALE TOWN BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 17, 2019
2020 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING
TOWN HALL 249 DUNCAN ROAD LAGRANGEVILLE NY 7:20 PM**

PRESENT: Supervisor Maas

Councilmen: Steven Frazier, Corrina Kelley, David McMorris, John Welsh

Attorney: Jeffrey Battistoni

Town Clerk: Andrea Casey

Supervisor Maas opened the Public Hearing AT 7:20 P.M.

Supervisor Maas gave a synopsis of any major changes of the 2020 budget

Public Comments:

Tillman- Library was her biggest concern and wanted to make sure the \$77,000 says in for library services.

Carlos Mina- How much money is in the money for community day? He would like more money to plan a better event.

Karen Snare- in favor of continuing the library funding at the level in place for the past 5 year. She understands the amount of funding requested is based on an average per capita of Dutchess County as this is based on all the people not just the library users. By only using library users as a number it gives Union Vale an unfair advantage and feels all contracts should be through MHLS since it gives great advantages. She is in favor of renewing the current contact and sees no need for changes.

Joseph Kelley- He could not find the preliminary budget on the website, and asks that it be posted on the website for ease of use. He spoke further about the library correspondence and paying the Towns fair share, he hopes that the Town Board authorizes the existing contract with MHLS. (Statement and supporting references are on file in the Town Clerk's Office)

Bonnie Pfeifer- wants to support the library financially and even consider increasing it. She feels the library is a necessity and the Town needs to do their part and they should do it.

Luise Chassagne- Echo's Karen Snare's comments

Bill Saddler- Wants to lend his voice to those that find the library to be an essential part of the community and would love to see the funding go forward as it has for the past 5 years.

Eileen Pucci- Would like to speak in favor of funding the library and spoke about all the many attributes of the library and wants everyone to be a part of this as it is the heart of the community. She believes the Town Board should urge the community to be part of the library and all the benefits.

Marni Bakst- Also came to speak in favor of the library and considers this a vital part of the community and thinks the Board should encourage use of the library, she would miss all that it had to offer.

Councilwoman Kelley read a letter from **Joy Poskitt-** she is in favor of funding the library in order to provide full access. She feels they are a repository of knowledge, meeting place for the community and builds life long readers. She urges the budget include proper funding.

As there were no further public comments Supervisor Maas declared the public hearing closed at 7:39 p.m.

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MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES

Councilman Welsh made a motion to approve the September 2019 Town Board minutes as written which was seconded by Councilman McMorris and all were unanimously in favor.

Hannah Bocker Blood Drive

Mary Jane Begley reported on the blood drive for Hannah Bocker she and a few other residents organized that took place October 12, 2019. She reported 100 pints were collected and Demar Osika provided cards to be filled out in encouragement. Athena Gyro voluntarily provided lunch for all the workers and volunteers. She would also like to thank Co-organizer Elfriede Tillman, John Osika John Begley and the Town Board for the use of the Senior Center. Mary Jane would also like to host another event in the Spring.

Town Supervisor Report

Supervisor Maas spoke about the cash flow statement. She also mentioned receiving the quote from the commercial liability insurance which will be a renewal. The Article 78 Record regarding the Tymor Park Cell Tower was responded to as of 10/17 and now the Town must wait for a response. Supervisor Maas spoke about the Oktoberfest statistics among other event ideas. Ms. Maas stated that the County will host an MS4 meeting here in Union Vale for the Highway Departments in November. The file audit for the Community Development Block Grant was completed, it was shown to be very satisfactory and the Town followed all protocol. The Fire Department budget was received and it was noted there was no increase. Sullivan Data will be implementing new log in security features. Supervisor Maas mentioned a resident put a suggestion for Handicap parking at Town Hall to have designated parking on either side of the entry way. The sign has been placed but the striping will be down when allowable. The new highway truck that Councilman Frazier spent much time researching is expected to arrive at the end of November.

Board Member Reports

Councilman McMorris had a good meeting with the CAC regarding clean energy communities and made suggestions for all to take a webinar entitled CAC 101. Councilman McMorris was not feeling well and stepped out for the remainder of the meeting

Councilwoman Kelley has been working on reviewing the budget. She made a special thank you to all who attended, helped and organized the blood drive in every part.

Councilman Frazier spoke about how nice it is to see the community on Oktoberfest and thanked East Fishkill Provisions for the delicious German food.

Councilman Welsh reported that he has been involved in budget, library discussions and commented that the Park staff did an incredible job to accommodate the 1,800 people at Oktoberfest.

Public Comment Agenda Items

None

Conservation Advisory Council (CAC)

Mrs. Busch could not attend however Supervisor Maas gave a synopsis of the CAC event and spoke about the wonderful lecture by Andrew Richards of Shady Knoll Orchards and the full moon hike. There will also be a paper survey at the Recycling center to get a sense of the patrons would like to see.

Events

On October 26th from 3-6pm there will be a Halloween Party for children 12 and under in the Tymor Senior Center.

Employee Benefit/Payroll Changes to Correct Inconsistencies

These items need to be addressed and voted on in the upcoming meetings after review by the Board.

1. 2-hour paid minimums for Constables and Highway Employees
2. 3-month waiting period for new hires before allowing benefits
3. Compensatory time for non-exempt Park Staff only
4. Defining full-time for elected and employees for the purpose of health insurance

Furnace Pond Dam

Due to the letter and report by the engineering firm Milone and McBroom, the DEC has agreed to lower the hazard class from a B to an A. Supervisor Maas explained some of the criteria that will need to be implemented 90 days after she responds to the DEC letter. There was further discussion on the topic. Supervisor Maas also mentioned that there will also need to be an engineering analysis performed which will cost approximately \$35- \$45 thousand-dollar cost which will tell the Board what is wrong along with recommendations.

Dog Control Housing Agreement

Dutchess SPCA sent a new agreement which made the Town responsible for all monetary collections which the Board agreed was not reasonable therefore the former contract language that is existing is what the Board feels most comfortable with.

Boiler Replacement

Supervisor Maas stated this has been completed as of today. There is now a small capacity hot water heater for efficiency in addition to the propane heating.

Citizen Preparedness Training

This will be scheduled for Tuesday November 19th at Town Hall and advertised accordingly.

Updated Financial Processes for Tax Collector & Town Clerk

This has been tested as a recommendation from the insurance company and is working accordingly. This will be added to the current policies and procedures.

Holiday Lights

There was discussion about the Holiday Light Display and it was brought up that there is a temporary use permit that was brought to everyone's attention and if this is applicable in this situation. Supervisor Maas asked Attorney Battistoni to review the code language for this item. She further commented on code language about "event, political, etc." signs being displayed no more than 10 days before the event. Councilman Frazier asked about a 24-hour period after day of event be extended to weather permitting.

MOTION TO TEMPORARILY AMEND SIGN LAW

Councilwoman Kelley made a motion to change the event date for 2019 election day to October 26th due to early voting therefore, allowing signs to be placed as of October 16th. This was seconded by Councilman Frazier and all were unanimously in favor.

Wood Chips on Route 55

There had been much resident feedback about a pile of wood chips and code violations which may this been in violation of. Councilman Welsh had made a suggestion about potential need for a driveway permit and Councilwoman Kelley further spoke about potential issues that may arise due to safety issues. George Kolb recommends no higher than 48 inches because the State nor County do not have a current height restriction.

Library Agreement

Supervisor Maas spoke about the Library issues to date. She feels the relationship between the Town and MHLS is toxic and would like to establish a contractual relationship with the libraries directly. She stated that Union Vale should be compared with other unserved Towns and on that list, Union Vale pays the most. Supervisor Maas drafted an agreement and would like to send it to the libraries of the Town Boards choice and see what the reaction. This direct relationship would allow the libraries to receive more money than they would under the other contract with MHLS. Councilwoman Kelley commented on a report that shows an increase in card numbers. There was further discussion on the topic.

MOTION TO SEND LIBRARY AGREEMENT

Supervisor Maas made a motion to send the drafted agreement to the 2 library's that were discussed and see their responses. This was seconded by Councilman Welsh, Councilman Frazier voted aye and Councilwoman Kelley voted nay. The motion passes by a vote of 4-1.

MOTION TO APPROVE SNOW PLOW BLADES FOR ALL TRUCKS

Councilman Frazier made a motion to approve the purchase of Snow Plow blades for all trucks in the amount of \$8,105.04 which was seconded by Supervisor Maas and all were unanimously in favor.

MOTION TO APPROVE CERTAIN EMPLOYEE BENEFIT & PAYROLL CHANGES FOR INCLUSION IN EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

This was tabled as to research this topic

MOTION TO APPROVE SNOW PLOW AGREEMENT UVFD

Supervisor Maas made a motion to continue the snow plowing agreement for the same terms between The Town of Union Vale and Union Vale Fire District for the amount of \$3,000 which was seconded by Councilman Welsh and all were unanimously in favor.

MOTION TO APPROVE USE OF RECYCLING CENTER SURVEY

Councilman Welsh made a motion to approve the use of the recycling center to survey users on additional uses for the Recycling Center. This was seconded by Supervisor Maas and all were unanimously in favor.

MOTION TO APPROVE MILONE & MCBROOM'S INSPECTION & MAINTENANCE PLAN

Supervisor Maas made a motion to approve Milone McBroom's Inspection & Maintenance Plan for Furnace Pond dam and get started right away in the amount of \$3,000 which was seconded by Councilman Frazier and all were unanimously in favor.

MOTION TO PAY BILLS

Councilman Welsh made a motion to approve budget adjustments, warrants, pay bills which was seconded by Councilman Frazier and all were unanimously in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON TOWN ISSUES

Joe Kelley- asked about a Saturday Meeting he also inquired about the information for unserved libraries and would like the information.

Karen Snare- commented the number card hold is probably low because Town of Union Vale due to having various post office boxes and it being coded incorrectly.

Sue Kilcrease- is disheartened to see so many people show up and heard that people wanted library services continued in the way they had been, paying for all the residents and no counting card holders. She felt the Board did not get the message of what the residents had asked for.

Carlos Mina- spoke about the wood chip problem and noted it could also catch fire and if so, there is no proper place to spread it out. He also asked about when the rental houses are going to be rented.

Tillman- inquired as to who took her election sign and inquired further about the rules and why they are not enforced. She further inquired about the library contract.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

At 9:23 p.m. Councilman Welsh made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Councilman Frazier and all were unanimously in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrea Casey
Town Clerk