

Special Meeting, Hillsdale Town Board
Tuesday, September 21, 2010

I. Call to order

Supervisor Art Baer called to order the special budget meeting of the **Hillsdale Town Board** at **6:45 pm** on **September 21, 2010**, in the **Hillsdale Town Hall**.

II. Attending

The following persons were present: Supervisor Baer, Board Members Carmen Barbato, Peter Cipkowski, Christian Kersten, and Augie Sena; Town Clerk Julie Kane, Highway Superintendent Richard Briggs, Tax Collector Joe Hanselman; and 4 members of the public.

III. Budget Workshop

Mr. Baer opened the workshop with a discussion of revenue sources available to the Town other than property taxes. Regarding sales taxes, he reminded the Board that the 2010 budget projections were lower than in prior years due to changes in the general economy, and he recommended leaving the same figure in place for 2011

Regarding mortgage taxes, he again noted that receipts had dropped in 2010 and recommended no increase in projections for 2011.

Regarding fines and forfeitures, Mr. Baer recommended a small increase in 2011 due to the State's increased emphasis on traffic control.

Regarding local municipal aid, Mr. Baer noted that the County may opt to use this money to cover the costs of the new rescue squad backup system and, should that be the case, would not be distributing these funds to the towns. He recommended not including this revenue source in the Town's 2011 budget.

Mr. Baer also noted that Town planning fees have been down in 2010 and that he was recommending lowering the fees projected for 2011.

Mr. Baer continued with a discussion of the uncontrollable costs which the Town must budget for. He reported that contributions to the State Pension Fund were predicted to rise by 30% to 40% and that hospitalization costs were projected to increase by 11%. He added that he recommended limiting salary increases to 2% in 2011.

Mr. Baer concluded that the Town has \$450,000 in cash reserves and that he was recommending to the Board that \$150,000 be used for expenses in 2011 in order to lower the necessary increase in the property tax rate.

IV. Adjournment

Supervisor Baer adjourned the meeting at 7:44 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Julie Kane, Hillsdale Town Clerk

Minutes submitted by: Julie Kane, Hillsdale Town Clerk, to be accepted by the Hillsdale Town Board at the October, 2010, Regular Board Meeting.

