

Public Hearing
Friday, November 14, 2008

2009 Budget

Upon the Preliminary Budget for 2009

I. Call to order

Proof of Notice having been furnished, the Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget for 2009 in the Town of Hillsdale, NY, was called to order by **Supervisor Art Baer at 7:00pm on November 14, 2008 in the Hillsdale Town Hall.**

II. Attending

The following persons were present: Supervisor Baer, Board Members Ann Baldwin Carmen Barbato, Peter Cipkowski, and Augie Sena; Town Clerk Julie Kane; Highway Superintendent Richard Briggs; Chairman of the Planning Board Hank Henward, and members of the public Tom Carty, Greg Daley, and Robina Ward.

III. Discussion

Mr. Baer reviewed the budget in total, noting that, of the total budget of \$1,557,065, \$832,665 will be raised by taxes. This represents a 5.2%, or \$41,700, increase over the 2008 tax levy.

Mr. Baer noted a change in the Preliminary Budget since the last public discussion: \$9,000 had been added to the Comprehensive Planning line (no account code shown) in the Planning section of the General Funds Appropriations, funded by increasing the amount drawn from reserves. Mr. Barbato asked whether this was what the Board had agreed to in its prior discussions. Mr. Sena responded that the change had been made because the Comprehensive Plan Committee intended to apply for grants to fund a Hamlet Plan for the Hillsdale hamlet and that grantors expected to see a financial commitment from the Town.

Mr. Henward stated that the Committee had wanted an additional \$10,000 to be budgeted, making a total of \$11,000 on the Comprehensive Planning line. He suggested moving \$1000 from the Planning – Contractual line (A8020.4), making that budget line \$9,000 and increasing the Comprehensive Planning line to \$11,000.

Mr. Barbato asked how the budgeted Comprehensive Planning allocation would be used. Mr. Carty and Mr. Henward explained that these funds, along with donations and grants, would be used to pay for a Hamlet Plan for Hillsdale with the aim of strengthening the business community and increasing general livability.

Ms. Ward asked why the amount budgeted for the clerk to the Building Inspector had increased from \$6,855 to \$12,480. Mr. Sena replied that this represented additional hours for the implementation of the planned new software for the Assessor, Building, and Zoning departments.

IV. Adjournment

There being no comment from the public, the Hearing was closed at 7:14 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Julie Kane, Hillsdale Town Clerk