

Special Meeting / Budget Workshop, Hillsdale Town Board
Friday, October 17, 2008

I. Call to order

Supervisor and Town Treasurer Art Baer called to order the 2009 budget workshop of the Hillsdale Town Board at 7:00 pm on October 17, 2008 in the Hillsdale Town Hall.

II. Attending

The following persons were present: Supervisor Art Baer, Board Members Carmen Barbato, Peter Cipkowski, and Augie Sena; Town Clerk Julie Kane; Highway Supervisor Richard Briggs and Highway employee Ed Brabender; Zoning Enforcement Officer Edward Ferratto, representatives from Community Rescue; and members of the public.

III. 2009 Budget

Mr. Baer began the budget review by recommending a 3% salary increase for Town employees and elected officials.

The Town Clerk recommended the purchase of a network card for the copier which will allow it to function as a printer and flatbed scanner. Before budgeting for a new purchase in 2009, she will see if enough remains in her 2008 budget to purchase a used card in 2008.

The Town Clerk stated that she will be applying for a grant from the NYS Archives to upfit the record room at the Town Garage. \$2000 from the 2008 budget line for this project will be encumbered for use in 2009, and an additional \$1000 will be budgeted for 2009.

Mr. Briggs pointed out that the Public Safety budget line includes the purchase of all road signs and that it has been too low for some years to allow all needed signs to be purchased.

Mr. Baer suggested that the Town conduct a sample dog enumeration of perhaps 100 homes in 2009 to see if an entire enumeration would be cost effective.

Personnel costs in the Building Department were discussed, including cutting back on the hours of the CEO, ZEO, and support staff. The purchase of BAS software for the department may be delayed.

Mr. Briggs stated that he was receiving complaints about the state of the sidewalks in the Hillsdale hamlet and opined that the Town may have some liability if made aware of dangerous sidewalks without taking action to repair them.

Mr. Baer reminded the Board that the Roe-Jan Park was funded through the lease of the Park's farm land and the park fees collected by the Planning Board and that its programs have no impact on the tax rate. He added that the relocation of the Summer Youth Program to the new park would be funded in the same way.

The Board recommended a budget of \$1000 for the Comprehensive Plan Committee, to be used for publicity and office expenses. The \$35,000 budget request for 50% of the costs for a hamlet planner will not be funded this year.

IV. Other Business

- a) On a motion of Mr. Sena, seconded by Mr. Barbato,

Adopted by a vote of a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays:

It was resolved to pay certain Sewer project bills.

- b) On a motion by Mr. Sena, seconded by Ms. Baldwin

Adopted by a vote of a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays:

It was resolved to reallocate \$ 33,677.25 from the acquisition and appraisal costs lines to the land acquisition costs line in the Sewer budget.

- c) On a motion by Mr. Sena, seconded by Ms. Baldwin

Adopted by a vote of a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays:

It was resolved that the Town of Hillsdale will lend \$72,500.00 to the Hillsdale Sewer District No. 1, to be repair with interest when the Sewer District's long-term financing is in place.

V. Adjournment

- On a motion of Mr. Sena, seconded by Mr. Barbato,

Adopted by a vote of a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays:

Supervisor Baer adjourned the workshop.

Minutes submitted by: Julie Kane, Hillsdale Town Clerk