

Budget Hearing & Regular Town Board Meeting

10/13/16

Supervisor Nayer opened the Public Hearing on the 2017 Preliminary Budget at 6:45pm with three people present. There was no comment from the Public.

Supervisor Nayer closed the Public Hearing at 6:47pm.

The regular Copake Town Board Meeting followed at 7:00pm with the following members present: Supervisor Nayer, Councilperson Miller-Simmons, Councilperson Mettler, Councilperson Sullivan and Councilperson Gansowski.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and seconded by Councilperson Gansowski to waive the reading of the minutes of the 9-8-16 regular meeting and the minutes of the Tentative Budget Meeting 10-5-16 and approve the minutes as written. Motion was carried.

Announcements: Copake Parks & Recreation 12 Annual Haunted House will be this weekend, Copake Halloween Party will be 10/29 at the Copake Park Building at 5:00pm judging at 5:30pm sponsored by Copake Sunoco and Copake Clock Tower Pub & Grill. Supervisor Nayer also welcomed the opening of the Hamlet's newest business The Copake Clock Tower Pub & Grill and wished them the all the success possible.

From Thomas Cohan, Director, Government Affairs Charter Communications – a letter advising that Charter will be closing their walk-in office in Chatham effective October 28<sup>th</sup>.

From Rob Garon – an email requesting the Town get a change of venue for the Copake Valley Farm Legal debacle.

From Grant Dinehart Langdon – three letters regarding his son being falsely accused of arson.

Committee/Dept. Head Reports: None

Public Forum:

Lindsay LeBrecht reported that the new playground equipment has been shipped and is due to arrive next week.

New Business:

Supervisor Nayer reviewed the two changes in the new Highway Union Contract with the Teamsters which takes effect 1/1/2017 which will be a five year contract instead of a three year contract.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Sullivan to authorize Supervisor Nayer to execute the five year Highway Union Contract on behalf of the Town of Copake. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Gansowski and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler to authorize the following openings, Planning Board member, Z.B.A. member and one Alternate member, five Parks & Recreation Commission members and two Task Force Members. Motion was carried.

Old Business:

Zoning Revision Update was tabled until next month.

The Draft Solar Panel Law was tabled until next month to give Town Attorney Dow a chance to reword some articles in the proposed law.

Resolutions:

The following resolution was offered by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Gansowski:

**To Amend the Town Policy Manual in Relation to Health Insurance Buyout**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Copake finds it is in the interest of the Town of Copake to offer payment to employees and officials of the Town who are eligible for health insurance coverage through the Town but decline such coverage, thereby relieving the Town of a financial obligation; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board seeks to set and maintain such buyout amounts at appropriate levels,

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that subparagraph d. of paragraph 1. (Health Insurance) of subdivision C. (Benefits) of section VI. (Human Resources) of the Town of Copake Policy Manual is amended to read, in its entirety, as follows:

d. Any eligible employee or official who opts out of the Town’s Health Insurance Program shall receive a buyout payment in accordance with the level of coverage that such employee or official is eligible to receive at the time of the opt-out, as follows: \$2,200 per year for an individual plan, \$4,500 per year for a 2-person plan, or \$6,000 per year for a family plan. In addition, any eligible employee or official who opts out of the Town’s Dental Insurance Program shall receive \$200 per year for an individual plan, \$500 per year for a 2-person plan, or \$700 per year for a family plan.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that such amendment shall be indicated by an addendum to the Policy Manual, until such time as the Policy Manual is re-issued, at which time the amendment shall be incorporated into the body of Section VI.

Resolution # 17	Supervisor Nayer	yes
Dated October 13, 2016	Councilperson Miller-Simmons	yes
Copake, New York	Councilperson Mettler	yes
	Councilperson Sullivan	yes
	Councilperson Gansowski	yes

Budget:

A motion was made by Councilperson Sullivan and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler to authorize up to \$1,000.00 to purchase batteries and pads for the Park and Town Hall AEDs. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler to adopt the proposed 2017 Budget for the Town of Copake with a zero percent increase. Motion was carried.

Supervisor Nayer reported that the Hillsdale, Ancram Supervisors and himself met with the Community Rescue Squad's Board of Directors on Monday evening to review their proposed 2017 Operating Budget. They have requested an increase in the Town of Copake 2017 contribution by \$249.00 for 2017 figure of \$233,757.00.

A motion was made by Councilperson Sullivan and was seconded by Councilperson Gansowski to authorize Columbia County to chargeback \$233,757.00 for the Town of Copake's 2017 contribution to the Community Rescue Squad. Motion was carried.

Councilpersons Report:

Councilperson Mettler reported that the Roe Jan Ramble was another great success this year with 165 riders, collecting almost \$15,000.00 for the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association and had 35 businesses participate as sponsors. The weather was great and the Committee thanked everyone who supported and rode in this event.

Public Forum: None

A motion was made by Councilperson Sullivan and was seconded by Councilperson Gansowski to go into executive session to discuss personnel issues. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Sullivan and was seconded by Councilperson Gansowski to return to the regular meeting. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Gansowski and seconded by Supervisor Nayer to advertise for the Cleaner/Booking Agent position for 2017 due to expanded duties of this position. Councilperson Sullivan recused herself. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Sullivan that the bills from General Abstract # 10 and the bills from Highway Abstract # 10 be paid. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Gansowski and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler that the meeting be adjourned. Motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted,