

DECEMBER 4, 2014 – SPECIAL MEETING

Minutes of a special meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Somers held on Thursday evening December 4, 2014 at 7:05 PM at the Town House, 335 Route 202, Somers, New York.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT:	Supervisor	Rick Morrissey
	Councilman	Richard G. Clinchy
	Councilman	Thomas A. Garrity, Jr.
	Councilman	Anthony J. Ciriaco
	Councilman	William G. Faulkner

ABSENT:

Also present were Kathleen R. Pacella, Town Clerk, Patricia Kalba, Deputy Town Clerk and Roland A. Baroni, Jr., Town Attorney.

The Supervisor said that in was in order for the Board to open a public hearing with regard to the 2015 Preliminary Budget.

7:05 PM – hearing opened
7:10 PM – meeting reconvened

The Supervisor said that he would like to go over some of the 2015 Preliminary Budget highlights. He that the Budget included \$120,821.00 increase from the 2014 Adopted Budget. He said that resulted in a Tax Levy increase of 1.77%, which was \$100,000.00 below the New York State Tax Cap. The Supervisor stated that the Preliminary Budget met the Town's basic objectives of maintaining and improving existing service levels, stays within the Property Tax Cap and maintains a healthy Fund Balance. He continued \$18,283.00 increase from the Tentative Budget resulted from \$12,000.00 increase to Health Insurance, \$5,000.00 increase to the Master Plan Budget, \$1,283.00 increase to Personnel Costs. He said that some of the other major increases of the 2015 Levy were increases to Personnel Costs, purchase of equipment for Highway and Parks and Recreation and the reduction in the use of Fund Balance. The Supervisor explained that the increases were partially offset by a decrease in Health Insurance resulting in a change to NYSHIP. He said that equipment purchases for 2015 included a mower for Parks and Recreation and a Backhoe for Highway, which were both needed to replace out of date equipment. He said that the use of Fund Balance was decreased by \$62,000.00; this will help the Town retain their upgraded AA1 Moody's Credit Rating. The Supervisor said that major revenues with increases were Sales Tax and Cable Franchise Agreement Fees both of which were offset by a decrease in the Town's Mortgage Tax Revenues and Parks and Recreation Fees. He said that the Budget provided for Bond payments on proceeds that were being used to pave the Town's roads and the expectation was to borrow \$2,000,000.00 every other year and to repay the Bonds over a 10 year period. He continued that the Town was currently in negotiations with the CSEA Union and he wanted to add to the current Budget a 1.5% salary increase for all Non-Union and Elected Offices not published. The Supervisor said there would be no change to the amount of the Budget that the increase was covered in a Contingency Fund.

Thereupon motion of Supervisor Morrissey, seconded by Councilman Ciriaco, the special meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Town Clerk