

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF RICHLAND
1 BRIDGE STREET, PULASKI, NY

DATE: November 15, 2022

KIND OF MEETING: Special Town Board Meeting

PLACE: Grand Jury Room, H. Douglas Barclay Courthouse Pulaski, NY

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Kern Yerdon
Councilwoman Donna Gilson
Councilman Allen Goodsell -absent
Councilwoman Sue Haynes
Councilman Robert North-absent

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Town resident Tina Lane Financial Consultant, Laird Petrie, Supervisor Clerk/Budget Officer, Tammie Whaley, Water Supervisor Ron Novak, and Town Clerk, Millie Newcomb

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 10:09 a.m. with Supervisor Yerdon leading in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Town Resident Tina Lane asked the Board about the Budget process, who builds the budget. Budget Officer Tammie Whaley explained the process. This year for the first time, the whole Board was involved in the process.

ZENNER CONTRACT: After a brief discussion, it was decided to table this contract until the December meeting.

IDA LAND ON PECK-CENTERVILLE ROAD: Supervisor Yerdon will get with Attorney Seiter and have an agreement drawn up to make an offer on the property on the corner Peck and Centerville Road from the IDA. The IDA is requesting a formal proposal to purchase. Clerk Tammie Whaley added that she and Laird added this to the Budget. It's not added to the taxes because it's coming from Reserves.

CHEMICAL PUMP: is up next. Water Supervisor Novak advised the Board that they had significant operational issues with the chemical pumps at the well site. We had 2 back up pumps and the main chemical pump. The main pump catastrophically failed. One of the back ups failed so we were running the system on one back up pump. So the County and State Health Departments were involved. From that development, 2 replacement back up pumps were purchased and we also have one pump on the shelf just in case. The issue is the primary pump. Which is a Grafus chemical dosing pump. It's been there since the chloratec system was installed. The primary pump is 13 years old. Trying to find parts is near impossible due to the age of the pump and parts being discontinued. The Grafus pump is \$7970.76. This does not include freight. It is also necessary to get these pumps ordered due to a 6 month lead time for orders. With this system being down, he expected the estimated cost to make chlorine to be about \$5800 per year. One thing that is needed is that Mr Novak cannot get a pump for at least 6 months. We are going to need to increase line items for purification by at least \$2400 in the 2023 budget because he will not be able to make chlorine he will have to purchase it. He has no choice. He has to chlorinate the water. There are no other options. There is no choice. Another idea is that once the law suite is pulled for Dunes in Sandy Creek, he has heard that the residents don't have a chance of winning. Once that is determined, there will be \$200,000 give or take remaining in the contract for our WD #5 their WD #3 will become available on a 70-30 split. There will be potentially about a \$60,000 pot of money for various things. This pump could likely be paid. Rural Development says that they do retroactively pay for something that is purchased. Obviously chlorinating a water system is a qualifying thing to Rural Development. This money was earmarked for something else but it really hasn't been determined. Right now Rural Development is placing a requirement on the Towns of Sandy Creek and Richland that the well pump that is supposed to go into well #27 to the tune of \$22,000, has to be owned by the Town of Sandy Creek. Sandy Creek has to own the pump in our well on our well field, because they are the lead agency. This still hasn't been resolved. This is a negative effect of not being a lead agency. Supervisor Yerdon suggests to the board that the Town should go ahead and get the pump in order. ***A motion to approve the purchase of the Granfus chemical pump for the sum of \$7970.76 plus freight was made by Councilwoman Gilson and seconded by Councilwoman Haynes. In a roll call vote Councilwoman Haynes, AYE, Councilwoman Gilson, "AYE" and Supervisor Yerdon, "AYE". The cost total will be about \$8200 which will cover freight costs.*** If there is any additional expenditures

GENERATOR UPDATE: The new generator for the Richland well site is due in January -February. Mr Novak added that they were just provided with an expected date of delivery of April 26,2023 Mr. Novak asked about clothing allowance and safety shoes for the Water Mechanics. Although it's not spelled out for the Water Department, the Water mechanics are covered under the Union Contract and get the shoe and clothing allowance that is allotted for the highway workers. Mr. Novak states that the contract is very vague

Next, the Contract with ARCIT, Noah Schnelton. The Board reviewed the contract. The only thing that changed is that he will be paid monthly and he will be putting it under account # A1620.4 With no other questions, ***a motion was made by Councilwoman Haynes and seconded by Councilwoman Gilson. In a roll call vote, all members present voted with a vote of "AYE" to approve the contract.***

PRELIMINARY BUDGET FOR 2023: This is the same budget that was on the preliminary budget, and the \$50,000 for the land that comes from reserves. It doesn't change any of the bottom line to be raised by taxes. The budget has to be sent to the county by November 17th. ***A motion to accept the Preliminary Budget with the one change for the land and to adopt this budget as the Final Budget for 2023 was made by Councilwoman Gilson. Councilwoman Haynes had one question about the salaries for the Water Supervisor. Before the Board Adopts this 2023 Budget, Supervisor Yerdon would like to have a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the salary of the Water Supervisor. This motion was made by councilwoman Haynes and seconded by Councilwoman Gilson. In a roll call vote, all members present voted with a vote of "AYE". 11:00am.***

A motion to come out of Executive Session was made by Councilwoman Haynes and seconded by Councilwoman Gilson. 11:50 am. The results were not given to the Town Clerk.

A motion based on no changes with the Preliminary Budget, to adopt the Final Budget 2023 in the amount of \$2,366,760.40 with an increase of 1.8% to be raised in taxes. This increase is under the New York State Tax Cap of 4.48%. was made by Councilwoman Gilson and seconded by Councilwoman Haynes. In a roll call vote, Haynes, AYE, Gilson, AYE, and Yerdon, AYE.

With nothing more to bring before the Board, ***A motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Gilson and seconded by Councilwoman Haynes. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE". 12:13pm***

NEXT TOWN BOARD MEETING: December 13, 2022

MEETING ADJOURNED: 12:13pm

Respectfully submitted by

Millie Newcomb
Town Clerk