



## Budget Special Meeting – Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Location: New Highway Garage – 7 Waterworks Road

6:00PM: Open the Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Mayor Rob Allen, Dep. Mayor Ryan, Tr. Alter, Tr. Walraed, Tr. Hanselman, Tr. Sauer, Tr. Schuttig. Also attending were HFCS Supt. Patrick Daley and Joe Leva of Main Street.

Patrick Daley-HFCS Supt.: The school is doing good things, actually HFCS is currently ranked 12<sup>th</sup> out of all of the capital region high schools which is a great accolade. Pat addressed the board on the idea of hiring a half time communications and PR person for the school as well as taking the lead on doing the Town of Hoosick and Village of Hoosick Falls Websites. Brian Bushner has been this person in the past that is so knowledgeable in technology and the Mayor has helped a lot with school technology. Our town and village do not have a Chamber of Commerce which makes it difficult to pull information together about everything that is going on. This could possibly be a shared services project that would promote cohesiveness between the 3 entities. The school budget has a ½ time employee plus health insurance (\$50K) built into their current budget which will be adopted on 4/25/24. The proposal is for the school to pay 50% of salary and 25% paid by Town and 25% paid by Village and the school would pay for health insurance. Pat has talked with the Town of Hoosick and they really like the idea also although I don't believe the funds are in their current budget yet.

Currently the software the school uses is called Apptegy which is very user friendly for someone to work with and the school is happy with the phone app and software it provides.

Tr. Walraed/Tr. Alter asks where the project would be housed and would the village need its own domain or would we need to merge domains?

Mayor Allen states that each entity would need its own domain he believes.

Tr. Schuttig asks if the school would be looking for a minimum commitment.

Tr. Sauer believes there may be funds available under NYS shared services projects that someone should check into.

Mr. Daly states he is currently doing that sort of project with HVCC, dealing with later age teens attending trades and economic development college classes at HFCS. Learning a lot about the process of shared services.

Tr. Walraed asked about apptegy and how long it took to set up?

Dep. Mayor Ryan asks the cost of the apptegy software?

Pat Daly: Software very user friendly and not time consuming and I believe 18K per year.



Board thanks Pat for attending and will have further discussion and let him know. Mayor inserted a new budget line under the Village Clerk department named Possible Data/Web Site person/services and the board will see how the budget numbers work out and decide if they will fund that line.

MAYOR presents budget on overhead projector screen overview of the numbers and details of budget lines. Board has various questions with discussion to follow:

Discussion regarding hiring a half time person, assistant codes/bldg inspector who could oversee handling and dealing with the registration/fines/fees in relation to the local law regarding vacant/abandoned properties. Will discuss fee structure etc. with Mark Surdam. Also will discuss with Mark his thoughts on raising the cost of the bi annual inspections per apartment from \$25 to \$50.00 Board adds new budget line item A2596.

Changes made to the General Fund Budget during this meeting are as follows:

	Previous	new tentative
A1130	26,298	32,000
A2591	11,000	13,000
Added a new line		
A2596	0	20,000
A2610	35,000	40,000
A3001	30,578	32,717
A1420.43	500.00	4,000
A3120.2	47219.50	50819.50
A5110.13	9364.64	7000
A5110.42	20,000	0
A5110.44	0	20,000
A5142.4	15,000	25,000



Treasurer McMahon suggests asking Atty. Finan if there would be a motion or a resolution, etc. to allow the village to relevel the vacant building, junk car property fees on to the Village Property Taxes; and then relevel to Rensselaer County for Town tax relevel. Believe there is a motion done every year to relevel the unpaid water, sewer, refuse and unpaid services...would we just state the other fees in the motion or?

The trustees will speak with Ken regarding estimate for the 5110.46 street maintenance budget line.

Board discussion on whether or not to include a 2% increase in salary for mayor and board of trustees. It is agreed to see how the budget looks and will do it at the end if it allows the addition without going over the cap.

MOTION to hold meeting on the budget on Monday, April 29, 2024 at the village highway garage at 6 pm by Tr. Schuttig, seconded by Tr. Alter; all in favor, none opposed.

MOTION to go into executive session at 8:36 pm regarding personnel matters by Tr. Sauer, seconded by Tr. Schuttig; all in favor, none opposed.

MOTION to end Executive Session at 10:00 by Deputy Mayor Ryan, seconded by Tr. Schuttig; all in favor, none opposed.

MOTION to adjourn meeting at 10:01 p.m. by Tr. Walraed, seconded by Tr. Sauer; all in favor, none opposed.

Respectfully submitted

Denise McMahon, Treasurer