

The Seneca Falls Town Board held a Budget Workshop and Meeting on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 130 Ovid Street.

Present were Supervisor Gregory Lazzaro; Councilmen David DeLelys, Douglas Avery and Vittorio Porretta. Also present were Beverly Warfel, Principal Account Clerk and T.J. Casamassima, Deputy Supervisor.

Supervisor Lazzaro opened the Budget Workshop and Meeting at 5:07 P.M. A roll call of Board Members was taken and Councilman Ferrara was absent from the Meeting; the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

#### TOWN COURT

Mr. Lazzaro referred to the Court Clerk Full Time (A1110.103), Court Clerk Full Time (A1110.104) and Clerk Part Time (A1110.105) and said the Judge is not doing arraignments in this Court anymore – is that correct. Judge Lafler replied not in the middle of the night – he does them on his regular Court days here. He asked the Judge to explain the LEC to the Board. Judge Lafler explained that Seneca County arraignment part was organized in Romulus as a result of legislation that said every defendant needed to be arraigned with an Attorney present. As a result, Seventh Judicial started the process of forming a centralized arraignment part in each County. The 13 Justices in the County each decided to split up the work; a calendar was set up and arraignments are done 365 days a year. Judge Lafler said it's not the arraignments that are consuming – it's the paperwork that follows the arraignments. Mr. Lazzaro asked if it lessens the load here in Town Court; Judge Lafler replied it just doesn't require him to be up in the middle of the night - arraignments still have to be done. He still does arraignments on his regular Court days as long as an Attorney is present. The Judge said it does increase the workload of the Court Clerks. Further discussion followed.

Mr. Lazzaro stated when the part-time Clerk was hired, that Clerk was needed for training purposes. It seems like each Judge has one Clerk; the part-time Clerk acts as Office Manager and probably the lead because she has the most knowledge. The Judge said one of the other reasons was to try and alleviate some of the overtime. He added both full time Clerks and the part-time Clerk is needed – they are all needed during the day when the Office is the busiest – it's an enormous amount of paperwork because of the requirements of the State. Judge Lafler referred to the Clerk Part-Time (A1110.105) and requested another .50 an hour for Eileen. Mr. Casamassima said she is paid more than the full time; the Judge said her hourly rate is a little more than one of the Clerks – it's not a huge amount more.

Mr. Lazzaro referred to Special Court Security (A1110.107) \$16,000.00, and said other townships who don't have a Police force hire Court security. He believes this should be in kind services and would like this taken off. He said we have increased our Police force and we are throwing money into a system that we already have – we already have a Police force that acts as security. Mr. DeLelys stated the Police force is still the same number as it was last year and the year before – it has not increased. Judge Lafler stated that he and Judge Laquidari want the SFPD in their courts – this is an issue for Mr. Lazzaro to discuss with the Chief. Whether the Chief is willing to take an Officer off the road for six hours on one day a week and maybe another four or five another day of the week, he doesn't know if the Town will benefit by that. He knows how busy the Town is being one of the Town Justices – if an emergency comes up, they can't have that Officer leaving the Court. Judge Lafler said they have two retired Officers who work the Court – they are not getting paid Officer's overtime rate, they are just getting paid an hourly wage. Judge Lafler stated he is not sure how the Board wants to handle that, but they certainly never would agree to hire a security firm to work in their court. They want seasoned, trained Police Officers. Judge Lafler said they cut back from \$18,000.00 to \$16,000.00 for next year in the Special Court Security line item. After further discussion, the consensus of the Board was to leave the \$16,000.00 in the line item for Special Court Security.

Equipment (A1110.200), Office/Computer Supplies (A1110.400) and Postage (A1110.401) remain the same as this year. Trials Expense (A1110.403) was increased from \$750.00 to \$1,000.00. Judge Laquidari said they don't know how many trials they will have throughout the year. Judge Lafler requested that \$2,000.00 be put into a new line item for Interpreter (A1110.404); this year, he has had to have an Interpreter in his court at least six times which totals almost \$1,000.00. He said any Interpreter the Court requests has to be certified by the State of New York. Brief discussion followed.

Education Expense (A1110.405) and Maintenance Contracts (A1110.406) remain the same as this year. Publication and Books (A1110.407) went up \$500.00. Judge Lafler stated there have been all kinds of changes in the law that go into effect the first of the year. He added they will need to purchase some of the new law books. Dues & Fees (A1110.408); Miscellaneous (A1110.409) and Cell Phone (A1110.410) all remain the same as this year.

#### ASSESSMENT

Ms. Waite stated she will be certified by November 17<sup>th</sup>. She had three years to get the certification, and she did it in six months, not counting her appraisal background. Ms. Waite referred to the line item for Board of Assessment Review (A1010.421) and said she would like to increase that to \$1,500.00. She said the Board of Assessment Review Members put in between 18-20 hours for Grievance and Hearings. She talked to other townships and the County, and most of the other BAR Members get paid between \$100.00 and \$150.00. The Town BAR Members have been volunteering their time, and it's a lot of work. Mr. DeLelys said if the Board does this, what will happen with the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals – they will want to get paid. Mr. Lazzaro said he thinks the Board needs to look at how much time is spent. Ms. Waite said they meet three times – about 20 hours.

Ms. Waite stated she would like to have the Board adjust or help her with joining the MLS (Multiple Listing Service for Real

Estate) as she can get better comparisons in sales; it's about \$1,200.00 a year - it's called Greater Rochester Association of Realtors. She explained the benefits of belonging to the MLS. Ms. Waite thinks it is important for her to get better information through MLS for more consistent sales, especially commercial property – commercial properties are selling less than assessments. Mrs. Warfel created a line item for MLS Membership (A1355.415), and \$1,200.00 was put into that line item. All the remaining line items in the Assessor's Budget remain the same as this year.

### RECREATION

Parks: Under Laborers – Summer Help (A7110.100), Mr. Lazzaro asked if there were any qualifications for those people. Mr. Spina replied no – they have to have their application accepted through the County. He said they try to find people who fits the roll – if they have done a good job, they bring them back. Gasoline (A7110.401) went up from \$3,400.00 to \$6,000.00. Under Plants & Landscaping (A7110.405), Mr. Spina said this went up to \$15,000.00 – he asked if this includes money for weed control around Town. Mr. DeLelys said Highway is going to send someone to get certification. The line item for Plants & Landscaping was decreased from \$15,000.00 to \$10,000.00. Line items for People's Park Maintenance (A7110.406), Veteran's Park Maintenance (A7110.407), Elizabeth Cady Stanton Park Maintenance (A7110.408 and Miscellaneous Contractual (A7110.410) all remain the same as this year.

Mr. Spina referred to Restore Bayard Street (A7110.412) \$3,500.00, and said this is for the fence behind the three Ladies statute; it is in need of repair and painting. The price he got was to replace bad rails where necessary and completely paint and refinish. Mr. Spina stated because of the drop-off, we have to have a fence there and we also want it to look nice. He added they can't do it themselves because they don't have the equipment.

Mrs. Warfel stated she increased Canalfest 4<sup>th</sup> of July (A7110.413) to \$12,000.00 because that line item has gone over \$10,00.00 for the last few years. Mr. Spina stated that could change – July 4<sup>th</sup> is on a Saturday, and the Canalfest people still want to do it then. He received notification today from their fireworks contractor that they may not have a crew for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July as they will be busy in other areas. He said we would have to look for another fireworks contractor or move that. Mr. Avery asked if most of that line item is for fireworks; Mr. Spina replied correct. After brief discussion, it was decided to leave the line item for Canalfest 4<sup>th</sup> of July at \$10,000.00.

Mr. Spina referred to Update Boater Facility Cameras (A7110.414), and said he put in two requests for upgrading the cameras at the Boaters Facility and Community Center based on Chief Peenstra's request. He said when they have trouble, with the older systems, they are not able to see or decipher as they are not clear. Mr. Spina said the system they have now at the Community Center is the old Police system from Village Hall; the Boaters Facility system is one of the first systems they put in and it's old, too. After discussion, \$10,000.00 remains in the line item to Update Boater Facility Cameras – this is just for the Boaters Facility.

### Culture and Recreation

Administration: Administrative Longevity (CR7020.103) remains the same, as well as Equipment (CR7020.200). Mr. Spina stated they need to replace their Copier (CR7020.201) \$5,200.00; it's eight years old and they are spending more for maintenance. He said they will use the old copier at Vince's Park – they make less copies, so they don't have to worry too much about maintenance. Office Supplies (CR7020.400), Gas & Electricity (CR7020.401) and Telephone (CR7020.402) remain the same as this year. Cable (CR7020.403) went down to \$3,100.00. Postage (CR7020.405) increased to \$3,000.00, and Publicity (CR7020.406) increased to \$7,075.00. Mr. Spina said he will check into Postage and Publicity – some of the Postage for Publicity may be included in the Postage line item. Discussion followed relative to mailing the Summer Program booklet vs. having them around Town. Mileage (CR7020.407) went up to \$400.00. The remainder of the line items under Administration remains the same as this year.

Community Center: Mr. Lazzaro asked about Treadmill (CR7140.202) \$17,500.00. Mr. Spina stated this year they put in for two, but only used one – they made one last a little longer so they wouldn't have to spend it this year. He would like to replace another treadmill and also, two elliptical machines – one is 13 years old and the other is 9 years old. Mr. Spina said they had a request for a spinning (training) bike. Mrs. Warfel asked what a better title would be for that; Mr. Spina replied fitness equipment. Brief discussion followed.

Under Mower (CR7140.203) Mr. Spina said this is the payment for their share of the vent track which they split with Highway. Pickup Truck (CR7140.204) is the second year lease payment. Mr. Spina referred to the Community Center Interior (CR7140.205) and said the gym has been painted and now they have to start looking at the rest of the building. He put in an estimate of \$10,000.00; they will paint the hallway and maybe the Meeting Room and whatever else can get done. Seal Parking Lot (CR7140.206) was zeroed out as the parking lot is done. \$20,500.00 was put into line item Upgrade Community Center Cameras (CR7140.207), and \$8,000.00 was put into line item Dump Trailer (CR7140.208). Mr. Spina said he is not sure the Highway Department has one, but the problem is it's hard to get the equipment sometimes because they are using it. They waited three weeks to get a stump as the Highway was using the equipment. Building and Maintenance Services (CR7140.404) was increased to \$32,000.00. Lacrosse (CR7140.412) went down to \$3,000.00, and Soccer (CR7140.413) went down to \$5,000.00.

Kids Territory: Mr. Lazzaro said he noticed an increase in the Playground Director (CR7141.100) \$5,000.00 and the Summer Play Staff (CR7141.101) \$30,000.00. Mr. Spina stated they never know how many kids they are going to get – this year, they had a huge amount of kids and they stayed which is a testament to programming they provide. They have to meet

a minimum – one staff for every 12 kids (State Health Department regulations). The average amount of kids is 90 – this year, they had 130. Mr. Spina said the Playground Director spends more hours because of paperwork required, and the Director has to be there an hour before and an hour after to deal with late pickups of kids. Brief discussion followed.

A line item was put into the Budget for Playground Mulch (CR7141.200) at \$15,500.00. Mr. DeLelys noted it has to be a special mulch. Mr. Spina said they get inspected every spring by NYMIR. He added this year, he and Mr. Nicholson went to a playground Institute in Victor to help them get more familiar with exactly where they need to be so that they are in compliance with safety institutes. Mr. Spina said they did it five years ago and now it's settled and there's not too much they can do with it. He added it's expensive, but there's not much you can do. They will bid it – it's a State bid.

Revenues: Mr. Spina stated they are never sure of what they will be bringing in. They decreased Lacrosse (CR2001F) from \$5,000.00 to \$3,500.00 because the program has lost kids. Mr. Casamassima asked about Rentals (CR2001A6) which increased from \$3,500.00 to \$4,000.00. Mr. Spina replied this is for birthday parties, showers, meetings, etc. at the Rec. Mr. Spina mentioned that he met with Don Northrup (Village of Waterloo) and Rec Director of Waterloo to discuss maybe doing some combined programs for trips. They will be meeting again in a few weeks to discuss this further. He doesn't know whether something should be put in that line item or not (CR2001A2). It was decided to leave this line item at zero.

Vince's Park: Mr. Lazzaro asked if we were the only public pool in Seneca County; Mr. Spina replied yes. Mr. Wayne asked what the current budget is for Vince's Park; Mrs. Warfel replied \$100,500.00 for 2019. Mr. Avery asked if it takes in \$100,000.00 in revenue; Mrs. Warfel replied no, we send the difference over to them – this year, we sent over \$62,470.00. Mr. Spina stated they were closed for four days because the chlorinator stuck, and they spent one-third more in chlorine. Park Manager (CR2-7110.100) went down to \$6,000.00 as they cut back on his hours. Mr. Spina stated in order to operate the pool, the Park Manager has to have two certifications – Certified Pool Operator and Water Safety Instructor. He is responsible for all compliance with Health Department regulations. Discussion followed relative to revenues vs. expenses.

Mr. Lazzaro stated the Town has the only outdoor public swimming pool in the County. He said sometimes this is the outlet for some of the poorer kids – that's their day-to-day recreational activity. We, as a Society, sometimes have to provide for those less fortunate than all of us. Mr. Avery stated one of the things we are hoping to do is to work with some of the other towns. He mentioned that Tyre was interested in some sort of municipal agreement where they would pay to have access to Vince's Park. Mr. Avery said before the Town does anything as drastic as selling it, he would like to try to bring the revenue side up by including Tyre and Waterloo. Further discussion followed.

Mr. Spina said there is a need for some infrastructure work at Vince's Park. He put \$18,790.00 in a line item for Picnic Shelter Roof (CR2-7110.203); those picnic shelter roofs are original roofs (1982-83). He put in to replace one and maybe do another one next year. Mr. Spina stated the parking lot hasn't been sealed in over ten years – it has to be done. \$4,000.00 is in the Seal Parking Lot line item (CR2-7110.204). Buildings & Grounds (CR2-7110.400), Office (CR2-7110.401) and Safety (CR2-7110.402) remain the same as this year. Custodial (CR2-7110.404) went up \$300.00. Postage (CR2-7110.405) and Heating, AC & Power (CR2-7110.408) remain the same as this year. Cable (CR2-7110.409) was lowered back down to \$1,200.00 and Telephone (CR2-7110.410) remains the same. Waste Removal (CR2-7110.411) was increased from \$3,200.00 to \$3,500.00 and Emergency Repairs (CR2-7110.412) stays the same. Softball (CR2-7110.414) went down to \$500.00. Picnic Tables (CR2-7110.415) was lowered from \$4,000.00 to \$2,000.00. Mr. Spina said Dave Baker and some of his help refinished a lot of the tables which cut this line item in half. The remainder of the line items stay the same.

Lifeguards: Mr. Spina stated because of new regulations, they have to have two lifeguards on; these are mandates and there isn't much we can do about them. The line item for Lifeguards (CR2-7180.100) was increased from \$27,050.00 to \$30,000.00. Pool Equipment (CR2-7180.200) and Filter Room Equipment (CR2-7180.202) remain the same as this year. Mr. Spina said he put \$5,000.00 in Repair Pool Bottom (CR2-7180.203); the kiddy end bubbled up this past year and they made it work for the summer – next spring they will have to take care of it. Pool Maintenance (CR2-7180.400) stays at \$6,000.00. Mr. Spina referred to Pool Repair (CR2-7180.401) and said they have a leak (not a major leak) at the pool bottom. It's in the operating system and it's a slow leak – it can become bigger if we don't do anything. Mr. Spina said pool repairs are high – they don't know what it's going to cost. Mrs. Warfel asked if he wanted to use some of the Capital (\$16,000.00). Mr. Spina asked if it can be used; Mrs. Warfel replied it's a repair – it depends on what is involved. Discussion followed.

#### Interfund Transfers

Departmental Income: Mr. Spina referred to Non-Resident Daily Pool Fees (CR2-2025) and Non-Resident Pool Membership Fees (CR2-2025A) and said Mr. Korzeniewski has no ability to split financially - resident and non-resident fees. They will invest this Spring in a cash register that will split it out.

Being there was no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the Budget Workshop and Meeting by Greg Lazzaro and seconded by Doug Avery. No questions. Motion carried 4 ayes, 0 nays. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

NICALETTA J. GREER  
Town Clerk

