

PUBLIC HEARING -TOWN OF SHELBY

Meeting is live streamed. You may see complete meeting on the Town of Shelby website page.

Preliminary Budget 2024

November 20, 2023

7:00 PM

Present: Scott Wengewicz, Supervisor
Steve Seitz, Councilman
John Pratt, Councilman
Ed Zelazny, Councilman
Jeff Schiffer, Councilman
Darlene Rich, Town Clerk
Pam Henry, Deputy Clerk
Kathleen Bennett, Attorney
Claude Grimes, Constable
Dale Root- Highway Supt.
Miranda Bennett, Bookkeeper

Others	Michael Rich	Sharlene Pratt
	Leona Weese	John Parada
	Pam Henry	Paul Henry
	Linda Limina	Alana Koneski
	Jim Heminway	Pat Eick
	James Zelazny	Karen Curtain
	Joy Waters	Lawrence Waters
	Alan Bushover	Marguerite Sherman
	John Parada	Gabrielle Barone
	James Zelazny	Donna Mazur
	Stephen Mazur II	Paul Curtain

Public Hearing was called to order at 7:20 PM, due to technical issues.

Pledge to the Flag

Supervisor advised the audience of some rules for tonight's public hearing. When you come up to speak tonight speak loud into the microphone, we are having trouble hearing people. Sign up sheets are available for those that want to speak. There is a three-minute time limit on public comments. One comment that was brought up last time was building contractual page 3- A1620.400 has to do with the whole town with that New York State law for building for the Highway Dept. So 35,000 of that was moved to appropriations general government support 1999.400-that's where that 35,000 had to pay for the highway separate from the building until we can figure out the percentage of square feet that the highway dept is from this whole facility we have to guesstimate on what the bill is going to be for electric and gas. We can't charge inside the village for the electric and gas for the highway dept. Nothing changed as far as money wise it just got moved into a new line outside the village.

Purpose of the Public Hearing- To hear comments for and against the 2024. Preliminary Budget.

Linda Limina-Asked about the appropriations in the fund balance. Are you taking money from the fund balance and using it. It's at the end of every dept. Miranda-if you take the appropriated our revenue then what we have for our fund balance from the prior year and that is what we take away so we are not raising that much by taxes. So your using that money out of the fund balance. Linda said she would like to know that as it is kind of your reserve so she would like to know what is left after you are using. Supervisor said he would get that for her. It repeats in several of the lines like highway, water so would like to know more about this. She would like to know what is left because that is a pretty big amount to use.

Jim Heminway- Part of his question was answered regarding the 35,000. He wanted to know what else is in that contractual. Supervisor said it was anything to do with the facilities for the whole town, hiring out. In the contractual is also the court/clerk building. May exclude I just don't know what the percentage is. As soon as supervisor can calculate the square footage of the building we can take that percentage off. May exclude snow removal with the village, they pay for their own snow removal, you know out of town doesn't pay for anything in the village. The village pays for out-of-town snow removal so there's a number of items in that category but of course NY State doesn't say may so its up to you guys

whether you remove that from the village obligations. It's something to think about in the future.

Larry Waters-He and his wife had an opportunity to attend the workshop that was very informative and they do appreciate that. Some changes were made. Back to the initial meeting in the town highway, he may have heard it incorrectly but it sounded like they were misappropriating funds to avoid having to pay a bond for the new truck. Is that correct? Supervisor asked him what he meant. He asked Dale if we moved something around to help towards the purchase of a new truck. Dale said it was in the future. Supervisor said capital reserve accounts and whatever is left over at the end of the year we can move that money into that account if the board approves it. Building up capital reserve for equipment whatever else we need. Supervisor said it was the 98,000 that was moved? Larry said yes. Supervisor said that was moved into a capital reserve fund from the highway. Buildings contractual-only a portion of that was moved to B is that correct? Supervisor said DB 35,000. Fire protection-it's a 2% increase with the three-year contract. What does the 261,000 consist of? We were at 207 last year. Trying to wrap his head around the 25% increase. Miranda said that is Shelby and East Shelby 2% and then there is also the self-insurance in there as well. So, they have to charge us in case there are any injuries or accidents we are charged for the year so we have to include that in there. So that's part of it. We can't control that- It is through a contract and it's through the county. We have no control over that. It's what we have to pay. We can't change that amount. Supervisor had gotten Larry some information on it, but you know were still for some clarity on the water bill service charge and how that related to the budget or how that's independent of the budget where exactly that goes, how's it kept track of, how it expended and or set aside- that may require a separate meeting. Everybody pays a different amount and as far as he's concerned it's just an additional taxation without a service. Would like to sit down at some point and get some clarity on that he would appreciate it.

Marguerite Sherman- Thank you for moving that \$35,000. She did find New York State general municipal law 277 saying what can be charged to the village and what cant. She read a statement from General Municipal law that said Highway Law 277 accepts property within Villages which form a separate highway district at village expense from town taxes for the repair and improvement of town highways and authorizes that does not require a town to exempt property within Villages from town taxes for town highway and equipment and town highway snow removal and miscellaneous expenditures. It's definitely something we can look further into for next year and I just wanted to comment that we did find part of it anyway so we can explore it more for the next budget, I hope.

Board comment-

Councilman Zelazny-Attorney fees are escalating once again from 100 to 150,000. He doesn't understand why there is a 50% increase. And our spending has increased quite a lot at least 60 to 75% and spending revenues are down.

Supervisor said the legal fund was moved up because of the STAMP lawsuit, will be starting Borrego, wind projects will be starting probably once new board is seated in the spring, solar is ongoing, engineering on water 13, that we are exploring. Councilman Zelazny said with the renewables the solar were reimbursed by the companies so that's quite a lot of money we'll be getting back. He checked with other towns; they don't have anything close to this. He thinks it's awfully high.

After no other comments, supervisor adjourned the public hearing at 7:46 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene A. Rich, MMC, RMC
Town Clerk