

A Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hudson Falls was held on 3/27/17 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room of Village Hall for purposes of presenting the 2017-2018 Tentative Budget and such other business that may come before the Board.

Present: Mayor John Barton  
Trustee Joelle Timms  
Trustee Robert Cook  
Trustee James Gallagher

Absent: Trustee Thomas VanAernem

The Mayor opened the meeting and advised that the purpose of the meeting was to present the 2017-2018 Tentative Budget.

Mayor Barton outlined the tentative budget. The total 2017-2018 Village Budget is \$4,761,460 which consists of \$3,725,250 from the General Fund and \$1,036,210 from the Water Fund. The Board has had to make some very difficult decisions. As things stand right now we will be overriding the property tax cap. The proposed tax rate is 8.4075 which is a 3% increase in the tax rate and a 4.27% increase in the tax levy. This computes to an increase of \$24.71/year for a \$100,000 assessment. Major items noted include eliminating two positions in the Village – Deputy Chief and Full Time Building Maintenance Helper. The Rite Aid tax grievance settlement has had an impact on the budget in the reduction of their \$750,000 assessment to \$450,000. We are faced with possibly three years of refunds. The Budget includes a new dump truck for DPW which will require using equipment reserve funds. The newest dump truck is a 2008. The budget also includes a new police car.

The public hearing on the budget will take place on Monday, 4/3/17 at 6:00 p.m.

Trustee VanAernem joined the meeting.

Attorney Nikas advised that he would bring the Board up to speed with regards to Brian Burnett of LaCross Street issue due to the fact Mr. Burnett was present. Attorney Nikas advised that he conferenced with Code Enforcement Officer and Chief of Police who canvassed the entire neighborhood. The result was not one person supporting Mr. Burnett's claims. Attorney Nikas suggested that Mr. Burnett obtain an expert analysis of the noise. The complaints don't rise to actionable levels because the neighbors aren't supporting the complaints together with the fact code enforcement and police haven't been able to verify the complaints. Mr. Burnett is disappointed and outlined his efforts to date.

Upon motion made by Trustee Gallagher, seconded by Trustee Cook and there being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

  
Village Clerk