

MINUTES
November 11, 2014
BUDGET HEARING
TOWN OF NEW GLARUS

Town Hall – Swiss Miss Center 1101 Hwy 69 New Glarus @ 6:30 pm

ATTENDING: Board Members: Keith Seward, Dean Streiff, Chris Narveson (6:45), Jim Hoesly, Robert Elkins, Dennis Nielson and Pattie Salter

ALSO ATTENDING: Tara Bast, Johnson Block; Linda Hiland, New Glarus Village Library Board President and Lauren White, New Glarus Village Library Director and Ken Jaworski from Martinson and Isley

CALL TO ORDER: K. Seward at 6:30 pm – Swiss Miss Center

1. PROOF OF POSTING: Clerk Salter attested to proper posting.
2. K. Seward explained that as part of our Town Board Agenda, item 3 is to introduce the new Library Director. Seward explained that guests, Linda Hiland and new Library Director, Lauren White have another meeting to attend and requested permission to hear from them at this time. Without Objection, Linda Hiland introduced Lauren White as their New Library Director. Linda reported that Lauren is from Independence, Missouri.
3. Budget Introduction by Accountant, Tara Bast of Johnson Block: Tara Bast from Johnson Block introduced 2015 budget.

Tara Bast reviewed the 2015 published budget and noted that the garbage and refuse collection on page 4 of the budget has been changed to reflect the income we are collecting is what we paid out in 2014 and the expense on page 9 is the negotiated cost which will be paid out in 2015. C. Narveson noted that he didn't think the trash collection hit the levy. T. Bast explained that expense is included in the levy and is offset by the income that we receive as a reimbursement through the special charge on the tax bill.

- a. Ken Jaworski, Martinson & Isley - K. Seward introduced Ken Jaworski from Martinson & Isley as a resource to help the Town with a growth plan and other planning issues including
 - i. ETZ Planning - Municipal Sewer
 - ii. Assessments based on ETZ Map - Density Issues
 - iii. Determine if it is cost effective for the Village to actually service properties within the ETZ. If cost prohibitive, look at Municipal Mound Systems.
 - iv. Create Growth Opportunities
 - v. Find your Identity - Town Park/Town Hall
 - vi. Economic Development
 - vii. Comprehensive Plan is due to be updated - Short on Strategic Growth (recommended going through Southwest Regional Planning)
 - viii. Strategic Planning Workshop - Invite residents to a location bigger than our office and work with residents to determine where they would like to see the Town grow. This would cost approximately \$2,000.
- b. Review Draft Budget - The board reviewed the draft budget and made the following amendments without objection:

- i. Moved \$2,000 out of the Parks budget into the Contingency Fund. (If not used will in 2015 it will be moved back to the Parks/Town Hall sinking fund)
- ii. Allocated \$2,500 for Growth Plan Consultant
- iii. Moved \$1,500 from SWMP to the Contingency Fund
- iv. Garbage pick-up – an estimated budgeted cost of \$108,000
 - 1. Three sub-committee members chose to go with Waste Management.
 - 2. Negotiate Fuel Prices to be set at the beginning of the year and not adjust until the next year.
 - 3. Contract for 1 Spring Curbside pickup.
 - 4. New taxes negotiated with both parties prior to billing. Proof should be provided.
 - 5. Send contract to M. Hazelbaker for Legal Review and firm up rate adjustment issues.
- c. EMS Budget – Approved without objection.
- d. Budgeted Road Project - Tara Bast explained that for the draft budget we estimated more of a fund balance than what will actually be available at the end of the year. We had planned to use part of that fund balance to partially fund the Pioneer Road project. After entering the changes noted above, we would exceed our levy limits. After a brief discussion, C. Narveson moved to increase our 2015 borrowing up to \$425,000 which is phase I of the engineers estimate. By doing this, our levy would be \$2,000 under the allotted levy limit which would be applied to the Contingency Fund. J. Hoesly 2nd. R. Elkins noted that we're spending an awful lot on road work. K. Seward felt we could decrease the levy by accepting Advanced Disposal's trash and recycling contract and would vote nay on Chris' motion because he felt we would not need the additional borrowing if we were paying less for our trash collection. Seward reported that he would rather adjust the budget by \$6,600 by going with Advanced Disposal for garbage. J. Hoesly called the question and K. Seward asked for a roll call vote. Chair voted nay, J. Hoesly voted aye; D. Streiff voted aye, R. Elkins voted aye and C. Narveson voted aye. Motion carried.
- e. Office Space Discussion - K. Seward reported that he spent time with J. Edder, Director of the Swiss Center of North America to discuss renting or purchasing options for Town Hall Offices and came up with 3 options (see attached). After reviewing these options, the board suggested that Seward continue to explore options with the Swiss Center of North America.
- f. Set 2015 Performance Range – K. Seward moved to keep performance rates the same as last year, C. Narveson 2nd. Motion carried.

The 2015 proposed budget with the above noted adjustments is \$1,341,762 with a 2014/15 tax levy of \$671,680 for a 2014/15 tax rate of \$4.67 per 1,000. This represents an increase of 2.3%.

- 4. Adjourn to Special Meeting of the Electorate: As there were no further comments, K. Seward suggested that the Public Hearing be closed and we move onto our Special meeting of the electorate. D. Streiff moved to adjourn the Budget Hearing, R. Elkins 2nd. Budget Hearing closed at 9:10 p.m.