

Village of South Glens Falls  
46 Saratoga Avenue, South Glens Falls, NY 12803

March 30, 2022

**Special Budget Meeting of Village Board**

MAYOR NICHOLAS BODKIN PRESIDING

Minutes

**Attendance:**

Mayor Bodkin  
Trustee Gutheil  
Trustee Carota  
Trustee Orlow  
Trustee Girard  
Senior Account Clerk Typist Samantha Berg  
Bill

Chief Gifford  
TJ Chagnon  
Attorney Bartkowski  
Alan D  
Jamie Johnson  
518-222-1636  
JM

**Village Budget**

Trustee Girard asked about Mayor Bodkin's advertisement A1362.400 being blank, \$1,000 having been spent in previous years and just \$474 being spent this year. The Mayor explained the allocation was moved to A6410.400, under the more appropriate title of Publicity, more consistent with current GL account codes. Trustee Girard further inquired why the amount was raised from \$2,500 to \$3,500; Mayor Bodkin explained the money was to go for repairs of damage around the village, such as lights on the sign at Village Hall. Under this category, the amount stayed the same as previous years.

Trustee Girard then inquired about attorney fees going up. The Mayor explained that in the past money for the attorney had not been properly notated regarding which attorney was performing certain tasks. Work done by the Planning Board/Zoning Board attorneys would be allocated by number of meetings per year plus additional hours for work such as union negotiations and non-union labor issues. The Mayor explained this format would make things more transparent.

Trustee Girard brought up A1440.100, Building Inspector personal services. Mayor Bodkin stated that the amount was due to the parameters of the hiring and may possibly have to be adjusted due to the Building Inspector resigning shortly before the meeting. It was decided that adjustments to the allocation would be done at another meeting.

Account A1640.200 was brought up by Trustee Girard regarding garage door expense and due to high cost, a couple could be paid for by budget and a couple by reserve fund. TJ stated that he requested \$65,000 from reserve funds be used toward the doors due to the fact they are faulty.

The Doors made the building inefficient in energy use. TJ added that there are roof issues that will need to be addressed at some point. Sweepers were also mentioned as a potential expense.

Trustee Girard brought up the budgeted expenditure of \$37,000 to purchase law enforcement vehicles. Mayor Bodkin asked Chief Gifford if he had been successful in getting quotes on the cars in order to encumber the funds. Chief Gifford stated he has not. The Mayor stated it was necessary to have a PO to encumber the funds, or the money would be put into the reserve fund which would in turn pay the amount. Trustee Girard asked if the budgeted amount of \$45,000 for safety equipment could be spread out over two years. The Mayor explained the amount was for body armor which has a range of prices according to the type purchased. The Chief stated the body armor would cost approximately \$12,000 for all officers. It was decided to cut the budgeted amount to \$15,000 from \$20,000. Chief Gifford then stated for new radio equipment of two new VHF radios for the station and equipment for the towers would be \$12,903. Trustee Girard suggested using a lower number for body armor and allocating the funds to the radio budget.

Trustee Girard then questioned how account A5010.100, Street Maintenance and Administration at \$160,000 was derived. The Mayor stated it was personnel; Trustee Girard explained last year's amount was higher than this year and funds needed to be moved. Samantha Berg stated it was based on a percentage. TJ stated last year there was confusion and wages were being paid from administration which he was the only who should have been paid from Street, Water, and Sewer Administration. TJ added that there is a base salary and additional wages are derived from multiple highway budget categories and at the end of the year money is moved around, usually from snow removal to compensate for additional funds. Mayor Bodkin stated that that part of the budget would be revisited and altered. Account A5142.100, Snow Removal, was addressed by Trustee Girard regarding the requested amount of \$45,000 being higher than the \$39,000 allocated. The Mayor stated the amount would be raised.

Account A5989.100, Street Construction Personal Services, was brought up by Trustee Girard that TJ requested \$23,000 and was budgeted only \$21,696. Samantha Berg said she did not have the information to budget for the category. TJ stated the number was based on what the men were currently earning, not taking into account consideration raises. Trustee Girard then mentioned A8140.100, Storm Sewers, going from \$7,000 to \$4,339 when TJ requested \$6,000. The Mayor stated it was the same situation as previous, and he and TJ would sit down and go over the numbers.

Trustee Girard mentioned Parks and Recreation, account A7110.406, budgeted at \$10,000, which the Mayor admitted he put the number in himself due to the condition of the gazebo and damage at Veterans Park. The Mayor admitted the budgeted amount was merely a rough estimate. Trustee Girard suggested getting a better number. Account A8170.100, Street Cleaning, was next addressed by Trustee Girard due to the fact that the budgeted amount had never exceeded \$10,500. TJ stated the street sweeper was in need of repair and he wanted to get the street sweeping back where it used to be. The Mayor mentioned he would like the bridge to be swept once a week at \$116 each time. TJ mentioned a two-hour allotment of time for sweeping each week would allow for the entire Route 9 corridor. Trustee Girard suggested \$11,500 and it was agreed. Trustee Girard questioned whether a consultant should be budgeted for in regard to MS4, Storm Sewer Discharge, account A8140.405 and TJ agreed since DEC is so strict. Trustee Girard mentioned account A1441.400, Engineering Expenses, being raised to \$8,000. Account A8140.405 for MS4 was decided as a better allocation. TJ mentioned the elevation being raised in the old section of Woodcrest is creating problems and needing to be addressed.

Revenue for the general fund was next addressed by Trustee Girard. He suggested account A1289.0000, DWI, for \$9,000 should be put in as an expense. Trustee Girard stated mortgage tax has never been at \$70,000. Trustee Girard believes \$186,358 of account A4089 should not be listed as a revenue. Trustee Girard stated that a resolution needed to be passed to use the money. Trustee Girard then asked when adjustments were made if everyone could get copies. Mayor Bodkin agreed.

Trustee Carota stated he had no questions or comments.

### **The Capital Projects Budget**

Mayor Bodkin addressed Trustee Girard and regarding the Water Project Grant at \$1.620 million and that it was anticipated \$2.7 million would be spent in total. PFOA POS upgrade was noted. Mayor Bodkin said \$200,000 was figured in for carbon for each reservoir. Trustee Girard stated the \$200,000 was already figured into the \$1.823 million number. Mayor Bodkin stated there was still \$600,000 of grant funds still available. The amount could be put against the \$1.823 million ARPA Funds, the debt service associated would be back where it was with the old water treatment plant. Also on the sewer project 0% interest unused grant allowance of \$463,588 would put the village under the budgeted amount. Adjustment of the sewer rate once debt service is ascertained may be necessary. All \$333,000 of GIGP will have been used and Mayor Bodkin stated he is not comfortable spending any more funds. Trustee Carota asked when the deadline was for it to be brought to GIGP. Mayor Bodkin stated they had been asking for it for weeks. Mayor Bodkin further asked if the Board was comfortable with the budget, to which Trustee Gutheil stated it would be addressed in the Wednesday meeting.

### **FX**

Trustee Girard pointed out account FX8310-100, Water Administration, had to be adjusted due to the fact that someone had resigned. Mayor Bodkin stated that vacations would still need to be taken making it necessary for an outside vendor to come in. Trustee Girard tentatively agreed. Mayor Bodkin stated the number would be adjusted under outside services getting a quote from the other vendor based on time. Account FX8320-100 was brought up by Trustee Girard that there was a disparity of \$1,200 between what TJ requested and what was allocated. TJ stated due to Covid things such as training had not been pressed, but the funds were needed to be compliant with state regulations for credit hours. TJ requested an increase of \$1,700 for G8130-410

Trustee Girard brought up account FX9737-100 interest note of \$72,855 should be brought down to \$55,000 by putting the extra into account FX8340-403, water rehab. Mayor Bodkin stated EFC informed them the payment would be due 12/24/22. The Mayor questioned if the project was closed out if the payment had to be made, and it was decided to ask Larry.

Mayor Bodkin stated an H Fund was to be established on the budget for capital projects so funds did not have to be brought into the general ledger. GIGP and I&I would be included in this area.

There were no further questions on FX or G funds.

TJ brought up account A1640-414, that \$1,500 was requested and \$2,500 was allocated. Clothes were not that expensive due to buying in bulk. \$14,000 was requested for a mower due to the reliability of a Walker Mower, but \$17,000 may be necessary.

Trustee Girard stated there needed to be another workshop meeting for the budget. The final budget needed to be adopted by May 1st. A date of April 6th at 5:00 PM was agreed upon for another workshop and for all filings to be made and posted a date of April 13th for a public hearing.