

Village of South Glens Falls
46 Saratoga Avenue, South Glens Falls, NY 12803
April 15th, 2024
6:00 PM

Village Board Public Hearing on Tentative Budget

MAYOR NICHOLAS BODKIN PRESIDING

Minutes

Attendance:

Mayor Bodkin
Trustee Gutheil
Trustee Orlow
Trustee Girard

Samantha Berg
TJ Chagnon
Chief David Gifford
Alan Dubois
U
Jim
Tim Pease
Bruce Lant
John Lant

Absent: Trustee Carota

The Mayor calls the meeting to order at 6:00PM and leads with the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. **Motion #041524-1** to change A.1910.400, Unallocated Insurance Contractual, to \$87,000. Trustee Girard motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, except for Trustee Gutheil who abstained. Motion passed.
Discussion: Trustee Gutheil will abstain for believing they cannot take action in a public hearing and this was not noticed as a public meeting. This action should have been done previously. The Mayor provided the public hearing was not called to order yet and it was noticed a quorum of the Board would be meeting today.
2. **Public Hearing for Tentative Budget 2024-2025:** The Mayor called the public hearing to order at 6:03PM.
 - A. Bruce Lant addressed the Board regarding the difference in funds allocated to the DPW and to the Fire Company. He believes what is allocated to the Fire Company is not sustainable for them. He also said he would like better communication with the Village. He provided Trustee Carota has been the Board's liaison for the Fire Company, he has never

talked or met him and would like to work on this going forward. He feels they have no representation for the Village. Tim Pease asked and said Trustee Carota is more than welcomed to come to any meetings to introduce himself and meet the members of the Fire Company. He provided the Town of Moreau's liaison has done this and it helped there communication. Trustee Girard provided he spent a lot of time with the Fire Company when he was the liaison in 2013. Bruce Lant provided Trustee Gutheil is great at critiquing line items and he does not recall any critiques in the past on the expense side for the Fire Company. Bruce Lant said Trustee Gutheil did recommend to the Fire Company to utilize interest earnings and they are currently in the process of doing this. Bruce Lant said one issue they are not on the same page with the Village is grant funding. He said the Fire Company does not have their own grant writer but suggested the possibility that if the Village hires a grant writer, they could help the Fire Company in receiving grants. Bruce Lant said if the Village is looking to save money, maybe the Village should merge with the Town. Trustee Girard provided we do not want it to happen, but it could. Tim Pease provided the equipment they use is very expensive and costs are increasing, they are also held to high standards to have their equipment in good condition and under 10 years old. Bruce Lant believes they have the numbers to become their own Fire District, himself and Tim Pease believe this may be their only option due to current funding. The Mayor thanked Tim and Bruce for their comments and will take this into consideration. He also stated we are still in the contract negotiation phase and anticipates having to make budgetary adjustments throughout the negotiation process.

- B. The Mayor asked if anyone else from the Public wishes to address the Board. There was no further public comment. The Mayor will recess the Public Hearing and reconvene at the Regular Board meeting on Wednesday the 17th.
3. **Motion #041524-2** to go into recess for the Public Hearing on the tentative budget and reconvene at the Regular Board meeting on Wednesday the 17th of April. Trustee Girard motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Motion #041524-3 to adjourn tonight's meeting at 6:17PM. Trustee Girard motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, motion passed.