

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF HAMMOND, SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

A special meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Hammond, County of St. Lawrence and the State of New York was held at the Town Office Building, 21 South Main Street, Hammond, NY on the 28th day of September 2022.

PRESENT: Ronald Bertram - Town Supervisor
James Pitcher - Deputy Supervisor
James Tague - Councilmember
James Furgison - Councilmember

ABSENT: Theodore Elk - Councilmember

OTHERS PRESENT: Highway Superintendent Hadlock, and Town Clerk Pamela Burton.

Notice of said meeting was duly sent to North Country Now on September 20, 2022 and posted at www.townofhammondny.com.

Supervisor Bertram called the meeting to order at 6:30pm with the Pledge to the Flag.

BUDGET

1. The clerk delivered the 2023 Tentative Budget to the Town Board. Supervisor Bertram read each line of the budget with explanation. The bottom line is \$192,512.00, which is about \$50k over the allowable tax cap.
 - a. The Town Board discussed several parts of the budget's revenues and expenditures including but not limited to 4% salary increases due to inflation rate, necessary upgrades to the highway barn, a new plow truck, heating expense and electricity for 2 buildings, the need for new bookkeeping software, and pay for a transcriber at the museum.
 - b. The Town Board took all amounts into consideration and decided to pay for the bookkeeper software upgrade this year, they decided not to put money in the 2023 budget for a museum transcriber, and to increase highway superintendent salary by \$5k. This brought the budget to around \$30k over the tax cap. Supervisor Bertram said the Town Budget is in good shape so the Board decided not to put \$40k into capital reserve and put some towards the budget. This brings the budget to \$142,512; an increase allowable by the tax cap.
2. A public hearing for the 2023 Preliminary Budget will be set at the next Regular Board Meeting.
3. The Town Board decided not to consider the tax cap override law this year.

NEW BUSINESS

1. There were no objections to Supervisor Bertram appointing Councilmember Tague and Councilmember Furgison to the Teamster contract negotiations.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. **Motion** by Councilmember Tague to enter Executive Session at 7:23pm for Teamster contract discussion. Second by Councilmember Furgison. The motion carried 4 ayes.
2. **Motion** by Councilmember Pitcher to leave Executive Session at 7:30pm. Second by Councilmember Tague. The motion carried 4 ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Bertram adjourned meeting at 7:35pm.

Meeting minutes prepared and respectfully submitted by _____, Town Clerk