

Village of Rhinebeck Board of Trustees
Special Meeting - Budget
Tuesday, January 26, 2018
7:00 PM

Mayor Bassett opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Gary Bassett:	Present
Deputy Mayor Richard Lewit:	Present
Trustee Howard Traudt:	Present
Trustee Brant Neuneker:	Present
Trustee John Rossi	Present

Also present was Treasurer Karen McLaughlin.

Treasurer McLaughlin reviewed the official Budget deadlines as set forth by the State of New York for the village fiscal year 2018-2019. Meetings scheduled for the Village are as follows:

Public Input meeting	1/23/2018
Budget meeting Kick-off	1/30/2018
Budget Review w/ Dept. Heads	2/6/2018
Budget Review w/ Dept. Heads	2/20/2018
Budget Review w/ Dept. Heads	2/26/2018
Present tentative budget to Board	3/13/2018
Public Hearing for Budget 18-19	4/10/2018

all starting at 7:00 pm at the Village Hall

All are well within the NYS official Budget deadlines.

Mayor Bassett set forth his goals for this year's budget:

- Restoring services to the Village residents that were reduced by previous budget restraints
- Address pay equity to village staff
- Reduce costs through shared services
- Continue exploring and instituting environmental advancement issues:
 - Protection of water
 - Energy renewal
 - Food waste/recycling
- Establish and maintain paving of roads and vehicle/equipment replacement in a regular schedule (we are not reacting, we are planning)

The goal is to do this within the 2% tax cap.

The Mayor also stated that it is important to list all that the Board has done this year to make the village a better place and let the residents know.

WASTEWATER- Trustee Traudt discussed the current project to repair the ultraviolet disinfection and purification system. He will address future projects after he meets with the Waste Water department to discuss it with them.

WATER- Trustee Neuneker discussed the Water Improvement project and that we did not receive the NYS funding this year and we will apply for it next year. He also discussed the need to get the lagoon cleaned out and reported that we purchased a little boat and in the spring will resume looking at that Capital Project. He is working with the Water Department on the annual budget and will meet with the Treasurer on Friday, February 2nd and present their budget to the board on the 6th.

Trustee Neuneker discussed the need to do a re-assessment of village properties. The mayor reported that this is being done. The Town Assessor is working on it and it will be done through the Town Assessor's office. This will help the village's assessed values be more consistent with houses of similar size and value.

PARKING-The mayor briefly talked about parking, the issues facing the village and suggested forming a committee. The mayor volunteered to be on the committee as did Trustee Traudt.

HIGHWAY- Trustee Lewit reported that the village did not receive the 2018 Grant for the Crosswalk and will focus on the current 2017 Grant for Legion Park. He explained that some big project decisions are pending the outcome of the study for the Shared Services of the Highway, so there are no big plans at this time.

PLANNING, BUILDING & ZONING- Trustee Rossi discussed the Planning Board's recommendation to expand the Historic District to better insulate the village and maintain the character of the village. There is nothing we can do until a new or revised Master Plan is in effect. The last one was done in 1993. That would need to be a budgeted item. He also asked about having a line item for counsel specifically for the Planning and Zoning Boards.

Trustee Rossi expressed his agreement with the mayor to reduce expenses with clean and alternate energy. He reported that we need to get the Clean Community designation. As we missed receiving the RESTORE NY grant funds, we need to keep looking at bigger and better ways to get those funds. He also agreed with the mayor on setting a minimum standard for compensation for our employees.

The board discussed the need to put \$10-12,000 in the budget to catch up on the costs to update the code with past local laws that were passed, as well as budget for the ongoing legislation moving forward.

GENERAL- Mayor Bassett reported that he will be reviewing the general, Police and Fire departments.

FIRE- The mayor reported that there have been meetings with the Town regarding the Fire Contract. Through these meetings and analysis, the Village has been the most efficient and closest to the mill rate of the town as compared to the Rhinecliff and Hillside Fire Districts, which were way over. The negotiations are almost complete and the amount the Town pays the Village will probably be capped at \$190,000 a year for the next 3 years. Also, discussed was that if the Fire department came in under budget, a percentage of that would go into the Capital- Fire account for future equipment purchases.

The mayor also reported that the fire department is going through many changes and the fire calls have been increasing by 10% a year up to 1300 calls this past year. The village's Fire Department is being called more and more to assist the town's fire districts. With all this activity and additional mandates and administration necessary, the village is looking at creating a Fire Administrator/Coordinator full-time position. Currently, we are consulting Dutchess County about defining this possible new position.

The Board discussed whether the new position should be full-time or if it can be part-time. The mayor also discussed the increase in duties of the fire department and the possibility of negotiating to expand the district in the future.

PLANNING, BUILDING & ZONING BOARD CLERK- The mayor announced that the village received many, many applications for this part-time position. The Board would like to review the top 10 resumes, then shorten the list and proceed from there.

ELECTION INSPECTORS FOR MARCH 20th VILLAG ELECTIONS 12:00n-9 pm-
Motion made by Mayor Bassett, seconded by Trustee Rossi and all were in favor to authorize the accepted election intake inspectors as follows:

Accepted Poll Workers:

REP

Betty Lou Bautz	Intake Inspector
Linda Janow	Intake Inspector
Valerie Kilmer	Intake Inspector (alternate)

DEM

Gina Fox	Intake Inspector
David Gelb	Intake Inspector
Martha Gershun	Intake Inspector
Christopher Tavener	Intake Inspector (alternate)

Mayor Bassett:	Yes
Deputy Mayor Lewit:	Yes
Trustee Traudt:	Yes
Trustee Neuneker:	Yes
Trustee Rossi	Yes

Motion passed.

The mayor announced that the security systems for the Waste Water Plant, Water Plant and Highway Garage are complete and that there will be a walk-through of them, which will include the Police Department.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- Motion made by Mayor Bassett, seconded by Trustee Lewit and all were in favor to enter Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue, entered at 8:55 pm. Motion passed.

Motion made by Mayor Bassett, seconded by Trustee Traudt and all were in favor to come out of Executive Session at 9:15 pm and re-enter the regular meeting. Motion passed

Motion made by Mayor Bassett to reinstate Employee #28 contingent on continuation of prescribed treatment and on providing verification of such treatment until such time as a final letter from the doctor is provided. This was seconded by Trustee and all were in favor:

Mayor Bassett:	Yes
Deputy Mayor Lewit:	Yes
Trustee Traudt:	Yes
Trustee Neuneker:	Yes
Trustee Rossi	Yes

Motion passed.

ADJOURN- With no further business to discuss, Mayor Bassett made a motion to adjourn. This was seconded by Trustee Neuneker and all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen P. McLaughlin, Treasurer