

**SPECIAL TOWN OF CHATHAM TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**2011 Budget**  
**NOVEMBER 4, 2010**

A Special Meeting of the Town of Chatham Town Board was held on November 4, 2010 at the town hall at 6:00 PM. Present were: Supervisor – Jesse DeGroot, Councilman – Maria Lull, Councilman – Jean Rohde, Councilman – Henry Swartz, Town Clerk – Beth Anne Rippel. Comptroller – Earl Kelsey, Randi Walker, Bill Jackson

Supervisor DeGroot called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The pledge to the flag was led by Councilman Swartz.

Supervisor DeGroot opened the Public Hearing on the 2011 Preliminary Budget.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- ◆ Supervisor DeGroot stated that there have been no changes made to the tentative 2011 Budget.
- ◆ Randi Walker asked for clarification on the Justice Court expenses. Could the Town save money by holding court here at the Town Hall? The Town does pay a monthly rental fee to the Village of Chatham for use of the space in the Tracy Memorial . It was explained that the Town Court is held there for security reasons. There is a 24 hour per day, seven days per week police presence at the Tracy incase of an emergency. Justices are called out at all hours of the night and their safety and well being are paramount. Another factor is the lack of office and storage space in the Town Hall. It would be cost-prohibitive at this point to build an addition to the Town Hall to house the Town Court.
- ◆ Ms. Walker also asked about salaries. Town Court salaries are compensatory to the number of cases processed. Approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a million dollars in revenue move through the court system annually, of that about \$280,000.00 goes to the Town.
- ◆ Bill Jackson presented the Board with a copy of a letter he had written to the newspaper regarding the closing of the Old Chatham Fire Station. There are safety concerns within the hamlet if the old fire house were to close. Supervisor DeGroot stated that the Board can not over-ride a decision made by the Tri-Village Fire Company but look into the situation. Letter is attached.

Supervisor DeGroot closed the public hearing 6:30 PM.

Motion was made by Councilman Swartz, seconded by Councilman Lull and carried to adjourn at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Beth Anne Rippel  
Town Clerk