

**TOWN OF CHATHAM  
SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING  
November 19, 2011**

A special meeting of the Town of Chatham Town Board was held on November 19, 2011 at 9:00 AM at the town hall at 488 Route 295, Chatham, NY for a public hearing on the preliminary 2012 budget and a public hearing on a local law to define "Travel Trailer Camp".

**PRESENT:**

Supervisor Jesse DeGroot, Councilman Maria Lull, Councilman Jean Rohde, Councilman Henry Swartz, Comptroller Earl Kelsey, Town Clerk Beth Anne Rippel and others.

Supervisor DeGroot opened the meeting and Councilman Swartz lead the pledge to the flag.

The Public Hearing on a local law to define "Travel Trailer Camp" was opened at 9:00AM. There was no comment and the hearing was closed at 9:02AM.

- ◆ Chatham Rescue Squad has requested a 4% increase in their 2012 contract. The Rescue Squad "soft bills" meaning they collect from residents only what their insurance pays. Residents who do not have insurance coverage for these services will not be asked to pay.

The Public Hearing on the Preliminary 2012 budget was opened at 9:05 AM.

- ◆ Bob Balcom presented the Board with a 10 year budget study of each of the 6 fire districts within the Town of Chatham. Mr. Balcom encouraged the Board to keep an eye on the increases, some of which seem excessive. Councilman Swartz stated that the Board is mindful of budget requests but each fire company should be evaluated individually. Their needs and circumstances are very different and can not be compared to one another on equal terms.
- ◆ Ernie Reis asked about the un-appropriated fund balance. This fund is used to cover emergency situations, many of which are weather related and therefore, unpredictable. According to the NYS Comptrollers office money kept in this fund should not exceed 15% of the total annual budget.

Conversation continued regarding the budget process and how the Board works towards the final product. Budget information is readily available and residents are urged to call or stop by if they have questions.

There was no further comment and the public hearing was closed at 10:00 AM.

**RES. #108-11** to approve Local Law #3 to define the term "Travel Trailer Camp". Councilman Rohde offered RES. #108-11 and moved its adoption to approve Local Law #3 to define the term "Travel Trailer Camp" to mean to mean an assembly of travel trailers which are occupied for recreational purposes on a seasonal basis only or which are stored unoccupied wholly within enclosed structures. Councilman Swartz seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**

AYES: DeGroot, Lull, Rohde, Swartz

NAYS: None Resolution adopted.

**RES. #109-11** to approve the Town of Chatham 2012 Budget . Supervisor DeGroot offered RES. #109-11 and moved its adoption to approve the Town of Chatham 2012 Budget. Councilman Swartz seconded the motion. Copy attached.

**VOTE:** AYES: DeGroot, Lull, Rohde, Swartz

NAYS: None Resolution adopted

**RES. #110-11** to approve the Chatham Rescue Squad 2012 contract. Councilman Rohde offered RES. #110-11 and moved its adoption to approve the Chatham Rescue Squad 2012 contract. Councilman Lull seconded the motion. Copy attached.

**VOTE:** AYES: DeGroot, Lull, Rohde, Swartz

NAYES: None Resolution adopted

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** none

Motion was made by Councilman Swartz to adjourn at 10:20 AM, Supervisor DeGroot seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Anne Rippel  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector