

TOWN OF CHATHAM
488 Rte. 295
Chatham, NY 12037
Special Town Board Meeting
2014 Budget Presentation
October 15, 2013 6:00PM

PRESENT:

Supervisor Jesse DeGroot
Councilman Maria Lull
Councilman Henry Swartz
Councilman Bob Balcom

Town Clerk Beth Anne Rippel
Comptroller Debbie Cesternino
Highway Super. Joe Rickert

ABSENT:

Councilman Jean Rohde

Others: David Levow, Jeff Lick, Landra Haber, Kels, Ernie Reis, Sharifa Perry, Linda Macarone, Kandace Eaton, Deirdre Henderson

Supervisor DeGroot called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and led the pledge to the flag.

Highway Superintendent Joe Rickert discussed with the Board the budget for the highway department.

- Truck #63, the F-550, is in bad shape and will need extensive repairs but optimally it needs to be replaced. The cost to replace it will run about \$130,000. Even if he could order a replacement this year it most likely won't be here in time for the winter season.
- Joe won't be able to get another year out of the tractor and mower. Both pieces of equipment will need to be replaced.
Neither of these issues has been budgeted for in 2014.

Councilman Lull asked the finance Committee what their thoughts were on the budget.

- After going line by line through the numbers both Councilman Balcom and Swartz agreed that they found it difficult to identify any one area to make cuts which would have a significant impact on the overall budget.
- Councilman Lull suggested liquidating some of the land the Town currently owns. Councilman Balcom is not in favor of that stating that the Dorland Road property is a link to the Harlem Valley Rail trail which is moving towards Chatham. If it were to be sold it's a one shot revenue source.
- Another option for the property would be to use it to install PV panels to generate power. Councilman Lull suggested that maybe the Finance

Committee might want to take a look at the possibilities. The property is wide open and may be conducive to this type of project.

The Tracy Foundation Board will be meeting on October 29, 2013. Councilman Swartz would like to invite the Foundation to a special meeting at the town hall on October 30, 2013 at 6:00PM to discuss the Tracy Memorial building.

2014 Budget Calendar:

The Public Hearing on the 2014 Budget will be scheduled for Wednesday, November 6, 2013 at 6:00 PM.

Councilman Swartz made a motion to adjourn at 6:45 PM, Councilman Swartz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Anne Rippel

Town Clerk