

Minutes of the Special Town Board Meeting held by the Town Board of the Town of LaFayette on September 23, 2002, in the LaFayette Commons Office Building at 2577 Route 11 North in the Town of LaFayette at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Gregory Scammell, Supervisor
Norman Paul, Town Councilor
Sandra Smith, Town Councilor
Thomas Bailey, Town Councilor

Absent: David Knapp, Town Councilor (Arrived 5:37 p.m.)

Recording Secretary: Mary Jo Kelly, Town Clerk

Others Present: Tom Chartrand, Bookkeeper
Leon Cook, Highway Superintendent
Linda Pinkerton, Receiver of Taxes
Don Dolson, Voting Machine Custodian
Malcolm Knapp, Town Justice
Ralph Lamson, CEO
Marshall Taylor, Assessor/Clerk
David Murray, President Community Council

Supervisor Scammell called the Special Meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Town Councilor Smith led in the Pledge to the U.S. Flag.

The Town Clerk took the Roll. Councilor Knapp absent. All else present.

Councilor's Paul moved and Bailey seconded the motion to accept the September 9, 2002 Town Board Meeting Minutes as submitted by the Town Clerk. Motion passed unanimously.

Senior Citizens

There was no one present for the Sr. Citizens.

They submitted a written budget request.

Justice Dept. – Malcolm Knapp, Town Justice

Supervisor Scammell noted there is a slight decrease in equipment and whatever the Board decides for raises. There is a slight increase in other expenses and lease costs for upgrading the computer.

Receiver of Taxes – Linda Pinkerton, Receiver of Taxes

Linda said she had no changes.

Voting Machine Custodians – Don Dolson, Custodian

Supervisor Scammell noted Don is not foreseeing any new expenses.

There will have to be a \$400 increase in elections/primaries for lighting at Jamesville Beach.

Community Council – David Murray, President

Dave said there is an increase under Coordinator of 5%. There is \$600 for lacrosse and a drop in some of the other areas.

Councilor Paul asked if the money for the maintenance of Stafford Park comes out of this budget.

Tom C. said that would come under field maintenance unless the Board was to make him an employee which they haven't done in the past.

Councilor Knapp asked the advantages and disadvantages of doing this.

Tom said if he makes over \$600 in the summer, the Board would have to create a civil service position for him and he would have to be added to payroll.

Dave said Dave Baker did a great job this summer.

Councilor Knapp asked how the lifeguards are handled.

Tom said they are on a separate payroll but they only have 3-4 payrolls. Dave Baker starts very early in the year. You would also have to pay workers compensation.

Councilor Knapp asked about Herb Salladin and Paul Puttkamer. Are they civil service?

Tom said yes because they work more than just 2-3 months in the summer.

Supervisor Scammell asked about the batting cage which went from \$500 to \$2000.

Dave said the batting cage is more and more in need of repair. This would cover replacement of the beams and new netting. It would fully repair the cage. The concession building budget includes a shed they plan on putting in behind True Value for storage. The equipment and the running of the programs are pretty stable. They are pretty good because if they are going over in one area, they spend less in another. The batting cage, the box, etc., are the risky items in regards to the budget. If something catastrophic should occur, they would have a hard time.

Councilor Smith asked if it would be a new building.

Dave said it would be for the lower fields. They are just looking to buy a shed.

Councilor Smith asked if it would be real secure.

Dave said they would have a padlock on it but it all depends how determined someone is to get in. He said 'Professional Development' is a new line item. It includes a conference for Regina to attend and safety training such as CPR for the coaches.

Councilor Smith asked if someone comes here to do this.

Dave said there are 2 people in the community who would be able to teach a class like this.

Councilor Smith asked if they would think about opening this up to the public.

Dave said that is a great idea.

Code Enforcement – Ralph Lamson, CEO

Supervisor Scammell noted salaries are up. He asked about the increase.

Ralph said for the same reasons as last year. It's kind of embarrassing to be the lowest paid Code Enforcement Officers in the county.

Supervisor Scammell asked about how many hours a week Ralph puts in.

Ralph said lately he tries to keep it around 10 hours but earlier in the year it was about 20. Most of it is on the road or at home.

Councilor Paul asked about hours for Jack.

Ralph would say probably 10 hours a week.

Supervisor Scammell reviewed the reasons Ralph stated last year re: the new codes and new requirements. He asked if it would still be a suggestion to hire an additional deputy to handle just the zoning calls.

Ralph said there's no benefit to doing this. He doesn't know if it would be a good idea. They could easily spend a lot more time on zoning. Every resolution that comes down from the Zoning Board of Appeals or Planning Board should be followed up on annually.

Councilor Paul said on his 20 hours a week and Jack's 10 hours a week, does this fluctuate?

Ralph said yes. It depends on how the building inspections are scheduled, etc.

Councilor Paul asked what determines whether Ralph or Jack check on the zoning issues.

Ralph said he tries to keep Jack on just the building permits and inspections. He does a great job with the buildings and the other is a headache.

Councilor Knapp asked how we are doing with the legal fees for zoning.

Tom said in the 2002 Budget, 2/3's of the legal fees go to the town and the other 1/3 goes to zoning and planning.

Assessment Grievance Board of Review

No change.

Dog Control

Supervisor Scammell noted increases asked for in salaries. The Deputy Dog Control officer's salary request is a little higher than what the Dog Control Officer put in for her.

Assessors – Marshall Taylor, Assessor/Clerk

Marshall said the items that are changing are the Deputy Clerk which they are asking \$200 more for than last year. With the trash district and reval, this would cover extra help that might be needed. Under equipment there is \$1,000. He is pursuing a grant but if it doesn't come through, this would cover a high speed service for his office. If the grant does come through, we will have to buy landcards for all our PC's. DELL requires us to buy them from them. This is \$100. He put \$200 in his budget to cover his computer and the Receiver of Taxes as he didn't tell her about it in time for her to include it in her budget. He noted we should get \$12,500 back for doing the reval. He also put \$2,000 in for furniture if he needs it.

Tom said page 8 gives the figures for the reval. We need \$33,500 toward next year. The Board did a permissive referendum to spend the \$4,050 in the reserve and there was \$5,000 in the 2002 budget. This leaves you with \$24,450 left.

Councilor Paul asked Marshall if he can guess a percentage of parcels that increased and decreased in the last reval,

Marshall will do this.

Tom said that might not be totally accurate because LaFayette went from partial to full value.

Marshall said the state is saying houses in LaFayette are underassessed by 7%.

Cleaning

Other than raises Board grants, no changes.

Shari Wheatley requests \$150 for a carpet at the Community Center. There is a carpet that needs to be replaced.

Tom believes we have enough in the budget for buildings for this.

Attorney

Supervisor Scammell noted they are asking for 3% increase. They asked if we want them to still act as counsel for the Assessor's Grievance Board of Review. He asked Marshall if there are a lot of legal questions that come up.

Marshall said traditionally a few people show up and legal questions do arise.

Councilor Knapp said with the reveal, there could be a lot more people who come in. The Board needs someone to explain their legal responsibilities.

Councilor Smith would like to see what their contract says is covered.

Mary Jo will get her a copy.

Councilor Knapp asked Tom if he could do another breakdown of the Developer Deposit Fees. He would like to see a total for the year.

Tom will get one together for him.

Supervisor Scammell asked Mary Jo to get a copy of the ranges in salary that Ralph referred to.

Jamesville Fire District.

A 4% increase was requested.

Information Officer

This was unchanged.

Planning and Zoning Board of Appeals Secretary - Mary Jo Kelly

An increase in salary to \$5,000 was requested to cover both Boards.

Town Clerk – Mary Jo Kelly, Town Clerk

Mary Jo said the increase under Contractual is due to an increase in software maintenance through BAS. With the DEC going to the DECALS system, BAS has advised it may cost \$1,000 to upgrade the program to allow the BAS software to convert the DECALS information for the monthly reports, etc. She also gave information at the bottom regarding figures for a Dog Enumeration if the Board would like to have one. This is just for informational purposes.

Planning Board

Nothing received.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Nothing received.

Physical Plant Deputy

No change.

Environmental Board

Nothing received.

Safety Officer

Supervisor Scammell noted Tom Rezsnyak is requesting a \$50 increase in total contractual.

Financial Consultant – Tom Chartrand

Councilor Paul asked about how many hours a week he spends on LaFayette.

Tom said about 15 hours every other week. About 30 hours a month. He has increased \$50 in office supplies for postage. He has increased his contractual 4%.

Town Supervisor – Gregory Scammell, Supervisor

Supervisor Scammell said he asked for an increase in salary. He is now in the office each weekday and spends from 6-11 hours a day on town business. During the evening he does visits to the resident's, etc. He is working on creating a data base for the town. This could be used when we write grants, etc. He doesn't ask for any medical coverage from the town.

Councilor Paul said we are very fortunate to have someone putting in this much time.

Town Board

There were no changes.

It was decided Building Expenses, etc. will be discussed in place of Community Council at the October 2nd Budget Meeting.

The Budget Meeting ended at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo Kelly
Town Clerk