

PUBLIC HEARING
2012 TOWN BUDGET
NOVEMBER 10, 2011

PRESENT: Supervisor Joyce W. Morency, Deputy Supervisor Samuel A. Grimone, Councilmen Earl J. Dakin, Jr., Thomas C. Jones, and Charles Whitson, Jr. Town Clerk Cynthia A. Woodson. Town Accountant Mike Kilroy. Nancy Heath Tax Collector, and Historian Don Amell. Highway workers Phil Weidenheimer, Doug Snickles, Keith Bordeau, and Tim Reyell

GUESTS: Sandy Hayes, Connie & Bucky Willette, Carol Techman, Sue Abbot-Jones. Chris Knight from the Adirondack Daily Enterprise.

Supervisor Morency called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Grimone.

The reading of the Public Notice was waived by Supervisor Morency.

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ON THE 2012 PRELIMINARY BUDGET
OF ST. ARMAND

Notice is hereby given that the Preliminary Budget for the Town of St. Armand for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2012 has been completed and filed with the Town Clerk, 1702 NYS Route 3, Bloomingdale, New York 12913 where it is available for inspection by any interested parties.

Further notice is hereby given that the Town Board of the Town of St. Armand will meet and review said preliminary budget and hold a Public Hearing thereon at the Bloomingdale Town Hall at 6:00 p.m. on November 10, 2011. At such hearing any person may be heard in favor of or against any item or items therein contained or against the Preliminary Budget as compiled.

Pursuant to Section #108 of the Town Law, the proposed salaries of the following Town Officers are hereby specified as follows:

Supervisor: \$29,426
Town Clerk: \$11,252
Town Justice: \$17,364
Highway Supt.: \$52,587
Tax Collector: \$4,600
Councilman: (4 at \$5,422 each)

Immediately following there will be a special board meeting to adopt the budget, and any other town business.

By Order of the Town Board
Cynthia A. Woodson
St. Armand Town Clerk
Dated: Oct. 27, 2011
Pub.: Nov. 3, 8, 2011

FIRE CONTRACT

Councilman Grimone asked what our fire budget is with the Village of Saranac Lake. Supervisor Morency stated the contract is for \$16,768.89. The fire rescue is \$2,700 for our share. The Bloomingdale Volunteer Fire Department is \$29,500 and one half of the Worker's Compensation is \$6,336. In the Bloomingdale Fire district, \$8,000 was put into the budget to cover repairs for the hydrants. North Elba Fire protection is \$6,750 up from \$6,000.

TAX RATE

Supervisor Morency stated that the tax rate is close to last year's. The 2012 inside town rate is 4.09475 compared to 4.10966 in 2011. The 2012 outside town rate is 4.46653 compared to 4.46984 in 2011. Mike Kilroy said that the inside rate dropped a penny, while the outside rate remained nearly the same.

FUNDS ON PRELIMINARY BUDGET – TAX RATE

	Implied tax rate	Current tax rate	% Change
General	2.45658	2.57480	- 4.59%
Highway – Townwide	1.04782	0.90380	15.93%
Highway Outside	0.37178	0.36018	3.22%
Fire Protection (BL & SL)	0.59035	0.63106	-6.45%
Fire Protection (North Elba)	0.48001	0.45336	5.88%
Water & Sewer	-0-	-0-	-0-
Rockledge Water	0.35525	0.35503	0.06%

Mike stated that if there are no changes at all, then the amount to be raised by tax will be 677,086. Supervisor Morency stated that there is no increase in taxes. The increase in revenue will be the pilot tax from AMA from 18,000 to 29,233; Essex County sales taxes 35,000, and the cell tower annual increase will be 14,400.

SALARIES

Nancy Heath stated that she does not think it is fair for the men to get 5 percent raises and the rest of us get nothing; it’s a slap in the face. Councilman Grimone stated that he is totally opposed to anyone in this economy to get 5 percent; he just can’t do it. The military personnel put their lives on the line and they are getting 1.6 percent for the next three years. Essex County workers are facing layoffs stated Supervisor Morency.

Councilman Jones stated that if the men get 5 percent, then everyone else get the same. Councilman Dakin stated that the Town gives them 100 percent benefits, and Councilman Grimone agreed. Nancy Heath stated that she pays 31 percent towards her medical (at other job), and the highway men don’t pay anything.

Supervisor Morency stated that when the water and sewer department guy left, he left us in such a mess. The highway men have been doing work with the water and sewer problems and Jeff uses them to help him.

SALARY COMPARISON

Sandy Hayes stated that he has several towns with their highway superintendent salaries and the highway workers. He stated that Roger is overpaid, while the men are underpaid. Supervisor Morency stated that Roger spoke to her and said he is willing to forego a portion of the percentage so his men can have a higher raise.

Councilman Grimone stated that he is in favor of 3 percent raise for everyone and 1 percent for Roger. Chris Knight asked about the money for the raises. Mike Kilroy stated that he will take money out of the current budget and make it work. Supervisor Morency stated that if it does go higher, it will still be under the 2 percent tax cap.

WATER USAGE RATE

Mike Kilroy stated that the water usage rate is currently at \$3.25 per 1,000 gallons, and the new rate will be \$3.92 per 1,000 gallons; an increase of 67 cents. Supervisor Morency stated that the increase in the water budget will help pay for repairs, and there will be no increase in the sewer.

Supervisor Morency adjourned the Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m.

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 10, 2011

Supervisor Morency opened the Special Board meeting at 7:31 p.m.

The reading was waived by Councilmen Jones and Grimone.

Supervisor Morency asked for a resolution to accept the salaries as discussed.

RESOLUTION #95 – SALARIES

Councilman Grimone, who moved its adoption, offered the following resolution.

WHEREAS A Resolution of the St. Armand Town Board to amend the salary in the budget from 2 percent to 3 percent for the following individuals. Connie Willette, Cindy Woodson, Sheridan Swinyer, Nancy Heath, Donna Bramer, Michael Kilroy, Phil Weidenheimer, Keith Bordeau, Tim Reyell, Doug Snickles, Leland Flint, and Robert Drosdowich. Roger Oliver will receive a 1 percent raise.

This resolution was duly seconded by Councilman Dakin, and adopted as follows:

Supervisor Joyce W. Morency	AYE
Deputy Supervisor Samuel A. Grimone	AYE
Councilman Earl J. Dakin, Jr.	AYE
Councilman Thomas C. Jones	AYE
Councilman Charles Whitson, Jr.	AYE

Dated November 10, 2011

Cynthia A. Woodson
St. Armand Town Clerk

Supervisor Morency stated that since there are a couple of changes to be made to the budget such as the Village of Saranac Lake Rescue Squad; the budget will not be adopted tonight. She stated she will set up a special board meeting next week to adopt the budget.

END OF MEETING

A motion was made by Councilman Grimone, and seconded by Councilman Whitson, to adjourn the Special Board meeting at 7:40 p.m.

I, Cynthia A. Woodson, Town Clerk for the Town of St. Armand, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct transcript of the Special Board meeting minutes held on the above referenced date.

Cynthia A. Woodson
St. Armand Town Clerk