

TOWN OF ELBRIDGE
TOWN BOARD MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING
NOVEMBER 4th, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Bush called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Councilor George Betts, Councilor Bruce Ralston, Councilor Rita Dygert, Councilor Vern Richardson, and Supervisor Ken Bush.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dirk Oudemool, Town Attorney; Mark Grasmeyer, Senior Program Coordinator; Leo Cooper, Outreach Worker; Dennis Pelmeur, Highway Superintendent; Celeste Karakas, Assessor; Penelope Ceratt, Assessing Clerk; Doug Blumer, Dan Conroy, Bill Kuhn, Dan Leary, Tom McGuire, Dave Rinaldo, Todd Rinaldo, Ami Olsen, Eagle Observer; and Deb Stapleton, Town Clerk.

PUBLIC HEARING:

On October 7, 2009 the Town Board of the Town of Elbridge, set November 4th, 2009 at 7:00 PM to consider the adoption of the proposed 2010 budget. Legal notice that appeared in the Eagle Observer was available and was posted at the Town Hall, Elbridge M&T Bank, Jordan Lyons Bank, and the Jordan and Elbridge Post Offices.

Supervisor Bush: Does anyone wish to speak in favor of the proposed 2010 Budget? No one.

Supervisor Bush: Does anyone wish to speak against the proposed 2010 Budget? No one. Supervisor Bush declared the hearing closed at 7:02 PM having heard all persons.

REGULAR MEETING: The Town Board of the Town of Elbridge met in regular session on November 4th, 2009 at 7:03 PM in the Town Municipal Building, Rte. 31, Jordan, NY.

PRESENT: Councilor Betts, Councilor Ralston, Councilor Dygert, Councilor Richardson, and Supervisor Bush.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dirk Oudemool, Town Attorney; Mark Grasmeyer, Senior Program Coordinator; Leo Cooper, Outreach Worker; Dennis Pelmeur, Highway Superintendent; Celeste Karakas, Assessor; Penelope Ceratt, Assessing Clerk; Doug Blumer, Dan Conroy, Bill Kuhn, Dan Leary, Tom McGuire, Dave Rinaldo, Todd Rinaldo, Ami Olsen, Eagle Observer; and Deb Stapleton, Town Clerk.

ADOPT MINUTES: On a motion of Councilor Ralston, seconded by Councilor Richardson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of October 21, 2009 and adopt minutes as written. UC

MOTION TO PAY BILLS & BUDGET MODIFICATIONS: Councilor Dygert seconded by Councilor Richardson made a motion that General Bills Abstract # 10, Vouchers # 610- 666 in the amount of \$ 80,127.04 were ordered paid and Highway Bills, Abstract #10, Vouchers # 120H-140H in the amount of \$25,992.20 were also ordered paid for a total disbursement of \$ 106,119.24.

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And authorized the Supervisor to transfer the following monies into the designated accounts:

FROM: DB5110.4 General Repairs- Contractual	100.00
TO: DB5148.1 General Repairs other Govt.-Pers. Services	
FROM: A1990.0 Contingency	500.00
TO: A8160.4 Refuse and Garbage-Contractual	

REPORTS:

Assessor: report on file, and Supervisor Bush asked the new Assessor, Celeste Karakas, if she would like to address the board. She thanked the board for her appointment and described where she has started, and how she'll approach her work. Doug Blumer asked how they'd update the inaccuracies on some properties. There was discussion on putting an ad out for residents who have concerns, and want to know if the data is correct, that they can contact Celeste, and she'll get the information for them. Dan Conroy asked the Assessor how you'd conduct the annual reval, and she said they use last year's sales. Dan asked if she'd physically look at every property, and she said she's trying to do a drive by on all, or a photo, and he commented that between Camillus and Elbridge, there are 13,000 properties, and again, Celeste stressed the importance of tracking sales and keeping an eye on the market. Many things are components of a fair assessment.

Highway Superintendent: trash costs are in for the newly implemented service to residents. Looking into lighting for the parking lot that matches the community center lot.
Code Enforcement Officer: report on file.

Dog Control Officer: report on file. Dangerous dog seized recently.

Senior Program Director: Open house on Saturday, 10-2 PM for the JET program. All are welcome. Two trips are scheduled coming up. Christmas party will be on December 1st- catered and entertainment.

Outreach Worker: this is a busy season for Leo, helping people fill out their HEAP applications, either at the office, or at their homes. There was discussion re: weatherization program, and there is money available to help people with windows, insulation and doors. Possibly an ad in the shopping guide to make people aware. Mark mentioned there are workshops being set up at the mall to help people.

Historian: on file.

Recreation Director: Joe's report on file. Adult volleyball is under way.

Planning Board Chairman: planning board will meet as scheduled on Veterans Day.

NEW BUSINESS: Town Clerk/Tax Collector computer and software.

On a motion of Councilor Ralston, seconded by Councilor Richardson the following resolution was

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Betts Ralston Dygert Richardson Bush
0 NAYS

Resolution 88-09

Resolved: the Town Board authorizes the clerk to purchase two computers for the Town Clerk/ Tax Collectors office.

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On a motion of Councilor Dygert, seconded by Councilor Ralston the following resolution was

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Betts Ralston Dygert Richardson Bush
0 NAYS

Resolution 89-09

Resolved: the Town Board of the Town of Elbridge, on the 4th day of November 2009, commencing at 7PM, held a Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget approved by this Board and filed with the Town Clerk for fiscal year 2010, and having heard all persons desiring to be heard on the matter of the budget for such year, having discussed and considered, now therefore

Be it further resolved: that the Preliminary Budget, be adopted and established as the Final Budget of the Town of Elbridge for the fiscal year beginning January 1st, 2010 and that such budget be entered in detail in the minutes of the proceedings of the Town Board

Resolved: that the Town Clerk shall prepare and certify as provided by law duplicate copies of said Annual Budget hereby adopted and shall deliver them to the Supervisor of the Town who shall deliver one copy to the Onondaga County Legislature for the levy of taxes.

Councilor Betts prompted much discussion on the new Voting System that was used the previous day and night for general elections and everyone was in agreement that it was flawed, and more of a step backward than progressive. Privacy was an issue, and timing on results was delayed, and incorrect. Ballots that were marked wrongly were put into a folder that was unsecured.

On a motion of Councilor Betts, seconded by Councilor Dygert the following resolution was

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Betts Ralston Dygert Richardson Bush
0 NAYS

Resolution 90-09

Resolved: the Town Board of the Town of Elbridge finds the new voting machines are much more difficult for the voter, much more demanding for the physically handicapped, and much less efficient to tabulate. Furthermore, the sacred privacy of the ballot is compromised. Finally, the expense to the taxpayer is outrageous.

Councilor Betts would like this resolution forwarded to the Board of Elections, and a suggestion was made to include the State as well.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilor Dygert: discussed various elements of finding insurance coverage and has met with retirees, and will meet again. As for the JET program, some drivers have completed their physicals, and hoping for a good turnout for the JET Open House on Saturday.

Councilor Richardson: Justice has slowed down with tickets on the thruway and hasn't heard yet on the grant application.

Councilor Ralston: won't be able to attend next meeting.

Councilor Betts: Fire consolidation committee convened on October 28th, and will meet again on December 9th.

Supervisor Bush: there is a box for food collection in the entry way for the local food pantry.

MONTHLY REPORTS ON FILE: Supervisor, Town Clerk, Water Superintendent, Highway Superintendent, Zoning Officer, Outreach Worker, Senior Program Coordinator, Dog Control Officer, and Assessing.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Tom McGuire, Towpath East asked if anything has come back from the County. Attorney Oudemool said he sent his letter in to Jean Smiley two weeks ago. The request is who do we talk to, to develop a contract?

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, on a motion of Dygert seconded by Councilor Richardson the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 PM. UC

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Stapleton, Town Clerk