

PUBLIC HEARING AND SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, November 10, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. – Wascott Town Hall

Public Hearing

- 1) Call to Order - Chair Jim Boughner called the Public Hearing to order at 10:20 a.m.
- 2) Purpose of Hearing - Chair Boughner reviewed the process for the Public Hearing commenting motions and voting are out of order.
- 3) Presentation of the Town Board's proposed 2019 Budget and Recommended 2018 Town Tax Levy - Clerk/Treasurer Atkinson presented the 2019 Proposed Budget on behalf of the Board highlighting the following –
 - **Revenue Highlights**
 - Town Tax Levy - \$722,485 – up from 2017 due to increased debt
 - Applying Cash Reserves for the purchase of a FD Watercraft-\$10,000; Apply Restricted FD Donation Monies for purchase of Watercraft-\$20,000; Apply Cash Reserves for Lawler Bridge Project-\$20,000; Apply Cash Reserves for the construction of an addition to the Town Hall-\$100,000
 - All other revenue sources stable
 - **Expenditure Highlights**
 - Slight increase in General Administration due to the purchase of new election equipment in the amount of \$5,000
 - General Bldgs, Plant, Town Hall had a minor increase due to the budgeting of a new sewer system
 - Public Safety & Ambulance/EMS – no significant change.
 - Public Works had a minor decrease for road maintenance due to the need to budget for a state mandated bridge project in the amount of \$40,000. Actual expenditure allocated for Road Maintenance is \$340,000. The Clerk iterated the bridge project is part of road maintenance and is categorized under capital projects. Clerk Atkinson further provided information on prior years road maintenance allocations – 2019-\$300,000; 2018-\$320,000; 2017-320,000; 2016-\$275,000; 2015-\$250,000; 2014-\$0; 2013-\$206,000; 2012-\$143,400; 2011-\$150,000; 2010-\$98,000. The comparisons clearly indicate a progression of monies allocated to road maintenance.
 - Health/Human Services realized a decrease due to projects being completed.
 - Culture, Rec & Education increased due in part to donation increases
 - Conservation & Development stable.
 - Captial Outlay - \$100,000 budgeted for Town Hall addition;\$30,000 for FD Watercraft; \$40,000 for Lawler Bridge Project
 - Debt Service increased from \$61,255 to \$95,903.

The **2019 Budget is \$1,576,982** with a **Town Tax Levy of \$722,485** - which is the allowable limit. **The year-end 2019 fund balance is estimated at \$547,575.** Outstanding debt at year's end is at \$513,516.

Clerk Atkinson commented the taxes should see an increase with the mill rate staying pretty much the same. The total valuation of the town is at \$287,607,500 which is an increase of \$3,971,300 from 2017.

- 4) Public Comments on the Proposed 2018 Budget – As the Clerk presented the budget, the public was encouraged to ask questions during the presentation.
- 5) Adjournment of Public Hearing – A Bob Beglinger/Chuck McDermott motion to adjourn at 11:05 a.m.
Following adjournment, a Special Town Meeting was called to order.

Special Town Meeting Minutes

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair Boughner at 11:06 a.m.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Verification of qualified electors present at meeting – 73 registered voters
4. Verification of public notice and approval of agenda – **A Bob Beglinger/Chuck McDermott motion to approve agenda; motion carried by a voice vote.**
5. Approve minutes of the Special Town Meeting of November 11, 2017 – **A Agnes Kennard/Patti McDermott motion to approve the Special Town Meeting Minutes of November 11, 2017; motion carried by a voice vote.**
6. Review procedural rules for conduct of the Special Town Meeting - Chair Boughner commented the Town Meeting adopts the Town Tax Levy. However, the Town's budget is adopted by the Town Board.
7. Specific matters for discussion and possible action by the qualified electors present:
 - a) To establish the compensation for elected town officials pursuant to s. 60.01(1)(b)1, Wis. Statutes – **A Chuck McDermott/Fred Atkinson motion to approve an increase of \$3,600 annually. Paper Vote – Yes, 32; No, 39. Motion failed.**
A Bob Beglinger/Jan Newsome motion that all elected officials salaries remain the same for 2019. Paper Vote – Yes, 47; No, 23. Motion carried.
 - b) Approve Resolution 2018-08 – Authorize the Town Board to construct an addition to the Town Hall for the use of the Town, pursuant to 60.10(2)(f), Wis. Statutes – **A Jeannette Atkinson/Larry Rudd motion to Authorize the Town Board to construct an addition to the Town Hall.**
A Jan Newsome/Larry Rudd motion to amend the motion to include an expiration date of 12/31/19 for completion of project.
Amendment to motion carried by a hand vote.
Paper Vote for original motion to include expiration date – Yes, 37; No, 33; motion carried.
 - c) Approve Resolution 2018-09 - Authorize the Town Board to appropriate monies for certain conservation projects, civic donations, and cemetery improvements in the 2019 budget (Stat. 60.10(3)(b)) – **A Bob Beglinger/Chuck McDermott motion to approve the 2019 civic donations in the amount of \$7,700.**
A Jan Jenson/Jon Meteraud motion to amend the motion to include a \$100 donation to Superior Days. Amendment to motion carried by a hand vote.
Hand Vote on original motion to include the amendment making the total donations for 2019 in the amount of \$7,800 – Yes, 26; No, 3; motion carried.
 - d) Approve Resolution 2018-10 – Electors to Adopt the 2018 Town Tax Levy Collected in 2019 pursuant to Sec. 60.10(1)(a) of the WI Statutes – **A Patti McDermott/Mary Hughes motion approving the 2018 Town Tax Levy in the amount of \$722,485. A Robert Beglinger/Sheryl Beglinger motion to amend the motion to reduce the 2018 Town Tax Levy by \$8,141. The new levy amount would be \$714,344. Hand vote – Yes, 26; No, 24; motion carried.**
Paper Vote on original motion with amendment – Yes, 46; No, 8. Motion carried.

8. A Patti McDermott/Chuck McDermott motion to adjourn meeting at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannette Atkinson
Clerk/Treasurer

Posted at the Town Hall, Fire Department, Stop-A-Sec,
McNamara's and the town's website – www.townofwascott.org