

MINUTES BOOKTOWN OF COEYMANS
October 1, 2020 – Special Town Board Meeting – 6:00pm**

A Special Town Board Meeting was held Thursday, October 1st, 2020 at 6:00pm at Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York.

PRESENT: George D. McHugh, Supervisor
Daniel D. Baker, Councilman
Kenneth C. Burns, Councilman
Zachary S. Collins, Councilman
Brandon L. LeFevre, Councilman

ALSO PRESENT: Cindy L. Rowzee, Town Clerk

Supervisor McHugh opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He stated that all Town Board members were present. He then asked the Town Clerk to read the notice.

**NOTICE
SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING
AND
BUDGET WORKSHOPS**

In compliance with Public Officer’s Law, this will inform you that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans has scheduled the following meetings:

A Special Town Board Meeting for Thursday, **October 1, 2020** at 6pm for the purpose of the Town Clerk submitting the 2021 Tentative Budget to the Town Board.

A Town Board Budget Workshop for Saturday, **October 3, 2020** at 9am for the purpose of meeting with department heads regarding the 2021 Tentative Budget. (This meeting has been cancelled.)

A Town Board Budget Workshop for Saturday, **October 10, 2020** at 9am for the purpose of meeting with department heads regarding the 2021 Tentative Budget.

All meetings will be held at Town of Coeymans Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York. Due to COVID-19 Town Meetings are currently closed to the public. In compliance with Executive Order 202.1 these meetings will be broadcast on the Town of Coeymans Facebook page via Facebook Live.

**By Order of the Town Board
of the Town of Coeymans
Cindy L. Rowzee
Town Clerk**

Supervisor McHugh read the following address regarding the 2021 Budget:

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The 2021 Tentative Budget as proposed is balanced, protects taxpayers, and provides for vital services to our residents such as public safety, emergency management services, quality of life initiatives, and contingency planning, all while maintaining flexibility in case of any unforeseen circumstances.

In this budget we see a reduction in the Coeymans Property Tax Rate from \$2.91 per thousand dollars of assessed value down to \$2.63 per thousand of assessed value – a 9.6% tax decrease from the 2020 tax rate.

The General (A) Fund Appropriations have been reduced \$331,983 from last year. As a result, we are able to limit the transfer of Sales Tax from the Part Town (B) Fund to the General (A) Fund to only \$60,789. This is a decrease of \$509,328 in Sales Tax from the B Fund since last year.

The Part Town (B) Fund Appropriations have been reduced by \$162,790 from last year, even though our Youth and Summer Recreation Programs are all fully funded for 2021.

And although our County Sales Tax Projections are lower this year due to the reduced sales caused by the COVID Global Pandemic, our Highway and Parks Department are fully staffed and funded to handle whatever 2021 may bring their way.

The Sewer Budget Appropriations have been reduced by \$59,509 from last year. Hamlet Sewer users and Village Sewer users will both enjoy a decrease in their sewer rates for 2021.

The savings we as Town residents and taxpayers will all enjoy in 2021, have been accomplished through diligent budgeting efforts by our Town Board, elected officials, department heads, and staff, who held the line on spending throughout the unprecedented 2020 Global Pandemic, and thought outside the box and reimagined how we could do business better in the Town of Coeymans.

Some of the Highlights of the 2021 Tentative Budget

- Funding for a new Youth Court Program, with buy in from our Police, Sheriff, and School District
- 24/7/365 Coeymans Police Patrols, plus additional Foot and Bike Patrols from Memorial Day to Labor Day
- An increase from \$73,000 to \$100,000 towards funding the Ravena Rescue Squad Budget
- Reorganizing the Parks Department at a savings of \$76,000
- Increasing Celebrations and Evenings on the Green Band Concerts to \$25,000 – all funded by private donations
- Payment in full of our Comprehensive Master Plan Update
- Acquisition of new Trucks for the Highway Dept., Parks Dept., and Building Dept., without Borrowing \$\$
- Maintaining funding for our Town Grant Writer position for 2021

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- Adding a Second Full-Time Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Position
- Funding \$10,000 for New Sidewalks in 2021

All Accomplished with:

- No Layoffs of our Employees
- No Short Term Borrowing to pay our bills
- No reductions in public safety, cultural, youth or recreation programs, or essential services

Motion to Make Copies of Budget Free of Charge to Public

Councilman Baker made a motion to provide the 2021 Tentative Budget free of charge to the public, seconded by Councilman LeFevre.

APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Motion to Adjourn

On motion of Councilman Collins, seconded by Councilman Burns, the Town Board meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 5 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Time – 6:09pm

Respectfully Submitted,



Cindy L. Rowzee, Town Clerk