

Town of Stockbridge

Public hearing on Budget and Special Town Meeting minutes.

7:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 4, 2020

UNAPPROVED

Stockbridge Community Hall/Fires Station

Public hearing on the 2021 proposed budget was called to order by Chairman Ken Schaefer at 7 p.m. Present were Supervisors Mark Ecker, Dean Joas, Clerk Steve Phipps, Treasurer Ralph Schmid. Resident Dave Ortlieb was in attendance.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

The clerk properly posted the meeting.

Questions/comments were entertained from the audience at any time. Dave asked about the 2 % increase. Ralph indicated that was attributable to new construction levy limit. No other questions.

Mark E. moved and Dean J 2nd to adjourned at 7:02 PM and the special town meeting was called to order immediately thereafter by Ken Schaefer.

Dave Ortlieb moved to set the town 2021 levy at \$649,013.00 and Ralph Schmid 2nd the motion and the motion carried via voice vote.

Ken shared the idea of increase the salary of board members and officers to keep the compensation competitive and encourage more people to consider running for the positions. The clerk and Ken almost daily have conversations about town business and writing grants takes time and effort. Clerks work has increased. Discussion occurred about the time since the last increase which no one was really sure of when that happened. Steve shared the town is the largest/one of the largest populated towns in the county as neighboring towns compensation arrangements were examined. Ralph moved to increase the annual salary in the next term as follows:

Chairman from \$5,250.00 to \$6,500.00

Supervisor from \$3,250.00 to \$4,250.00

Clerk from \$17,000.00 to \$19,000.00

Treasurer from \$7,750.00 to \$9000.00

Ken S. seconded the motion. Motion carried via voice vote.

Election Workers: Steve explained some the issues of getting election workers with Covid- 19 and the excellent election workers the town has and efforts to show appreciation with any increase in wages would be a great way to show gratitude. Ken shared any town action would be just a recommendation to the board since this is a town meeting and town board action is needed to change election worker compensation. Dean indicated he would like to see it retroactive to October 31, 2020. Ken moved and Steve 2nd to recommend to the board an increase pay of election worker retroactively to Oct. 31, 2020 to \$16.50/hour for all election workers and the chief inspector on Election Day to be paid \$17.50/hour. Motion carried via a voice vote.

Motion by Mark E. and 2nd by Dean Joas to adjourn. Motion carried at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Phipps, Clerk