

At a Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Cambridge, duly called and held the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2009, 7:30 PM, the following were present:

Supervisor JoAnn Trinkle  
Councilwoman Carol Imhof  
Councilman Joel Nichols  
Councilman Frank Ziehm  
Councilman Ted Berndt

Others present: Town Clerk Sally Eddy, Highway Supt. Eric Shaw, Dan Baker, Heather Greenawalt, Scott Keller, Alan Davis, Cassie Fedler, Neil Fisher, Abdon Buckley, Rani Bass, William Watkins, Janet DeCarlo

The purpose of the meeting was to hold a workshop on the proposed 2010 tentative budget followed by a public hearing on the proposed 2010 fire protection contract with the Village of Cambridge and a public hearing on the 2010 preliminary budget.

Supervisor Trinkle called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1) **Walter Korb's Resignation**

Councilwoman Carol Imhof motioned, seconded by Councilman Ted Berndt, to accept, with regret, the resignation of Walter Korb from the Planning Board which was effective Sept. 30, 2009.

Vote: 5 – Ayes    0 – Noes

The vacancy will be advertised in The Eagle Newspaper. The candidates will be interviewed at the November 9, 2009 Town Board meeting.

Board members signed a letter thanking Mr. Korb for his many years of service to the town. Mr. Korb was one of the original members when the Planning Board was formed in 1987.

2) **Review of 2010 Tentative Budget**

Cambridge Valley Rescue Squad – Supervisor Trinkle spoke with Penny Spiezio who said the squad has had a tough year financially. They did not hold the annual ball, a major fun raiser, and have lost the contributions of two large donors. The 2001 vehicle is due to be repaired and money from the savings will have to be used. A new squad for 2010 has been ordered. Because of the loss of revenue and added expenses, the organization would appreciate the continuance of the town's \$5000 support. The Board agreed to leave the amount in the budget

**Village of Cambridge Fire Protection Contract**

The Cambridge Fire Company is asking for a \$1385.62 increase for 2010. Deputy Fire Chief Dan Baker explained there is a new line item in their budget this year for the maintenance and upkeep of the vehicles. The vehicles are old (one is from 1978) and as they age the company has to get involved in more maintenance and repair so a special account has been created for that purpose. After listening to Mr. Baker's explanation, the Board agreed to leave the \$1382.62 in the budget.

**Raises for Employees**

Presently, the only employees getting a 2% raise are full time people excluding the new town

clerk. It affects the highway crew and Highway Superintendent Eric Shaw. Councilman Ziehm thought Bookkeeper Margaret Shaw should be considered for a salary increase. She's an employee, does a lot of work and puts in a lot of hours. He also thought it would be beneficial to her if she did her work by computer even though she says she doesn't mind doing it by hand. Councilman Berndt commented that Quickbooks bookkeeping computer program can be purchased for less than \$200

A short discussion followed.

Mr. Ziehm added that some time in the future we need to look at other employees who have low salaries and consider raises. He said the historian has made the same pay for the last 26 years that he's been on the Board. He wonders why some even do the jobs.

Councilman Ziehm motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Imhof, to increase Bookkeeper Margaret Shaw's salary by \$200 for the 2010 year.

Councilman Joel Nichols suggested the raise be kept at 2% just to be in line with what the other employees are getting.

Councilman Ziehm amended the motion.

Motion by Councilman Ziehm, Seconded by Councilwoman Imhof

Resolved, that Bookkeeper Margaret Shaw be granted a 2% raise in her salary for the 2010 budget year.

Vote: 5 – Ayes 0 – Noes

Councilman Nichols remarked that two years ago the Cambridge Fire Department received a large increase of about 5%. In theory, it was a one time expenditure essentially for the purchase of new packs for the firemen. This year it's another 5%. The two other fire companies the town contracts with haven't asked for increases of that size.

Deputy Chief Dan Baker replied that the company is faced with state and federal unfunded mandates. He remarked that the real benefit of the fire company is the highly trained volunteers available to the public night and day. Last year alone, they had to have 2500 hours of training time. The taxpayers have never offered any complaints to the fire company for the level of service received. He said every penny of their fundraising goes back into the company. The company has been very aggressive in its grant writing having secured over \$280,000 since 2001. We are not buying extravagant equipment, but fire equipment is expensive. The equipment the firemen use is first class because they should not be expected to fight a fire with sub standard gear.

Supervisor Trinkle stated she has tried in the past to have the village fire company come up with a three year contract but has been unsuccessful. Deputy Chief Baker was agreeable to work on one for next year..

- 3) At 8:07 PM, Supervisor Trinkle opened the public hearing on the 2010 proposed fire protection contract with the Village of Cambridge in the amount of \$27,409. There being no comments from the public, the hearing closed at 8:07 ½ PM.
- 4) At 8:08 PM, Supervisor Trinkle opened the public hearing on the 2010 Preliminary Budget which revealed that \$574, 214 is to be raised by tax indicating a 1.89 % increase over last year.

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Special Meeting  
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Supervisor Trinkle remarked that it's a bare bones budget with 2% increases for the highway department and bookkeeper Margaret Shaw, \$5000 for annual update of properties and \$1386 for Cambridge Fire Department.

Councilman Nichols commented that, if the economy picks up, increased revenues may be seen in state aid, mortgage tax and interest rates.

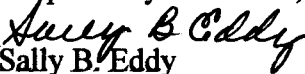
After all comments were received, the hearing closed at 8:15 PM.

Resolution by Councilman Ziehm  
Seconded by Councilwoman Imhof

Be It Resolved and Determined, that the Town Board of the Town of Cambridge does hereby adopt the 2010 Preliminary Budget as the Annual Budget for the Town of Cambridge beginning January 1, 2010 and ending December 31, 2010 with budget figures of \$957,189 for total appropriations, less \$261,975 in estimated revenues, less \$121,000 in unexpended balance resulting in \$574,214 to be raised by taxes.

Vote: Supervisor Trinkle - Aye	Councilwoman Imhof - Aye
Councilman Berndt - Aye	Councilman Nichols - Aye
Councilman Ziehm - Aye	

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was moved and carried to adjournment at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Sally B. Eddy  
Town Clerk