**BUDGET WORKSHOP**

**BAINBRIDGE TOWN BOARD**

**OCTOBER 15TH, 2019**

Present: Dolores Nabinger Supervisor

 Deborah Hromada Councilwoman

 Bob Evans Councilman

 Jennifer Sienko Councilwoman

 Kelly Hromada-Johnson Councilwoman

 Gary Richman Highway Superintendent

Recording Secretary: Aric McKown Town Clerk

 Supervisor Nabinger called the Budget Workshop to order at 4:35PM.

The town board met to review the proposed 2020 budget.

Councilman Evans asked about the interest and penalties for the town's property tax collection and when the town collected on that.

Councilwoman Hromada confirmed the collection time for interest and penalties was between February and May.

The town board held a discussion on increasing the amounts that are charged to the public for swimming lessons and the Playground Program. After discussing the matter, the town board agreed to raise those fees as follows:

Swimming Lessons

$20.00 for residents

$25.00 for non-residents

Playground Program

$20.00 per child

Town Clerk McKown suggested changing the fee for the rental of the large pavilion at Clinton Park. Instead of charging $150.00 for the security deposit and $350.00 for the rental, you charge a $100.00 security deposit and $400.00 for the rental fee. He said this would help the town to bring in more money.

Councilwoman Hromada talked about getting some statistics of numbers for lesson sign ups to see how many are residents and non-residents of Bainbridge.

Councilwoman Johnson said she would get with Recreation Director Palmer on that to see what those numbers are.

Hromada stated that having those figures would help the town by getting the village to commit to an payable amount for the youth program, every year.

The town board had a conversation about the village and town taxes.

Evans talked about the current status of the revenue coming into the town court from fines/forfeitures and when the Diversion Program money might be received. Councilwoman Johnson suggested speaking to either Court Clerk Bickford or one of the town justices to get some answers.

Court Clerk Bickford joined the meeting to confirm with the town board that the Diversion Program money is due in February, for $15,000.00.

Councilwoman Johnson noted that income from fines/forfeitures is down this year, and asked Bickford if that amount could be offset by the diversion money that's still due to come in. Bickford thought that was the case, and offered an explanation.

Councilman Evans stated that the ticket numbers are down and commented on a decrease in fines. Court Clerk Bickford thought the numbers were down for this time of the year. She informed the town board that they may start to see a decrease in fines, because of new regulation that has recently come out. Bickford gave an example, stating that if someone is charged with a misdemeanor, they no longer get arrested, but are directed to show up to court by an appearance ticket. The town board had a conversation about this matter.

The town board made revisions to the fines/ forfeitures and the Diversion Program, to put $20,000.00 in both fund. They talked about the 'Clean Up Day' fund and decided to raise the amount to $700.00.

Councilman Evans proposed the Town Board and Town Planning Board, not take a 2% raise this year. After some discussion, the town board concluded to not give the Town Board, Town Planning Board and the Supervisor, a raise this year.

Councilwoman Hromada suggested that the town put a 'moratorium' on spending money for the rest of the year. She talked about the importance of communicating with one another on what we're spending, so we can get back on track with the budget. Hromada gave an examples of when the town has spent money and didn't need to.

Councilman Evans mentioned the contractual for the Bookkeeper, and after some discussion, suggested increasing that amount to $3,500.00. He talked about the Contingencies Line and how that's being used. Evans also questioned the expenses for Clinton Park.

Councilwoman Johnson asked about NYSEG reading the meters at Clinton Park, before and after events. Town Clerk McKown brought up putting a call into NYSEG to have them do it. Councilwoman Hromada said the town used to have NYSEG do that, and that you could try and ask them to do that again.

Town Clerk McKown suggested again, increasing the rental fee for the large pavilion from $350.00 to $400.00. The town board held a discussion on this, and concluded to make that change.

Councilman Evans questioned the Youth Program contractual and what it entailed.

Councilwoman Hromada proposed getting a print out of all expenses for the Youth Program contractual, so the town board could see where the spending is going.

The town board held discussion on the expenses for the pool, that included WSI/Lifeguard training reimbursements. They also talked about changing the way the pool is staffed.

Councilman Evans asked if the tax money discrepancy was ever noted with our insurance carrier. Supervisor Nabinger stated that we had not talked to anybody yet, but that she would speak to JR Bogert with Gates-Cole Insurance about it.

The town board reviewed the fund balances in the DA, DB & A funds, and the possibility of having to override the tax cap this year.

Councilwoman Sienko brought up the funded amounts for the youth little league and football, and stated that both of these organizations do a lot of their own fundraisers, and are doing very well on their own. She suggested eliminating those funded amounts for this year, and the town board agreed.

The town board had a conversation about the town's medical insurance, how it was a great expense to the town, and that the town needed to make a change after the teamster's contract ran out in 2020.

Councilwoman Hromada gave an overview of how the tax cap worked and what happens before the paperwork gets submitted to the state. She asked the town board if they thought we needed to go over the tax cap this year.

The town board held a conversation on overriding the tax, and how small towns are challenged every year to try and stay under the tax cap.

**RESOLUTION #1**

Motion was made by Councilwoman Johnson, second by Councilwoman Hromada, to override the tax cap, if needed.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilwoman Hromada, Councilwoman Sienko, Councilwoman Johnson; No: none; Motion Carried.

The town board talked about the potential expenses coming out the DA Fund, but concluded that most of those expenses depended on what the weather does. They also decided to give the DB Fund a start income of $158,286.00.

Councilwoman Hromada noted that the town would need to hold a public hearing to override the tax cap, and that it becomes a local law.

The town board decided to hold the public hearing on Monday 10/28/2019 at 6:00PM, and asked Town Clerk McKown to get this notice to the paper.

Motion to Adjourn @ 6:20PM.

Respectively Submitted,

Aric McKown

Town Clerk