

Town of Mount Morris
Special Meeting
November 4, 2024

Present: Supervisor, David DiSalvo; Deputy Supervisor, Don Huff; Councilmember, Nate Guzzardi; Councilmember, Jeff Coniglio; Councilmember, Joseph Rawleigh

Also present: Accountant, Terri McKerrow; Town Clerk, Chelsey Woodworth

At 5:00 PM, Supervisor DiSalvo opened the meeting at the Town Hall at 103 Main Street Mount Morris, NY. This meeting was to review the Preliminary Budget for 2025.

Councilmember Guzzardi vocalized his disapproval for the budgeted amount for cemetery mowing. He said that there has to be a more cost-effective way to mow the Town cemeteries. Councilmembers Rawleigh and Coniglio agreed that the cemetery mowing has been a lot of money. Councilmember Coniglio said that the cemeteries look great. Supervisor DiSalvo said they have never had so many compliments about how good they look. They all still seemed to agree that the Town is spending a lot on mowing the cemeteries. They feel the cemeteries look great but think the Town could save money. They had a discussion about advertising for mowing again in February to see if they could get a lower bid. Councilmember Rawleigh brought up hiring part time workers to mow for less money than what had been quoted. The Board said they would like to revisit the cemetery issues before next season.

The Board made the decision to eliminate the Highway Superintendent's Secretary position and have the Town Clerk's Office help with the duties that this position fulfills. Supervisor DiSalvo recommended moving \$6000 to the Town Clerk's office to compensate for the excess work their office would be taking over from the Highway Superintendent's Secretarial position. Councilmember Coniglio said they should just split it in half between the Town Clerk and her office staff, with \$3000 allotted to the Town Clerk and \$3000 allotted to her staff. Clerk Woodworth said that she would like to have her staff in the office more so she would be happy with a \$2000 raise and allocating the other \$4000 to her office staff. The board agreed with the decision.

Terri McKerrow, the Town Accountant, discussed some other figures with the Board and the following changes were made to the budget:

- Town Board services increased by \$480 to include 2% raise
- Town Clerk services increased by \$6,000, which is \$2,000 to the Town Clerk and \$4,000 to deputies
- Other general gov't support increased by \$1,500 (this was not previously discussed but is necessary to support anticipated unemployment costs)
- Superintendent of Highway services-office decreased by \$21,000 (eliminating the Highway Superintendent's Secretary position)
- Cemetery contractual decreased by \$1,700 (to bring total to mowing quote of \$56,300)
- Employee benefits decreased by \$1,111 to correlate with decreased wages
- Employee benefits-med insurance decreased by \$9,447
- Miscellaneous revenue increased by \$1,625 for anticipated receipt of omitted taxes (figure obtained from Bill Fuller at the county)
- Interfund revenue-cemetery increased by \$10,000 (additional draw from cemetery fund)

The result of the board making these changes created a buildup in the General A fund of \$9,787 (previous budget version showed a use of fund balance in the amount of \$116, so this is a favorable difference of \$9,903) and a real property tax levy in General A of \$465,000 (a decrease of \$27,000). The total property tax levy is \$880,000. The omitted taxes that will be added to that figure for tax cap purposes is \$1,625. Adding those two figures together results in a total of \$881,625. With a tax levy limit of \$882,447, these figures put the town under the cap by \$822.

Meeting adjourned at 7:01 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Chelsey Woodworth
Town Clerk/Tax Collector