

Hamburg Town Board Work Session

Catherine A. Rybczynski, Clerk

11-2-2020

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| James Shaw, Supervisor | (Present) |
| Shawn Connolly, Councilmember | (Present) |
| Elizabeth Farrell, Councilmember | (Present) |
| Karen Hoak, Councilmember | (Present) |
| Michael Petrie, Councilmember | (Present) |

ALSO PRESENT: Catherine Rybczynski, Town Clerk; Samantha Tarczynski, Director of Finance; Kim Sessanna, Assistant Accountant; Walter Rooth, Town Attorney; Cami Jarrell, Town Engineer; Roger Gibson, Chief Code Enforcement Officer; Jennifer Robertson; IT Director; Ted Casey, Highway Superintendent; Kevin Trask, Chief, Hamburg Police Department

1.

RESOLVED, that the Town Board opens the Work Session at 4:30 P.M.

On a motion of Supervisor Shaw, seconded by Councilwoman Farrell, the following resolution was

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| ADOPTED | Ayes | 5 | Shaw, Connolly, Farrell, Hoak, Petrie |
| | Noes | 0 | |
| | Abstained | 0 | |

Supervisor Shaw opened the meeting by stating that CARES funding may fund the IT improvements rather than having to bond. This would include a new website for the town. It would take a good deal of time and probably better placed in the 2021 considerations.

Also, it may be more work than is able to be completed by the deadline for the remodel of the old dispatch area and thus better suited to be considered in 2021.

Ms. Farrell stated she would like to see the asbestos taken care of at the very least.

Samantha Tarczynski explains options, relative to issuing a bond or a BAN, to the board. She went on to recommend building in a \$20K contingency if the IT portion is not done. It would leave \$50K available.

Ms. Tarczynski stated that Ray Pawlowski is trying to get quotes on asbestos removal from old dispatch area by Friday.

Need to decide what will be done with the area or at least clear and abate the hazards and have it construction ready.

Move Community Development and sell building? Possibly Domestic Violence (would need a separate entrance). A community or board room that is ADA accessible is also to be included.

Councilman Petrie will meet with Mr. Pawlowski and try to get a cost put together prior to Monday.

Councilwoman Hoak pointed out regardless of what department goes into the space that it will be office space involving standard materials and knowing the exact department is not key to moving forward.

Supervisor Shaw brought up the possibility of a special meeting to approve the numbers for the old dispatch remodel if necessary.

A discussion regarding the additional proposed projects for bonding took place as follows:

LED - \$6.1 million – amount came directly from Tanko. Return on Investment = \$564K per annum, providing the funds for the bond program.

Nike Complex – Originally \$2 million, but there was a change in paving plan. Change to \$1.8 million. Ms. Farrell asked when the final scope of the project would be available. Mr. Connolly replied that they will firm everything up in the next week or so after meetings with the organizations, teams, associations, etc. and Mr. Denecke, Mr. Ryan and Mr. Connolly.

>Ms. Tarczynski stated that a Project Manager will be needed for each of the bonded projects due to multiple projects going on at once. Need to have someone accountable to keep the project moving forward.

Roads - \$200K - \$300K was the original range. Moving forward with \$300K

Golf Course - \$250K drainage and irrigation study will be completed prior to other work being done. The remaining dollars go to improvements at the club house and entrance to the course.

ADA Compliance - \$200K with additional funding coming from additional sources (CDBG, Assemblyman Ryan) \$150K in 2020 used for bringing Town Park/Beach into compliance; Hoping for \$75K in CDBG funds in 2021; \$75K from State Assemblyman Sean Ryan.

IT - Zero out and add \$20K contingency to the 2021 Budget. Currently the town website does not meet the ADA guidelines.

Drainage - \$40K allocated for Thurston, but low bid was \$29K

Community Paving Project - \$350K - \$400K – paving of Nike Base and Town Park/Beach

Former Police/Dispatch Area - \$400K pending info from Mr. Pawlowski

Drainage Study - \$130K Town Wide Drainage study or targeted areas?

>Councilwoman Farrell pointed out that a town wide study will provide a prioritized list, cost estimates, time tables, and the opportunity to approach drainage issues in a strategic fashion.

>Councilman Connolly expressed hesitation because of his concern that multiple studies have been conducted in the past and did not result in the issues being corrected. He also added that he would like some reassurance that the money will be there to perform the work needed identified in the study.

>Supervisor Shaw added that a town wide sewer and wastewater replacement is far too costly for the town to consider.

>Councilwoman Hoak stated that town is going to have to address drainage issues and a town wide assessment can help guide the work.

>Councilwoman Farrell commented that an attractive component of the study is having a comprehensive picture that allows for long range planning regarding town drainage issues.

BUDGET FOLLOW UP DISCUSSION

Councilman Petrie met with Planning Consultant Sarah desJardin to get clarification on a few aspects of her previous conversations regarding her 2021 contract. Mr. Petrie stated that the 70% Ms. desJardin referred to regarded her Zoning work only that could be transferred to Jane Kiener. She also stated that she needs more time for Planning and Planning Board functions. Mr. Petrie stated that Ms. desJardin requested the \$22K restored from the Administration Support line and could reduce the Zoning amount from \$7,500 to \$5,000. Mr. Petrie advocated for the restoration of funds stating that Ms. desJardin already performs a good deal of the work attributed to Wendell and is a great value to have on staff.

Mr. Shaw stated that he was reluctant to agree completely with Mr. Petrie's summation of the situation and thought consideration to reducing the Zoning line to \$2250 should be given.

There is currently an overlap between the work being performed by Ms. desJardin and Wendell. The cost of Wendell will need to be reexamined and a decision made as to whether or not to keep them on retainer, go hourly, better define responsibilities, etc.

Mr. Connolly stated that Ms. desJardin will see a reduction in workload and presented the idea that a 10% cut to the Planning line take place to reflect the reduction in work. He added that he believes that Sarah is integral part of the Planning Department.

The final figures decided upon were \$20K from Planning and \$2500 from Zoning.

Ms. Farrell asked what would be done about the amount for Wendell to which Mr. Shaw replied that it would be kept at \$66K.

POLICE VEHICLES

One Dodge Charger deleted from original request which will result in the department keeping one of the vehicles and therefore not being traded in at a price of around \$7K. This accounts for the increase from \$142K in the Supervisor's proposed budget to the circa \$149K proposed at meeting.

Supervisor Shaw asked why the Tahoe was being purchased rather than a Ford Explorer. Chief Trask responded that the Explorer is currently unavailable and on back order. Also, the Tahoe replaces another Tahoe being retired. Chief Trask stated that the department is looking at the Dodge Durango which is a less expensive alternative.

RECREATION VEHICLES

Mr. Denecke recently was informed that the Recreation Department could take advantage of an 80/20 split grant from the state on the purchase of a new vehicle. Over the past seven (7) years the grant has saved the town over \$400K. The cost to the town for 3 new vehicles is \$35K - \$45K in total. Typically the awarding of the grant happens earlier in the year, but was delayed as a result of COVID.

POLICE OFFICER NUMBERS

A discussion took place regarding the possibility of restoring the officer cut to the budget. Ms. Tarczynski provided the Board with Police Department manpower/staffing figures from similarly sized towns in the immediate area to serve as a comparison.

Chief Trask explained that the department is not actually at full strength due to a variety of situations with officers, such as COVID, Family Leave, injury, retirements, etc.

Councilwoman Hoak brought up the possibility of returning the 62nd position to the budget that is slated to fall off through attrition.

Supervisor Shaw expressed willingness to compromise and restore the officer as suggested by Ms. Hoak.

Ms. Tarczynski informed the Board that they would need to cover the tax on the cell towers located on town property and should be accounted for in future budgets.

Supervisor Shaw explained the sidewalk billing issue being addressed in Item #11.

The Board proceeded into the Regular Meeting following the Work Session after some reconfiguration of the room.

Open Meetings Law, Public Officers Law, Article 7, §106. Minutes.

Minutes shall be taken at all open meetings of a public body which shall consist of a record or summary of all motions, proposals, resolutions and any other matter formally voted upon and the vote thereon.

These minutes are an unofficial copy unless the original signature of the Town Clerk is affixed below. The original official paper minutes are stored in the Town's vault.

Catherine A. Rybczynski, R.M.C.
Town Clerk