

**PRELIMINARY BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING @ 5:45 PM**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**@ The Russell Town Hall @ 6:00 PM**  
**10/17/2017**

**PRESENT:**

Supervisor Best  
Councilor Burnham  
Councilor White  
Town Clerk -Tess Eells  
Councilor Kerr  
Councilor Whiteford -absent  
Highway Superintendent White

**GUESTS:**

Bobby Knox  
Larry Denesha  
Morris Jeffries  
Harvey Thomas  
Larry Denesha  
Mike Perry  
Tomarra Averill

The pledge

The Public Hearing Meeting was called to order at 5:45 Pm by Supervisor Best

- There were no comments from the galley.

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Burnham to leave the public hearing and go into the regular board meeting at 6:00 Pm

Ayes – 4 White, Burnham, Best, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

**RESOLUTION # 66** \* adopting Preliminary Budget as final budget for 2018

A motion was made by Councilor White

Seconded by Councilor Kerr

**Whereas**, the Russell Town Board gave the public the opportunity to voice for/or against the preliminary budget,

**Therefore**, the Russell Town Board adopts the Preliminary budget as the 2018 final budget

Supervisor Best- yes

Council Whiteford- absent

Council Burnham- yes

Council White- yes

Council Ker – yes

Motion carried

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION:**

- No comments

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor White to accept the minutes from 09/19 and 10/10 as presented by the Town Clerk.

Ayes-4 White, Burnham, Best, Kerr

Nays-0 motion carried.

**TOWN CLERK REPORT: 10/17/2017**

September Report:

18 dog licenses	108.00
Hunting licenses commission	313.03
2 Marriage Licenses Comm.	15.00
13 Certified copies	130.00
9 Building permits	225.00
0 impoundment fees	.00
Donations	.00
Fax & copy money	.00
<u>Revenue to supervisor:</u>	<u>\$791.03</u>
<u>Disbursed amounts:</u>	
Ag & Market (spay, neuter program)	30.00
NYS Department of Health	45.00
<u>Decals</u>	<u>5,363.97</u>
Total Disbursed	\$6230.00

A motion was made by Councilor White

Seconded by Councilor Kerr

To accept the clerk Report as presented

Ayes – 4 White, Burnham, Best, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

**BALL FIELD COMMITTEE REPORT:**

- Matt will be reimbursed for netting cost this month
- Harvey asked if the FD would be flooding the skate rink this winter. Larry said the highway department will not do the sand bags this year the children's committee can do it; they put them out last year and nothing was done and then they had to pick them up.

**SUPERVISORS REPORT: for October 18, 2016**

1. Financial Reports

- The details of all income and expense transactions for September have been filed with the Town Clerk.
- The account balances as of 9/30/2017 for the General Fund, Highway Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, and St. Lighting Funds have been filed with the Town Clerk.

• 2. **RESOLUTION** # 67 \* Budget Modifications

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Kerr to authorize the supervisor to do the following budget modifications:

- Transfer \$ 400 from A1620.1 (building & operations) to A7140.1 (recreation field).

- Transfer \$ 150 from A1990.4 (contingency) to A3310.4 (traffic control & signs)

Ayes – 4 White, Burnham, Best, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

3. Sales Tax. The county released information on the last quarterly sales tax revenue. The revenue is an increase compared to last year and to the last quarter of 2017. I do not have information on the amount Russell will receive but I expect it to be higher than last quarter. This will put our revenue budget back on track for the year.

4. Financial Stress Test. The State Comptroller has finished analyzing the financial stress and health of the Town. We scored a rating of zero which means Russell's finances are not stressed. The lower the score the less stressed a government is. The report is posted on the Town Website.

4. Correspondences

- We have received a letter from the US Postal/ we need to keep our PO here it is revenue for the town.

We received a letter from the DEC listing violations brought against Parkers old gas station.

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor White to accept the supervisor report.

Ayes- 4 White, Burnham, Best, Kerr

Nays- 0 Motion carried

#### **FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Harvey Thomas**

- We did Airvac recertification
- We will be doing ladder training tomorrow night
- We are having a ham dinner for election day November 7<sup>th</sup>
- We are doing a dinner on November 11<sup>th</sup> for Bryan Given
- Christmas lights will go up after Election Day
- December 2<sup>nd</sup> is Santa Day and Christmas trees will be for sale
- We had a live burn 2 weeks ago
- District 1 had a control burn in Rensselear Falls
- District 1 will meet to redo Tanker Task Force
- We did 2 luncheons for families
- Signs are up for the 10 ton weight limit on the bridge and law enforcement is watching it
- We did a bridge plan for when the bridge closes. It will be posted on the town web page.

**RUSSELL BRIDGE CLOSURE (10 Ton Limit) FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE INFORMATION**

1. Russell Rescue will respond to ALL ambulance calls.
2. Russell Fire Department will be responding to ALL Russell fires.
3. Hermon Fire Department will be on automatic for ALL Russell fires.
4. Fire calls at Edwards – Knox School- Russell Fire Department, Edwards Fire Department, Hermon Fire Department, Fine Fire Department will be on standby.
5. Fire calls in DeGrasse, Clare are Russell Fire Department, Fine Fire Department and Pierrepoint Fire Department.
6. Pyrites Fire Department is on standby at their station for all Russell fire calls.

**(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**

A motion was made by Councilor White and seconded by Councilor Burnham to accept the FD Report as presented.

AYES – 4 White, Burnham, Best, Kerr

NAYS – 0 Motion carried

Highway Superintendent White stated he talked with Don Chambers and he said they will raise the bridge about 3 feet because ice has hit it before. We are stock piling sand at Hermon as we will sand & plow Hermon roads and a couple trucks will stay at the pit. We will need to plug trucks in so I will have Darryn check out the power for it.

**Highway Superintendent Report: 10/17/2017 \* Larry White**

We have shimmed a few sections on Boyd Pond and Pyrites Russell roads and patched sections on the West and Lazy River roads.

We have completed shot rock removal and cutting the grade on the Mackin road intersection with CR 17.

We have cleared the spillway for a pipe on the Silver Hill road to increase the flow and worked to divert the water from a private road to stop it from running across our road.

We have purchased the gravel and added it to most gravel roads and re-sprayed with chloride.

We have stripped and cut down the top of our pit per MSHA recommendation.

We are working on mowing road sides back more as time allows.

We have completed our MSHA Annual refresher class.

We have started screening sand.

Due to the issues with the bridge we will be working with the County and Town of Hermon with snow removal.

This has been a busy month with good progress and I thank the men.

Morris asked are you going to plow the bridge with the pickup truck. Larry stated he will help the county out with that.

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Kerr to accept the Highway Superintendents report.

Ayes - 4 White, Burnham, Best, Kerr

Ayes – 0 Motion carried

**HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT:** N/A

**HORSE TRAILS REPORT:** N/A

**GRASSE RIVER BLUEWAY TRAILS REPORT:** N/A

**LEGISLATURE REPORT:** Larry Denesha

- We will hold a Public Hearing on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 Pm here in the community room to go over the design and time table of the bridge closure.
- The bridge may be down to one lane traffic for safety measures.
- We presented the tentative budget on October 7<sup>th</sup> and in 2017 it was \$7.85 per thousand and in 2018 it is \$8.35 per thousand.
- He explained how the county fund balance is looking.
- The counties stress test with comptroller the last 5 years was distressed and we are upgraded to accessible.
- Harvey asked Larry's input on the convention issue. Larry declined to comment. He did say he supports the Adirondack Park Preposition though.
- Supervisor Best stated the State is changing laws on vacant properties; they can go after individuals and force institutions to keep the property up.

A motion was made by Councilor White and seconded by Councilor Burnham to accept the legislature report as presented.

Ayes – 4 White, Burnham, Best, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

**RESOLUTION # 68** \* Audit Report-Robert Best & Sandy Burnham

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor White to authorize paying the following bills.

Fund	Vouchers	Total
General	246 – 270	\$ 7,250.99
Highway	174 – 192	\$59,357.52
Capital Improvements	0	.00
Street	10	<u>\$638.59</u>
Grand Total:		\$ 67,247.10

Ayes-4 White, Burnham, Best, Kerr

Nays -0 Motion carried

**OLD BUSINESS: NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Harvey asked if the Highway Department will check out the pump house.
- The board was given a packet from the Library showing their budget, a letter showing the library will be getting fiber optic internet and a letter showing Amber Lottie resigned from Trustee and the Library Board appointed Ellen Meilleur to the Board of Trustees.

A motion was made by Councilor White and seconded by Councilor Kerr to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm.

Ayes – 4 White, Burnham, Best, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

Respectfully submitted by  
Tess Eells-Russell Town Clerk

