

**MINUTES OF THE BUDGET WORKSHOP OF
THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF NEW LEBANON
HELD ON OCTOBER 7, 2022**

Present: Tistrya Houghtling, Supervisor
Marianna Anthonisen, Councilmember
Britt Buckenroth, Councilmember
Deborah Gordon, Councilmember
John Trainor, Councilmember

Recording Secretary: Marsha “Marcie” Robertson, Town Clerk

Others Present: Cissy Hernandez, ZEO
Jeff Hattat, CEO
David Farren, CAC Chair

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 3:00p.m. by Supervisor Houghtling. She reviewed the three changes that were made at the prior Budget Workshop.

CAC BUDGET REVIEW:

The Town Board discussed the CAC’s budget request with David Farren, CSC Chair in regards to ARPA funds. Supervisor Houghtling explained that the board has not figured out the allocation of ARPA funds yet and they are not comfortable implementing it into individual budget lines at this time.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT BUDGET REVIEW:

Supervisor Houghtling explained that the Building Department budget request this year is not a big increase or change from last year, but a question was brought up about how New Lebanon compares to other towns.

Cissy Hernandez, ZEO did some research and presented it to the Town Board. She explained that for comparison purposes she looked at towns that have a similar diversity in businesses, residential, agricultural and population as New Lebanon. Cissy presented the information on other towns that she gathered to the Town Board for Chatham, Greenport and Ancram.

Supervisor Houghtling stated that with approximately half of the population as Chatham we are doing about the same number of building permits. Supervisor Houghtling stated

that she has found that it is very difficult to do town by town comparisons because no two towns are exactly the same. The Town Board held further discussion with the Building Department and the Town Board was very pleased with the information that was provided to them.

PARK BUDGET:

Supervisor Houghtling updated the Town Board on why the park budget for this year has gone down so much from last year. She stated there were things such as the picnic tables, a push mower and a mower lift that they had budgeted for in 2022 that they don't need this coming year.

NEWSPAPER NOTICES:

Supervisor Houghtling reported that a resident came to her, loves that the Eastwick Press is our official paper because they do a really good job covering the town. She asked if we could have more than one official paper and possibly use a paper that is more a Columbia County coverage paper because Eastwick Press is more a Rensselaer County paper. The Columbia Paper and the Register Star are more Columbia County News.

Supervisor Houghtling stated that she explained that we do have two official papers, The Eastwick Press and the Register Star as needed but the Register Star is really only used if there is a time sensitivity or sometimes a large thing will go in both.

Supervisor Houghtling stated that she checked with the Town Attorney, we can at any time we go out for a notice for something, include it in extra papers. So, we can stick to the Eastwick Press, we still want to list the Register Star but at any point if we are doing something that seems newsworthy, we can include the Columbia Paper and add them to the Town Clerk's email blast. The Town Board discussed and agreed to increase the Central Printing and Mailing budget line to accommodate the additional paper.

MISCELLANEOUS BUDGET ITEMS:

The Town Board continued reviewing the 2023 Tentative Budget for all general accounts. The following changes were made:

Page 4. **Cent. Printing & Mailing, A-1670.4** increase from \$8,500 to \$9,000

Page 10. **CAC, A-8710.4** decrease from \$31,054 to \$1,054

Page 3. (Revenues) **ARPA, A-4900** decrease from \$30,000 to \$0.00

Page 11. **CSC, A-8797.2** decrease from \$54,847 to \$54,327

Page 12. **CSC, A-8797.4** increase from \$22,500 to \$23,020

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to adjourn the budget workshop at 3:44pm. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordon.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Buckenroth -	Aye
Councilmember Gordon -	Aye
Supervisor Houghtling -	Aye
Councilmember Trainor -	Aye
Councilmember Anthonisen-	Aye

Respectfully submitted,

Marcie Robertson
New Lebanon Town Clerk