

**TOWN OF BALDWIN
TOWN BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 6, 2021**

THIS REGULAR MEETING of the Town of Baldwin was held at the Town of Baldwin Town Hall and called to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. by Supervisor Purvis. Those present were Councilwoman Purvis, Councilman Steiner and Councilman Sherwood. Councilman Conklin was absent.

Also present were Faith Marmor, Robert Rosekrans, Paul Tillotson, Anna Pirro, Barbara Harding and Zebulin Wolcott.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Robin Rosekrans asked who would be handling the COVID funds, monies the town received, as well as expanding internet coverage and expanding to areas not yet covered, etc. Supervisor Purvis stated that they need to determine which areas should be the priority areas. He will be contacting Mr. Haefele and requesting that he come to hopefully the November 2021 Town Board meeting to discuss. In response to Councilman Steiner's comment as to not knowing where we stand with Spectrum at this time, Councilman Sherwood stated that the Director of Government Affairs for Spectrum has the information now. He will follow up with her in about a week or so.

COUNTY LEGISLATURE

The County Legislature was not in attendance and no report was given.

MINUTES

A Motion was made to accept the September 8, 2021 Town Board Meeting Minutes by Councilman Steiner, seconded by Councilwoman Purvis, All Ayes.

SUPERVISOR

The Town received a rebate check in the amount of \$500.00 (portion of surplus) from Comp Alliance for member appreciation.

The Town's allocation for 2022 for Chemung County Stormwater Team is \$506.00.

Judge Spencer mentioned the possibility of going to Clerk School and an increase in his contractual for same. Supervisor Purvis stated that maybe we put a little bit of money in his contractual for Clerk School as we have not yet been given an amount for this.

Supervisor Purvis is meeting with Nichole Cervoni from Sprague on 10/12/21 for the 2022 renewal policy concerning buildings and equipment insurance.

TOWN CLERK

The SAM Number and Registration is a work in progress.

HIGHWAY

Paul Tillotson reported that they helped the Town of Elmira haul for a couple days.

They helped Soil and Water for a couple days putting rocks in creek by Brown Road.

Pot holes and grading of bad spots on Ridge Road, Oak Hill, Hugg, Joe Green and Braybrook was done.

They took the 1 Ton to Elmira Springs for rear spring and put a new auger in for the sand spreader.

The Highway Department has been hauling in some winter sand.

Tree Doctor took the tree down on Elston Hollow Road for \$1,200.00 and the Highway Department cleaned that up.

They started to patch some of Elston Hollow Road with blacktop and the Town of Elmira will be coming over to drag box some parts for the Town of Baldwin when weather lets us.

Barb Harding spoke with Paul and we could do a resolution to rescind this year's increase in Chips to \$60,000.00. The Board agreed that Resolution No. 18-2021 (7R-2021) to increase Chips Revenue by \$60,000.00 and increase Appropriations by \$60,000.00 is rescinded in the form of a **Resolution No. 20-2021 (10R-2021)** by Councilwoman Purvis, seconded by Councilman Sherwood, All Ayes.

PUBLIC WELFARE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

There was nothing new to report.

BANNER PROGRAM COMMITTEE

A seasonal banner has been started, "Town of Baldwin Beautiful in All Seasons" with a picture of some kind with all the seasons on it. He is initially looking into getting four of them.

INTERNET PROGRESS COMMITTEE

There was nothing new to report.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

No report was given.

ANIMAL CONTROL

No report was given.

ASSESSOR

No report was given.

TOWN OF BALDWIN
INCOME AND EXPENITURES
SEPTEMBER 2021

INCOME:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 29,461.97
HIGHWAY FUND	<u>\$ 70,896.47</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 100,358.44</u>

EXPENDITURES:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 12,030.59
HIGHWAY FUND	\$ 31,053.09
TRUST AND AGENCY	<u>\$ 1,422.34</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 44,502.06</u>

TOWN CLERK'S MONTHLY REPORT

TOWN OF BALDWIN, NEW YORK

SEPTEMBER, 2021

TO THE SUPERVISOR:

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Pursuant to Section 27, Subd 1 of the Town Law, I hereby make the following statement of all fees and moneys received by me in connection with my office during the month stated above, excepting only such fees and moneys the application and payment of which are otherwise provided for by Law:

A2544	<u>7</u>	DOG LICENSES	<u>47.00</u>	
		TOTAL A2544		47.00
A2555	<u>1</u>	BUILDING PERMITS	<u>50.00</u>	
		TOTAL A2555		50.00

\$97.00

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to be heard.

NEW BUSINESS

2022 PRELIMINARY BUDGET - The Preliminary Budget was handed out to all Board Members, Town Clerk and Highway Supervisor. There were not a lot of changes in General other than any increases Faith Marmor had emailed her. Councilman Steiner asked if Niki from Sprague had given any amount for building/equipment insurance, to which Faith Marmor replied that she did and it is approximately a 4% increase not including exposure and experience changes. Barb Harding will be getting rid of line item "Telephone" as the "Building" line item is used more for telephone purposes. One thing that was a big change on General and Highway was the amounts for the retirement, estimate is \$18,542.00. The Code (Zoning) Contractual increase will be left in and the Board will request further information as to the amount for the Williamson program/software. For health insurance, she brought it down \$10,000.00. She loaded it last year because she did not know what to expect with the HRAs. Barb Harding would like to take the tax cap revenue to the max because that actually gives the Town more going forward. Otherwise, we work off a lower 2% of money. If she goes to \$227,000.00 and lets say with the tax cap we are allowed to go to the \$233,000.00 and she does not then the following year the Town is set on the \$227,000.00 to go off from for the 2%. Paul Tillotson's wage was increased. She lowered the Garage contractual (A5132.4) down to \$1,800.00 as only \$254.00 was used. This account for General purposes can be used for propane and electric, repairs etc. The Highway Department has a 2% increase for the most part, until get down to employee benefits as this was upped due to the State Retirement. She did take down Workers' Compensation to \$12,000.00 and health insurance was left at the \$24,000.00 which she does not think we need but it will be close. There was a brief discussion regarding Chips. Councilman Sherwood stated that the Town is deficit spending every year for the past at least six years and we keep doing the same thing. In 2020, we were short \$58,000.00. He asked what we are planning on doing to decrease that deficit spending? Supervisor Purvis mentioned cutting the Code contractual account and other things like that, we need to cut in every area. Councilman Sherwood replied that a desk calendar for documentation is not getting by as to the Code Enforcement Officer. Supervisor Purvis stated that the way it is done is by cutting some here and some there, do things that might not want to have to do but cut where you can. Councilman Sherwood stated that he would hope that probably in November we will see some suggestions on cuts for this year's budget then. Barb Harding stated that the tax difference is not that big of a difference from the prior year, it will be minimal that the tax payers will notice if any at all. She thinks getting that base where we should have it, that may say we have to put money here or we have to put money there - all the money in the budget is not spent. She stated that our sales tax has been cut and this is when we started seeing a difference in revenues and it is revenues we need more of. If we make the tax base what we can, what the state allows, we will have more revenue to cover some of that. We also need to look at fees and raising fees, dog license fees, etc. We need to cut somewhere but where do you cut? Councilman Sherwood stated that this is what he has been asking for six years now. The concern is that if we keep this up, he is not a fan of raising taxes, but at this rate we are going to end up like the Town of Chemung where if every year we say we are at the 2% we are good, eventually we are going to look at a 14%, 15%, 25% increase to make up for this.

Supervisor Purvis stated that for 2020 the sales tax revenue was way down and hopefully some of that difference is going to be made up this year. Councilman Sherwood stated that the municipal cuts from shares from the sales tax was decreased by the County. Supervisor Purvis stated that if it is on a percentage basis and they get say 50% more, then each town is going to get 50% too. We will get a lesser cut than we had before but if the revenue goes up a certain amount, the revenue that we get from the County is going to go up accordingly. Barb Harding stated that what other options does the Town have unless you go with a shared services or something like that. Councilman Steiner stated that we have no revues to speak of, there are no businesses here. Councilman Sherwood stated that he understands that but for the past six years the Town is not bringing in enough revenue to even decrease that shortfall every year. Councilman Steiner stated that the only thing we can do is raise the taxes. If you make it purely business, the only way you are going to recoup is to raise taxes. Councilman Sherwood stated that this is not his first go to, but again this has to be on everybody's mind - no matter what the Board looks like in the coming five to ten years this has got to be addressed in the next year, two or three because we are going to face a situation like Chemung did. Supervisor Purvis stated he can see that but we will see how our sales tax revenue comes in this year. We have to take into consideration that 2020 was a very unusual year, everything was way below than previous years. Councilman Sherwood stated that for the past six years this has been the same discussion, every year we are deficit spending. Supervisor Purvis stated that he thinks we are closer now then what we have been, considering how bad the revenue sources were this last year and we will see how close we come this next year and make a decision then. Paul Tillotson said that they cannot cut too much out back, he does not have much there to work with. A Motion was made in the form of a **Resolution No. 21-2021 (10R2-2021)** to approve the Preliminary Budget for the year 2022 by Councilman Steiner, seconded by Councilwoman Purvis, Supervisor Purvis Aye, Councilman Sherwood Nay. Faith Marmor will schedule a Public Hearing for November 3rd regarding the 2022 Budget.

2022 TAX COLLECTION AGREEMENT - A Motion was made in the form of a **Resolution No. 22-2021 (10R3-2021)** to accept the Tax Collection Agreement for 2022 by Councilman Sherwood, seconded by Councilwoman Purvis, All Ayes.

PAYMENT OF BILLS - A Motion was made to pay the bills by Councilwoman Purvis, seconded by Councilman Steiner, All Ayes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

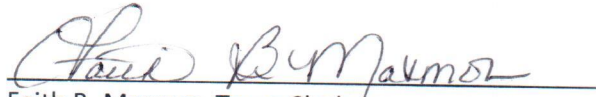
The Board did not go into Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Councilman Sherwood, seconded by Councilwoman Purvis, All Ayes.

THE NEXT MONTHLY BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN OF BALDWIN TOWN HALL ON
NOVEMBER 3, 2021 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2022 BUDGET
BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Faith B. Marmor", is written over a horizontal line.

Faith B. Marmor, Town Clerk