

Village of Schuylerville
Workshop
February 3, 2020

Mayor Carpenter opened the workshop meeting with an update regarding the progress so far on the budget process.

Rob Decker presented his budget. He stated that previously there were some items posted to equipment which should be posted to contractual. Village Clerk Helene Patterson stated that she had referred to the accounting manual provided by the New York State Office of the Comptrollers and that equipment should refer more to transactions which increase assets, not routine repairs and maintenance.

Rob Decker stated that he will work with Village Clerk Patterson to track repairs per vehicle and larger pieces of equipment to ensure that we are not exceeding the value of the vehicles or equipment in repairs. Clerk Patterson provided Decker with actual numbers for the utilities and uniforms. This allowed Decker to better estimate amounts he would need to budget for miscellaneous repairs and supplies.

For the next fiscal year's budget, Rob discussed some items that would need to be purchased. One was a new brush for the sweeper. The second request was for new rims for the old dump truck. The vehicle is in great shape except for the rims. Supervisor Decker felt that it would be a good investment to improve the image of the village.

The subject of the replacement of the shop lights to convert to LED was discussed. Rob Decker stated that Asko lighting quoted \$106 per light. This was significantly higher than the \$40 that had been suggested at a previous meeting, but Decker stated that he had been informed that the lights for the shop would need to be splash proof. To replace all the lights, just fixtures alone, he estimated to be \$3,710 for 35 lights. He did state however, that he felt that the LEDs might be substantially brighter and that we might not need to use as many as we currently have.

The next line to be discussed was Street Maintenance Contractual. Rob stated that the retention pond by Morgan's run would need to be cleaned this year. This has not been done since he has been the supervisor. He estimated \$20,000, which would include the rental of an excavator for three days and purchasing of the stones to replace that which will be taken out.

Rob Decker also gave his monthly report. There was only one issue that he needed to bring to the board, which was regarding the complaint by Ma. Van Hall regarding the pine lane stop sign and speed limit sign. After much discussion it was decided that both signs were legal and that the board would ask Attorney Kliengbiel to draft a letter stating thus. Moving the speed limit sign to a more convenient location for Ms. Van Hall could be addressed in the spring.

Charles Sherman presented on his sewer budget. After some discussion, the board determined that most of the lines would remain the same except for waste water treatment plant contractual. Mayor Carpenter asked Sherman to determine if there were any other major purchases that he would need to be making this fiscal year. Mayor Carpenter felt that if there were no large purchases that it would be safe to say that this budget line could be reduced to \$95,000.00. Sherman gave his monthly report. He stated that the plant has been on occasion running at full capacity this winter due to the warm conditions and heavy rainfall and that the plant was running in, "storm mode" for the majority of December and January.

Deputy Mayor Young stated that he felt that the village should send out letters forbidding the expulsion of sump pumps into sewer and storm drain systems.

Rob Decker asked if there were raises to be expected this year. Mayor Carpenter stated that at this point there was still a large deficit in the current tentative budget.

There was some discussion regarding the issue of trash removal. In a previous meeting, the board had presented the option of contracting out the trash removal. The main problem arising from that solution is how to retrieve the revenue without using garbage stickers

Village Clerk Patterson brought up the fact that since she worked at the Village 20 years ago the price of stickers has only gone up \$.50. She recommended that the board consider raising the price of the garbage stickers to cover the discrepancy between the expenditures and the revenue. She stated that she felt that the trash service was one of the few fair and equitable services that the Village offered, as they are a tangible controllable item.

Mayor Carpenter updated the board on the Climate Smart Committee. He stated that there would be updates at all monthly regular meetings. The minutes from these meetings are posted on the village website. The Climate Smart page can be accessed through the link on the front page of the village website, "climate."

Deputy Mayor Young asked what had happened regarding the sewer overflow on Green Street. He stated that he felt that he was not being provided with information about what was happening in the village. Mayor Carpenter stated that he would make sure that Young was kept informed in all matters in the future.

Mayor Carpenter discussed the meeting regarding the mill project. Attendees included himself, Jason Young, Charles Sherman, Mayor Dewey from Victory, Supervisor Tom Wood from Saratoga, Attorney Klingebiel, the engineer for the group doing the study for the mill project, Shelby Sneider from the Saratoga County Prosperity group and Gil Albert.

There was some discussion regarding water and cross connection issues but the majority of the time was spent discussing the challenge presented in how the sewer plant would handle the additional units from the mill.

About the definition of a water and sewer unit, Victory representatives stated that their village law agrees with ours that the calculation of units is one unit per dwelling, not per 3 bedrooms as the study had indicated.

The expected 38,000 gallons of flow was the main topic of discussion, and how we would be equipped to handle this additional flow. Charles Sherman expressed concern that the plant would not be able to handle this additional flow. Victory representatives stated that the litigation agreement had promised that we would provide service to these additional units.

The Village of Victory feels that the inordinate amount of I and I that we experience at our plant is not due to them; they feel that they have addressed the issue by restricting the residents from diverting their sump pumps to the sewer.

One of the topics of discussion was whether AECOM had lived up to their commitment to reduce the I and I as agreed. Deputy Mayor Young has a copy of the AECOM project plan and will report to us as he works through this task.

The comprehensive plan update that we will be working on will include a plan on how we will proceed to correct the issue of excessive stormwater infiltrating our sewer system. There are DEC resiliency grants available now that we have been advised to investigate. Mayor Carpenter expressed that New York State, facing the deficits that they are currently experiencing, may not be offering these types of grants for assistance with infrastructure in future years.

Tracey Clothier from the LA Group has advised that we should look into the North East Regional Grant for assistance with stormwater mitigations as well as DEC resiliency grants. She suggested that one of the things we should research is which of the sewer pipes were lined during

the sewer project. Mayor Carpenter stated that the town of Bolton had had their sewer pipes lined and reduced their I and I tremendously.

Mayor Carpenter reiterated the urgency for the board to move forward on the comprehensive plan. Blue Neils has given us some steps to mitigate some of the I and I. This will be a great start. We will need to include the cost to do this in our 2021 budget. He stated that the money is on the table now for infrastructure grants, and if we wait too long, these programs may not be available.

Wendy Lukas asked if we should mandate village residents to have their sewer lines from their house to the street inspected to discover if there is I and I coming from the individual lines.

Deputy Mayor Young made the motion to adjourn, Trustee Drew seconded the motion, all in favor, meeting adjourned.