

**VILLAGE OF TUXEDO PARK
SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
& BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING
APRIL 15, 2013
6:00 P.M.**

Present: Mayor Thomas Wilson
Deputy Mayor David du Pont
Trustee Alan Heywood
Trustee John Kilduff
Trustee Liane Neuhauser

Clerk: Deborah Matthews

Also: John Ledwith, Susan Goodfellow, Meg Vaught, Joann Matthews, Paul & Mrs. Gluck

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Trustee Neuhauser led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Wilson called for a moment of silence for the victims of the Boston Marathon Bombings.

Public Hearing – 2013-2014 Tentative Budget

Deputy Mayor du Pont/Budget Officer opened the hearing by stating the budget is worked on and discussed in public by the Board, but 90% of the work is actually done throughout the year by Village Clerk Debbie Matthews. He expressed his gratitude for all her hard work.

He noted that putting together a municipal budget is part science and part art. The only part that is science is debt service which is always a certainty.

Total appropriations in the 2013-2014 General Fund Tentative Budget is \$3,862,212 as opposed to \$3,585,833 in 2012-2013. This year's budget shows a modest increase of 1.9% which is less than \$50,000 overall. All Village employees have been given a 2% salary increase across the board, including the Police. The Village is willing to go to arbitration with the Police regarding the 2% increase because over the past five years the Police budget has gone up from 25.3% of the total budget to 28.2% in the coming year.

In addition, \$50,000 for lakes/reservoir management was moved out of the General Fund and put into the Water Fund. There is a slight increase in Garbage Contractual (8160.4A) as our current contract expires at the end of 2013. Regarding infrastructure, more money has been put into road paving (5110.4A), with paving planned for Tuxedo Road. The greatest increase is in Employee Benefits as health insurance and the NYS Retirement System are dictated by State and Federal governments and are not bound by the 2% rule.

The proposed tax rate is an increase \$.98 over last year.

Mayor Wilson noted that when the budget process was started for the 2013-2014 budget, the increase was at 6%, but the Board has gotten it down to a 1.9% increase. And there is always room for improvement.

Susan Goodfellow thanked the Board for allocating more money in the 2013-2014 budget for lakes/reservoir management. She noted that the Village is fortunate to have its own clean water supply. She cautioned that lake front property owners must be careful about building close to the water and to follow proper protocols for doing so as specified in the Village Code. She asked that the remaining proposals from Allied Biological be discussed at the April 23rd BOT meeting.

Mayor Wilson noted that fracturing in the bedrock also provides a pathway for pollutants to get into the water supply and is another reason for the Village to stay on top of lakes management.

The public hearing on the budget ended at 6:18 p.m.

Adopt 2013-2014 Budget

A motion was made by Mayor Wilson, seconded by Deputy Mayor du Pont that the Board adopt the 2013-2014 Tentative Budget as presented (appropriations of \$3,862,212 in the General Fund, tax rate of \$50.9646 per \$1,000 of assessed valuations and appropriations of \$765,168 in the Water Fund).

Vote of the Board: 5 ayes, 0 nays

The motion was passed by a 5-0 vote.

Tuxedo Park School Request to Stock Fish in Tuxedo Lake

A letter dated April 8, 2013 was received from the Tuxedo Park School asking permission to release about 150-200 10-14" trout into Tuxedo Lake, using the water plant facility this year because of the ongoing Tuxedo Club boat house renovation near the usual release site.

Susan Goodfellow, as Chair of the Environmental Committee, had no objection since releasing trout by the School has been done for the past several years without incident.

The Board was in agreement.

Tuxedo Road Wall/Causeway

Mayor Wilson stated that he has spoken to the homeowner (Cindy Booth) about a possible compromise, but is uncertain as to what direction things will move with the homeowner's solution to fix the wall.

A motion was made by Mayor Wilson, seconded by Trustee Heywood that the Board hold a hearing for solutions for maintaining and fixing the wall on Tuxedo Road on April 29, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. to be followed up with a notification letter to the Tuxedo Road homeowner, Cindy Booth.

Vote of the Board: 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention (David du Pont)

The motion was passed by a 4-0-1 vote.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mayor Wilson, seconded by Deputy Mayor du Pont that the meeting be adjourned at 6:22 p.m. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Matthews
Village Clerk-Treasurer