

October 29, 2018

Public Hearing on the proposed Preliminary Budget at 7:00 pm.. Councilman Zick was absent. All other Board members attended. Also attending were the reporter from the Millerton News, the highway Superintendent Heather Wilson and five members of the community.

Supervisor Cloud read the legal notice for the Public Hearing and opened said hearing.

Resident Richard Brenner asked about the increase in the Supervisors salary budget line and was told it is for the increase in hours of the Bookkeeper by the Supervisor. Rich also had questions regarding the salary line of the Assessors and the MTA Tax. Supervisor said we have not had to pay the MTA Tax for a couple of years.

Highway Superintendent – Heather said she had a meeting with Supervisor Cloud and Councilman Bartles. She sees reductions in the miscellaneous repairs salary line and the snow removal salaries line.

She said this will really hurt the department as it is now proposed. Discussion followed on the Highway budget.

Resident Brenner said regarding our Workers Compensation the cost is due to an employee that is no longer here. Can our Broker look into another company? Supervisor said we changed to Comp Alliance as they have the best price. Brenner also questioned why our Health Ins. went way up and Supervisor said it went up enormously. Brenner also asked why the Park and Recreation charges went down and Supervisor stated these are the true figures. Rich suggested bringing in money through advertising.

Resident Scott Chase said there are two Norway maple trees in the Bethel Cemetery that need to come down before they ruin the grave markers.

Discussion followed on the Fund Balance; there is currently \$921 thousand dollars in the General Fund Balance. Councilman Jones stated that our bookkeeper Karena Frenzel is doing an excellent job.

Town Clerk asked why her salary budget line went down and was told because she only has one Deputy now. Harpp added that she will get another and was told the Board can handle that.

Motion by Bartles second by Jones to close the Public Hearing. 4-0 passed.

Motion by Bartles second by Chase to go to Executive Session regarding the budget. 4-0 passed.

Before going to Executive Session Councilman Jones said the Board needs to put Louis Loeb's letter on the agenda; and Supervisor said we need to vote on making this proposed preliminary budget the Preliminary budget before Nov.8th. Board now went to Executive Session.

Motion by Cloud second by Bartles to return to regular order of business. 4-0 passed.

Motion by Cloud second by Bartles to now make the proposed preliminary budget the Preliminary budget. 4-0 passed.

Motion by Bartles second by Jones to adjourn. 4-0 passed.

Town Clerk

Supervisor _____

Councilman Jones _____

Councilman Bartles _____

Councilman Chase _____

Councilman Zick absent _____