

**HORICON TOWN BOARD  
MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2014 BUDGET**

**OCTOBER 24, 2013  
6:00 PM**

Present at meeting:      Ralph Bentley                      Supervisor  
   Frank Hill                              Councilman  
   Robert Olson                          Councilman  
   Kenneth Higgins                      Councilman  
   Matthew Simpson                      Councilman  
Krista Wood                      Town Clerk

Also: Dan Freebern, Bill McGhie, Tom Johansen, Christine Hayes, Harry Balz, HS Paul Smith, Sandy Smith, Gary and Georgia McMeekin, Joe and Sandy Simpson.

Supervisor Bentley called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. He opened the Public Hearing and asked for comments from the audience.

Councilman Higgins noted that there was no raise for HS Smith in the Budget. He said it has been a couple years since HS Smith has had a raise and he feels HS Smith should get something. Supervisor Bentley asked the Highway Committee for their recommendation. There was discussion back and forth between the Board members and HS Smith. Councilman Hill said he and Councilman Simpson will talk to HS Smith in the morning and let the Board know of their decision.

Councilman Hill asked if the monies for the Meade Road culvert and the dump box were in the Budget. Supervisor Bentley said they were, and HS Smith said money had also been budgeted for a new pickup. Councilman Simpson asked if the parts for the Grader were included and HS Smith said he had put in for them but thought the Board had reduced the code.

Councilman Hill asked if there had been any request from the Chamber of Commerce, and Supervisor Bentley said they had submitted their requests.

Harry Balz said he feels this is a reasonable and responsible Budget, and said the Board should adopt it in the current format.

Dan Freebern asked why there were changes in the Assessor code. Supervisor Bentley explained that they went from a part-time Assessor, part-time clerk, and part-time Data Collector to one full-time Assessor who is doing everything. Dan also asked how much the tax increase will be if the Budget is adopted "as is". Supervisor Bentley stated it will be 1.66%.

Joe Simpson said he was very impressed with the financial responsibility the Town has shown. He also commended the Board on what a great job they have done with everything.

Councilman Olson asked if the Public Hearing could be left open and Supervisor Bentley said it could.

The Board agreed to adjourn the Public Hearing until Tuesday, October 29, 2013 at 3:00pm at which time they will re-convene the Public hearing for the 2014 Preliminary Budget.

**Regular Meeting:**

-Councilman Simpson said both of the boilers at the Highway Garage are not working. He has a quote from Hill Plumbing and Heating listing several options. Boiler #1 can be repaired at a cost of approximately \$550.00 for the parts. The labor has been estimated to take 2-3 hours. Boiler #2 can either be repaired or replaced. The cost to repair Boiler#2, which is under warranty, is estimated at \$2,500.00. The cost to replace Boiler #2 with a new one is estimated at \$3,000.00. Councilman Olson noted that since there is no heat at the Highway Garage this should be deemed an emergency. Councilman Simpson said the hot water heater also needs to be replaced and he has a quote of \$1,500 for a new one.

**RESOLUTION NO. 144 OF 2013**

Messrs. Olson and Higgins introduced Res. No. 144 and moved its adoption, all Ayes:

**RESOLUTION TO DECLARE EMERGENCY**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby declare the failure of both boilers at the Highway Garage an emergency due to there being no heat in the Highway Garage.

**RESOLUTION NO. 145 OF 2013**

Messrs. Olson and Hill introduced Res. No. 145 and moved its adoption, all Ayes:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE NECESSARY REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENT OF HEATERS AT HIGHWAY GARAGE**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the repair of Boiler #1, the replacement of Boiler #2, and the replacement of the hot water heater at the Highway Garage at a cost not to exceed \$6,500.00.

-Councilman Olson told the Board that Apex Solar has withdrawn their bid proposal for the solar project. In light of this, he asked if the Board was agreeable to moving ahead with Monolith. He reminded the Board that they had already passed a Resolution authorizing the Supervisor to sign the contracts. The Board agreed they should move forward with Monolith.

**Adjourn...**

There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 6:28 PM by MOTION of Messrs. Olson and Hill, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Town Clerk