

RUTLAND TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 25, 2013

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The Rutland Township Board held a Special Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the town hall for the purpose of discussing procedures of voting on the Road District Budget. Supervisor Sanders called the meeting to order and then led everyone in the Pledge to the Flag. Roll call showed the following board members present: Supervisor Sanders, Clerk Schultz, Trustees Payson, Schuldt, Schultz and Swanson. Also present was Assessor Siers. Highway Commissioner Schultz was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

T.R. Smith then stated that he has received today 19 pages listing seniors that will not be getting Senior Freeze Exemption this year, based on the fact that most of the assessed evaluations have fallen below the base rate of when they applied for the Senior Freeze.

Resident Herm Faubl made comment on the Road District Budget.

Public comment was also made by Assessor Siers on the Road District Budget.

Supervisor Sanders then went over the Levy for the Road District which was approved at the board meeting in December of 2012 in the amount of \$456,850.00, and the Levy is as follows. Road and Bridge Fund \$24,350.00, Permanent Road \$420,000.00 and Equipment and Building \$12,500.00. She also went over the \$63,000.00 that was carried over from the reserves last year for road work that was not used so it was put back in this budget.

Supervisor Sanders then went over the timeline for the lead up to Road District Budget Hearing. Prepared proposed budget-January 31, 2013, published notice in local paper-February 8, 2013 which allows the 30 days for public inspection- after February 10, 2013 public inspection up through the time of hearings for Town and Road District to be held at 7:00 p.m. on March 12, 2013., with Road Budget Hearing following Town Budget Hearing, Adopt Road District Budget- Postponed to April 16, 2013. The calendar was set back and agreed upon at the October 2012 board meeting for the dates of the hearings.

Supervisor Sanders then went over the business for the meeting and asked for a motion for the reconsideration of action taken at the April 16, 2013 board Meeting. ***A motion was made by Trustee Payson and then seconded by Trustee Schuldt, Supervisor Sanders than stated that it has been moved and seconded to reconsider the action taken at the April 16, 2013 board meeting on the Road District Budget for FYE March 31, 2014.*** Supervisor Sanders then started the discussion on the Road District budget by going over the one she handed out to the trustees at this meeting with the total amounts penciled in on what was the exact amounts spent for the Road District as of March 31, 2013, and the total amount spent was \$423,569 out of the \$455,000.00 that was budgeted. Discussion continued between Supervisor Sanders and Trustee Schuldt on the purpose of this meeting and we need to decide to go ahead and approve the budget if everyone was in an agreement with doing that and we would not have to post the budget again but also stating that we need to decide if we can all agree on this budget. Discussion continued and Supervisor Sanders than read the letter from the township attorney Ron Roeser giving options on what can be done about the adoption of the Road District budget at the April 16, 2013 Board Meeting stating at this time it remains a board decision and perhaps one for which a special meeting might be called. A motion for Reconsideration may be in order and also noting the

Township has an obligation to adequately fund his office. Discussion continued with Trustee Schuldt on having two full time Road District employees, Trustee Payson had questions on the payroll tax increases which is set at \$20,000.00 for the new budget as the old budget was at \$16,850 and was projected to use \$12,500 and ended up short when the tax increase came into effect in January and needed to transfer \$1,341.00 to that account. Supervisor Sanders than answered that the taxes have increased as of January 1, 2013 that is when the higher tax rate went into effect and that at this time we have only paid the increases for the first three months. Discussion continued on wages for the road crew Trustee Schuldt saying we went up \$25,000.00 and Supervisor Sanders asked where he was looking because we did not go up \$25,000.00 we actually went down in that account \$9,000.00. Last year for the 2013 was budgeted at \$159,000.00 and total used was \$124,959.00 and this year for 2014 it has been lowered to \$150,000.00. Discussion continued on how much snow/ice we will get next year, and the price of fuel, Vehicles and Equipment. Discussion continued with Trustee Schuldt wanting to know why we have a lawn service and why do we not do that ourselves. Supervisor Sanders then stated we need to back up and we voted in a Highway Commissioner four years ago he has the right to decide how he is going to run the Road District, and he has chosen to hire people to work here and to run the trucks that we own and keep the trucks that we own in good condition, he was re-elected to another four year term and it is his choice on how he wants to run the Road District. Trustee Schuldt then stated that it is our choice to determine the budget and Supervisor Sanders replied to a point but we do have to fund the Road District so this is why we are here to decide the funds we should appropriate to run the Road District, and as you can see the funds that were spent last year were in line with the budget and the funds are in line with the new budget. She then asked if anyone else had any more questions or anything more that they want to discuss about the budget. Trustee Schuldt then asked if this was a budget meeting or hearing tonight. Supervisor Sanders then stated that it is a continuation of what was not finished form the last meeting. This is not a published hearing but if this board decides that we need another hearing then we have to publish this thirty days prior and the next available time would be at the June 11, 2013 board meeting. Discussion continued between Supervisor Sanders and Trustee Schuldt. **Trustee Payson then made a motion that we publish this again, do a public hearing and schedule it with the required thirty days. Supervisor Sanders stated that we have not yet voted on the first motion to reconsider the action taken at the April 16, 2013 board meeting, she than asked Trustee Payson which action did he want and Supervisor Sanders asked him to clarify the motion he made and he made a motion that he would like to reschedule the budget at a proper hearing as suggested by the township attorney so we do this correctly. A second motion was made by Trustee Schuldt. Trustee Swanson than asked what the motion is and Supervisor Sanders stated that the motion is to wait until the June meeting to again have a hearing on the Road District Budget, and she then asked to call the vote. Vote: roll call vote.**

2012-04-01 Payson yes, Schuldt yes, Schultz no, Swanson no, Sanders no. Motion carried.

Supervisor Sanders than made a motion to retain the proposed Road District budget that was presented at the February meeting for the March 12, 2013 budget hearing, and it was seconded by Trustee Schultz.

Supervisor Sanders then saying the budget is in the same order as the Tax Levy Ordinance that was approved by this very board back in December of 2012 and we will vote on it again in June after we post for the hearing again. It has been moved and seconded that we will pass the budget at the June meeting with the numbers that were presented at the March 12, 2013 board meeting. Vote: Roll call vote.

2012-04-02 Sanders yes, Schultz yes, Swanson yes, Payson yes, Schuldt no. Motion carried.

Discussion continued on the setting of the next public hearing for the Road District budget being on June 11, 2013. Budget Inspection will begin at 6:00 p.m. on June 11, 2013, with the Road District Budget Hearing starting at 7:00 p.m. with the regular board meeting immediately following the Road District Budget Hearing. Supervisor Sanders than asked for a motion to set the date of the Road District budget hearing, and **a motion was made by Trustee Payson and seconded by Trustee Schuldt and the vote was then called. Vote: Roll call vote.**

2013-04-03 Payson yes, Schuldt yes, Schultz yes, Swanson yes, sanders yes. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further **business a motion was made by Trustee Payson and seconded by Trustee Schuldt to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m. Vote: voice vote**

2013-04-04 all yes

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Debra Schultz, Township Clerk

John Payson, Trustee

Steve Schuldt, Trustee

Katherine Schultz, Trustee

Beulah Swanson, Trustee

Margaret Sanders, Supervisor

4/25/2013