

**RUTLAND TOWNSHIP
TOWN FUND BUDGET HEARING
MAY 8, 2018**

The Rutland Township Board held the Town Fund Budget Hearing at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall for the purpose of discussion and approval of the proposed Town Fund Budget for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2018 and ending March 31, 2019.

The meeting was opened by Supervisor Sanders at 7:00 pm. Trustee Hoffman led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken. Present: Supervisor Sanders, Clerk Rendl, Trustees Carlsen, Eaton, Hoffman and Keegan. Also present were Assessor Fritz and Road Commissioner Schultz.

Motion to approve the May 8, 2018 Town Fund Budget Hearing Agenda made by Trustee Eaton. Seconded by Trustee Carlsen. Roll call vote.

Eaton	yes	Carlsen	yes
Hoffman	yes	Keegan	yes
Sanders	yes		

Motion carried. 2018-05-01

Town Funds Budget

Discussion on the Town Fund Budget Appropriations was opened by Trustee Carlsen. The line item expense of Capital Outlay-Equipment is changed from \$10,000 to \$2,000 (no lawnmower purchase). Lawn maintenance is revised from \$500 to \$2,120, (the approved lawn maintenance contract amount). Audit expense is shared 50/50 between the Road District and the Township; each will have an expense amount of \$3,350. Discussion took place. Supervisor Sanders made the following changes based on the actual bill for workmen's compensation insurance to \$3,185 from \$3,200 and liability and property insurance to \$2,744 from \$2,800; The \$10,000 for busing is deleted. Dues and subscriptions increases from \$1,500 to \$1,700; Trustee Eaton would like to have Training increased from \$1,800 to \$2,100; discussion. Training is increased to \$2,100. Travel and Auto reimbursement increases to \$1,000; Trustee Carlsen suggested legal fees should increase, Supervisor Sanders disagreed stating that the township legal expenses excluding the court proceedings brought last April were only \$1,115.63 and there should be no reason to increase the budgeted amount. Discussion. Legal expense remains at \$8,000. Web maintenance increases to \$2,000 from \$1,800. **Total Contractual Services total changes from \$49,630 to \$41,829.**

The TOIRMA Rebate amount decreases from \$1,000 to \$895 and the Rental/Fines total increases from \$150 to \$255. With those changes, the **Total Revenue amount does not change from \$269,800.**

In Expenses, (Salaries) payroll taxes need to be increased from \$7,100 to \$8,200.

Total for Personnel Expenses is \$105,950.

In Commodities, operating supplies increase to \$1,000 bringing the **total for Commodities to \$2,000.**

Capital Outlay: Equipment is set at \$2,000.

Cemetery is set at \$2,200 for maintenance expense.

Building and Grounds, will be set at \$3,000 because of upcoming projects, ie., railing, roof repairs, exterior painting. Discussion took place regarding the parking lot improvements with additional explanation given by Commissioner Schultz.

General Assistance is set at \$6,000 the approximate cost to cover two people for 1 year. **Total General Assistance is \$9,015.**

TOTAL EXPENSES equal \$165,994. Motion to accept the Township Budget Total Expenses, with the aforementioned changes, (excluding the Assessor's budget) in the amount of \$165,994.00 made by Trustee Eaton, seconded by Trustee Carlsen. Roll call vote.

Eaton	yes	Carlsen	yes
Hoffman	yes	Sanders	yes
Keegan	yes		

Motion carried. 2018-05-02.

Assessor's Budget

Supervisor Sanders stated that the Trustees had been given the Assessor's budget that was submitted in January in the amount of \$256,400. This evening, the Assessor presented a revised budget in the amount of \$205,100. Supervisor Sanders began the line-item review with Salaries; with the requested amount of \$144,680 – a 62% increase over the past year. Trustee Eaton asked the Assessor how many employees were currently working, the answer given was 2-1/2. Trustee Eaton stated that the information provided tonight listed 6 names. Discussion then took place with the Assessor stating there had been 2 temporary employees who were no longer working for him. Additional discussion took place with Supervisor Sanders stating the last payroll was submitted with 169 hours. Oratory by Assessor Fritz with admonishment by Supervisor Sanders to keep comments to the questions asked. Trustee Eaton asked for information regarding the people employed and their experience. Discussion took place

regarding the current Assessor from Batavia being employed in Rutland Township and the current Assessor of Rutland being employed in Batavia as well as in DuPage County. Further discussion then took place regarding the daughter of the Batavia Assessor Tammy Cavanaugh, (Riley Cavanaugh) also being employed. Trustee Keegan questioned “who else was on the Assessor’s payroll and still working?” The answer given by the Assessor was: Bonnie Wilcox, who previously worked with the Assessor in DuPage County, Jessica Vincenz, Alex Fritz. Trustee Keegan questioned the compensation Alex receives with further oratory rebutting the comparison of townships made by Assessor Fritz defending his payroll. Trustee Keegan further stated that only 1 or 2 cars have been seen in the parking lot during the day. Assessor Fritz stated the computer work can be/is done at night. Supervisor Sanders then stated that using the previous payroll of \$5,564, multiplied, will equal \$66,000 for the rest of the year; the Assessor is asking for \$144,000. Trustee Hoffman clarified with Assessor Fritz that the 2 additional employees who had been brought on board were to “get caught up” and that the 2-1/2 full-time employees had not been capable of getting “caught up”; was it Assessor Fritz’s assertion going forward, that those 2-1/2 employees and the Assessor should be able to maintain the hours and office? Answer given by the Assessor “yes”. Supervisor Sanders reiterated that the \$144,00 does not include the Assessor’s salary since that is paid by through the elected officials. Additional discussion took place. Trustee Eaton then stated the Assessor himself had stated in his newspaper article that a budget of \$165,00 would be sufficient. Further discussion. Trustee Eaton suggested that for next year, the Assessor provide documentation on his employees’ hours, the number of people that come into the office and the calls made from the office to support his budget; this year Trustee Eaton would not support the requested budget amount and would suggest \$160,00 as the total amount. **Motion was then made by Trustee Eaton and seconded by Trustee Keegan to adopt the Rutland Township Assessor’s budget in the total amount of \$160,000.00. Vote: Roll call vote.**

Eaton	yes	Keegan	yes
Sanders	yes	Hoffman	yes
Carlsen	no		

Motion carried. 2018-05-03.

Supervisor Sanders then asked if Assessor Fritz would like to go back over his line-item amounts – answer given “no, they’re fine.” Supervisor Sanders asked if he was going to decide where the funds were going to be reallocated since the overage was \$45,000 above the approved budget amount. Discussion took place regarding the amounts for maintenance and legal expenses. Trustee Hoffman asked if there was a specific reason the legal expense had been increased. Answer given was “not sure what was going to happen with this evening with the budget.” Supervisor Sanders then asked if the Assessor would please turn in the revised budget to the Supervisor by the end of the week since the Clerk has to file the approved budgets with the County within 30 days. Assessor Fritz said he would do that. Additional discussion took place.

Motion was then made by Trustee Hoffman and seconded by Trustee Eaton to adjourn the Town Fund Budget Hearing for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2019.

Vote: voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. 2018-05-04.

Meeting adjourned 8:38 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen J. Rendl

Kathleen J. Rendl, Township Clerk

Accepted:

Margaret Sanders, Supervisor

Thomas Ray Eaton, Trustee

Charleen Carlsen, Trustee

Nicholas Hoffman, Trustee

Victor Keegan, Trustee

