

**COMMITTEE MEETING  
LAKE PLEASANT, NY  
WEDNESDAY  
NOVEMBER 12, 2014**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE  
BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
BUDGET REVIEW  
9:30 PM**

Members present: John Frey, Bob Edwards, Brian Towers and Neil McGovern

Also present: Bill Farber, Phil Snyder, Clark Seaman, Brian Wells, Rick Wilt, Frank Mezzano, Marie Buanno and Cathy Rogers

Mr. Frey introduced the Board of Election's Commissioners.

Commissioner Buanno started out with discussing salaries, they put in the tentative budget a 10% raise for themselves. She explained that most deputies in other counties make more than what they are making and they are expected to do more and more every year and they do not have staff.

Mr. Frey explained that there will be meeting November 18<sup>th</sup> to discuss all salaries that were put in the tentative budget that were requested beyond the 1.75% COLA increase.

Commissioners' Buanno and Rogers requested creating another payroll line 1450.108 titled Primary/Election. They would like to pay \$200.00 to their programmers to create the ballot. Commissioner Buanno has fears of losing her programmer due to another job that she has. It would be a total of \$800.00 budgeted per year depending on how many primaries and elections we have for that year.

Mr. Farber stated this is consistence with what we do with the technicians. Have you thought about a higher hourly rate for the actually time that they are programming so you don't get into, for example, you have a general election ballot that could be five days so the \$200.00 wouldn't work so well. Should we simply think about whether programmers by their training have a higher level of capability than your typical temporaries and that you should simply set an hourly rate for them that is significant so they don't feel bad about leaving their jobs to program for us. Commissioner Buanno stated if that person leaves it will cost \$4,500 for a three day training for a new employee.

Mr. Farber suggested they put \$1,000 in the budget with the option of using it for an hourly rate or a flat fee. They agreed to create line item 1450.108 with the title primary/election with a \$1,000 budget.

Commissioner Buanno reported that they would also like to increase the hourly rate for their election workers to \$12.00; the last increase was in 2008. They are receiving \$10.00 per hour right now. Mr. Wilt suggested they give them COLA increases yearly.

Mr. Farber asked if the budgeted \$25,000 could cover an increase. Commissioner Buanno stated yes for this year because there is only two elections.

Mr. Farber stated as long as there is significant funds in that line he doesn't have a problem with them submitting a resolution for an increase for the workers.

Mr. Frey stated going along with Mr. Wilt's suggestion we might want to put that under COLA for them.

Commissioner Rogers discussed their software contract regarding viruses.

Mr. Farber stated being a contract through OGS we might not be able to amend the next contract to include viruses.

Mr. Farber wanted to discuss line items 1450.407 and 1450.409 that they are not spending anywhere near what is budgeted. He read off what they have been expending the past few years. If it is not really needed he feels that their budget could be flat if they reduce each of those lines by \$500 and put that total of \$1,000 in the line item 1450.108 for programmers.

Mr. Frey stated that we talked about this in previous budget reviews, we just don't want to create peaks and valleys where it's too hard to move money back to. Even though we don't like place holders, sometimes it's necessary as in this case.

Mr. Farber stated there isn't that much fluctuating.

It was agreed they will take \$1,000 out of the General Election line and leave the Primary line alone. 1450.409 will be decreased \$1,000.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE  
SHERIFF  
BUDGET REVIEW  
10:00 PM**

Members present: John Frey, Bob Edwards, Brian Towers and Neil McGovern

Also present: Bill Farber, Phil Snyder, Clark Seaman, Brian Wells, Rick Wilt, Frank Mezzano, and Karl Abrams

Mr. Wilt stated that they asked Sheriff Abrams to come to discuss the email that he sent out to the Board members.

Sheriff Abrams explained that he sent out the email because he would like to add a new line to his budget titled Deputy Sheriff D in the amount of \$38,295 to hire Deputy Knapp. Deputy Stuart will be going but it might not be until spring/summer and he wants to fill that void.

Sheriff Abrams explained his need for this Deputy position. Arrest are up from last year, DWI and Felony DWI's are up etc. He doesn't want to have a staff analysis for fear of being told that we are way under staffed.

Mr. Farber asked if he would have Deputy Knapp dedicated to filling in at the jail when needed to help cut down on overtime as well as on road patrol. Sheriff Abrams stated definitely he would. Mr. Farber feels that if Deputy Knapp covers any shifts to cut out the overtime at the jail his salary could get to a breakeven point.

Mr. Frey asked the members if anyone had any objections for this position, no one objected. Mr. Frey agrees to this position as well as Mr. Edwards.

Mr. Wilt stated before he became Supervisor he has always felt that the Sheriff's Department is understaffed.

Mr. Farber stated we will be doing salaries next week and suggested the Sheriff get together with Budget Officer Mezzano to get some concrete numbers in for that meeting.

Mr. Wilt asked about a vehicle, Sheriff Abrams stated he has one, the 2009 Tahoe. The 2015 Tahoe should be coming in soon.

Mr. Wilt asked when we sell a vehicle in other departments does that money go back to that department?

Mr. Farber stated it goes back to the general fund; we have a revenue line item and explained further.