

# March 13, 2017

## Body:

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, March 13, 2017, in the Village Hall. Mayor Westcott opened the meeting at 4:30 p.m. Also present were Deputy Mayor Conley, Trustee Blumrick, Trustee McAvoy, Trustee Edwards, Coordinator Bobbitt, Chief Swick, and Clerk-Treasurer Schweigert. A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Conley, and seconded by Trustee Edwards, to approve the wage changes for the 2017-18 budget as discussed at the March 6, 2017, budget meeting. Carried, with all present voting aye. Clerk Schweigert reported that the response regarding the purchase of meters, etc., as discussed at the March 6, 2017, budget meeting was that only the meters could be financed via the EFC funding. No electronics or software would be permissible. Discussed. Mr. Bobbitt will get costs and see about adding to the total borrowing for the WWTP Upgrade project. Meters could be purchased and stored until financing for electronics and software is figured out. Will discuss again at another meeting. These costs were not added into the budget as they could be done by a budget amendment in the future as more than likely we'd have to borrow money to cover the costs. Clerk Schweigert advised that if CHIPs monies are not included in the budget change calculations (because any change in expenditure has an equal change in revenues), the proposed general fund expenditures actually only increase by \$3,708.02. The proposed increase in expenditures for the water fund is \$8,715.28, and the proposed decrease in expenditures in the sewer fund is \$82.21. The overall increase for budget spending in all three funds is \$12,341.09 or 1.1 percent, which is excellent. Discussed tax levy and rate. Clerk Schweigert explained the overall assessment value of Village properties has dropped which impacts the tax levy. Town of Hartland total assessments increased while Town of Royalton total assessments decreased. If the tax levy is kept the same, the tax rate would increase by 11 cents per thousand. Mayor Westcott had asked for calculations keeping the tax levy the same, increasing it to the maximum amount based on the tax cap, or decreasing it so that the tax rate stays the same. Clerk Schweigert advised that decreasing it to keep the tax rate the same would amount to a drop of nearly \$7,000, which is unwise. Discussed the tax rate if the levy is increased to cover the expenditures increase in the general fund. This increase would raise the tax rate by 18 cents per thousand. Clerk Schweigert reminded them that since many Royalton households saw a decrease in their assessments (Royalton total assessments dropped over \$600,000), an increase in the tax rate may not necessarily mean an increase in the total tax bill for everyone. Determined that the tax levy would be increased to cover the increased expenditures in the general fund. This is below what the maximum tax levy is capped at per New York State. There being no other business, a meeting was made by Deputy Mayor Conley, and seconded by Trustee McAvoy, to adjourn. Carried, with everyone present voting aye. Meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Rebecca A. Schweigert Clerk-Treasurer