

**Town of Winfield
November 12, 2014
Budget Hearing
and Regular Board Meeting**

The Budget Hearing for the 2015 Town of Winfield Budget was opened at 6:30 p.m. by Supervisor Charles Osborn. Present were Councilmen Howard Marsh, Michael Peo, Robert Royce, Councilwoman Sandra Smith, Highway Superintendent Rick Gigliotti, Bill Kwasniewski from the West Winfield Star, Keith Watkins Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Town Attorney Pat Quinn and Scott Evans, prospective Planning Board Member.

Board member Robert Royce questioned the amount in the Fire Department budget that was just received by the Clerk as the Operating and Maintenance expenses had gone up by almost 20% and the Workmen's Compensation had gone from \$19,000 to \$35,000. This will try to be addressed by the Board with the Village Board prior to the next Fire Department tentative budget in the spring of 2015. At this point, nothing can be addressed because of the time differential of the Village Budget and the Town Budget.

There being no objections to the 2015 Town of Winfield Budget, the following:

RESOLUTION 2014-14

On a motion presented by Councilman Marsh and seconded by Councilwoman Smith the following was

ADOPTED:	Ayes	4	Marsh, Peo, Royce, Smith
	Nays	0	

The Town of Winfield Board shall adopt the Preliminary Budget as the Final Budget for the year 2015.

Regular Meeting

Attorney Quinn has agreed to rewrite the Zoning/Planning Book for the Town of Winfield with the help of the Planning Board, Zoning/Codes Officer, Keith Watkins and members of the Board. He suggested contacting other towns that had recently adopted new zoning and planning laws for ideas and suggestions to use for ours. He agreed that ours definitely needs to be updated to include today's issues as well as setting dedicated Boards to review items as they come up, etc.

He also gave a brief overview of present items that are in process:

The Taylor property court appearance has been rescheduled to January. At this hearing either Mr. Taylor will agree that the property is uninhabitable or there will be a trial date set. Mr. Donley and Mr. Capraro, our health officer, will be visiting the property. It is highly likely that the property will be condemned and posted that it may not be inhabited. Attorney Quinn stated that it had been clearly stated to Mr. Taylor that if the property is condemned he may not reside there and Mr. Taylor must make different arrangements of where to live. Mr. Taylor had stated earlier that he probably would install a camping trailer on the property and Mr. Watkins stated that may also be a problem.

The Barrett property on Wall Street - he must go to the County level as no owner has come forward and he must publish a notice requesting the owner to come forward, etc. Keith Watkins questioned if the taxes had been paid by someone that they must own the property. Attorney Quinn stated that because the taxes may have been paid by someone that does not give that person proprietary interest in the property. He will address this with the County Court.

Scott Evans was present to show interest in the vacant seat on the Planning Board. The Town Board informed him of the duties of the Planning Board and he agreed that he definitely would like to serve on the Board. The Town Board gladly accepted his name to serve on the Planning Board effective immediately. The Clerk will try to organize a meeting of the Planning Board so that they may elect a new chairman and be brought up to date on the rewriting of the Planning Book.

General Fund claims #193 - #210 and Highway Fund claims #98 - #111 were listed on Abstract of Voucher Sheets. A motion was made by Councilman Royce and seconded by Councilwoman Smith to accept these Abstracts as presented. The motion was passed unanimously. The Supervisor's and Town Clerk's reports

for October 29 2014 were audited by members present. A motion was made by Councilman Marsh and seconded by Councilman Royce to accept these reports as audited. The motion was passed unanimously.

The minutes from the regular Board meeting held October 22, 2014 were read by each member. Councilman Marsh stated that he did not see mention of his comment to Highway Superintendent Gigliotti that the old plow was still by the salt shed and he had said that he would get it removed a long time ago. Councilman Marsh would like these comments stated in the minutes. A motion was made by Councilman Royce and seconded by Councilman Marsh to accept these minutes as amended. The motion was passed unanimously.

Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Osborn has received the agreement with Herkimer County for snow removal with no changes having been made.

RESOLUTION 2014-15

On a motion made by Councilman Marsh and seconded by Councilwoman Smith, the following was

ADOPTED:	Ayes	4	Marsh, Peo, Royce, Smith
	Nays	0	

The Town of Winfield Board has directed Supervisor Osborn to sign the agreement with Herkimer County for the snow removal contract for 2015.

Supervisor Osborn also stated that several complaints had been received concerning the farm's animals on Route 51 (former Parry farm) being in the road, etc. This is being addressed by several agencies.

Highway Superintendent's Report:

1. The Park has been cleaned up and all stumps removed. In reference to this Councilman Marsh stated that we might plant some trees along the roadway and purchase them from the man in Unadilla Forks that has trees for sale. A long discussion then entailed with no definite decisions being made.

Codes/Zoning Officer's Report:

Mr. Donley emailed his report which stated he had issued 1 or 2 permits in the last month. He also addressed the property on Route 51 mentioned above. He had some contact with a lady concerning the free roaming animals and her unhappiness with the situation. He then spoke with the lady on the farm and was told that some people were coming that day to do a fence to keep the sheep in and that all other animals have containment with the exception of the chickens. Mr. Donley will follow up on this to ensure the fence it up.

Old Business:

The roof of the salt shed and the shed itself which has texture 111 on it needs to be addressed but it will be left for future consideration.

No New Business

The next meeting of the Board will be December 10, 2014 at 7 p.m. at the Highway Building.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Councilman Royce moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Smith. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debrah B. Jones, Clerk