

TOWN OF GLEN ECHO
BUDGET HEARING MINUTES
MAY 21, 2015

ATTENDANCE: Debbie Beers, Mayor
Dia Costello, Councilmember
Nancy Long, Councilmember
Steve Matney, Councilmember
Matt Stiglitz, Councilmember
Stacey Malmgren, Clerk-Treasurer

VISITORS: Rex Rhein, resident and The Echo Reporter
Gloria Levin, resident
Renny Springuel, resident

Mayor Beers called meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

BUDGET HEARING

Income

Mayor Beers first summarized the estimated income for the proposed budget. She then reviewed the recommended tax rates for the proposed FY 2015-2016 budget. The Mayor then reviewed the Town's Income categories line by line, noting that income tax is still the Town's main source of income. Comments and discussion:

- Line Item 01. Mayor Beers proposed to maintain the real property rate at \$0.14 per \$100.
- Line item 02. Personal property is broken into three categories: corporate, unincorporated and public utility. Mayor Beers questioned the lack of income in the unincorporated category; it is possible that some residents are not reporting their personal unincorporated income. Personal property rates and utility rates were held at \$.80 per \$100.
- Line item 03. State income is projected to rise to \$93,000.
- Line item 04. Mayor Beers reported that state highway funds will be approximately \$8,313.
- Line item 05. Building Permits - Mayor Beers anticipates approximately \$1,000.00 in revenue from building permits issued by the Town, noting the spike from last year was due to gas permits.
- Line item 06. Mayor Beers noted that after the Post Office lease expires December 2016, the Town might need to plan for the post office closing and anticipate the possible loss of the post office rental income.
- Line item 10. County revenue sharing is expected to remain approximately the same.
- Line item 15. The Echo advertising revenue estimated to be \$500, a third of the amount from prior year budget.

Expenses

Mayor Beers then reviewed the projected expenses for FY 16.

- Line item 02. Payroll for the Town C/T is budgeted at \$29,978.91 in the new budget to reflect a cost of living increase.
- Line item 03.2. Legal issues have included in this past year consultation on development of permitting issues and road width.
- Line item 05.2. Heating was decreased from \$4,000 to \$3,000. The drop reflective of oil to natural gas conversion at Town Hall.
- Line item 12.1. Landscaping was held the same; it includes landscaping of the Town Hall lawn, pocket parks and also watering in the summer.
- Line item 12.3. Snow plowing was increased from \$5,000 to \$15,000 based on recent winters as well as the anticipated absence of our long term and very reasonably priced vendor.
- Line item 12.5. Other maintenance was increased from \$1,000 to \$5,000.
- Line item 13.2. Street paving was reduced from \$20,000 to \$10,000.
- Line item 13.3 Sidewalks was increased from \$10,000 to \$20,000.
- Line item 13.4. Town Hall improvement was decreased from \$20,000 to \$10,000

Final Projections

- Final projected income: \$558,222.91;
- Final projected expenses: \$305,728.91;
- Projected final net income: \$252,493.87.

Cash on Hand

The Mayor reports that the town has \$79,138.23 in the Maryland local government investment pool. The SunTrust cash-checking account has \$50,459.88 and money market has \$184,518.94. Total is \$314,117.05.

Budget hearing closed at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Stacey Malmgren

Deborah Beers, Mayor

Date