

VILLAGE OF CORNWALL-ON-HUDSON BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 25, 2010

The Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 5:00 P.M., at 325 Hudson St., Cornwall-on-Hudson, N.Y.

The following Board Members were in attendance:

Mayor Joseph J. Gross
Trustee Barbara Gosda
Trustee Mark J. Edsall
Trustee Richard Gioia

Absent was: Trustee Douglas Vatter

Also present was: DPW Superintendent David Halvorsen, and Village Clerk Jeanne Mahoney

NEW BUSINESS

2010-2011 BUDGET ADOPTION RESOLUTION

Trustee Edsall introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption.

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING MARCH 1, 2010 AND ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2011, MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CONDUCT OF VILLAGE GOVERNMENT.

WHEREAS, the tentative budget for the year commencing March 1, 2010 and ending February 28, 2011 has been duly presented to the Board of Trustees of the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson by the Budget Officer and a duly advertised Public Hearing has been held thereon,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to Section 5-508(4) of the Village Law, that the tentative budget as amended and revised, be and hereby is adopted as the budget and all amounts set forth in Statement 1 as required for the payment of principal of and interest on indebtedness be and are hereby appropriated for the objects and purposes specified effective as of March 1, 2010.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Gosda and carried by a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

TAX LEVY RESOLUTION

Trustee Edsall introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption.

A RESOLUTION LEVYING THE TOTAL TAXES AND OTHER CHARGES EXTENDED AND LEVIED AGAINST EACH PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY SHOWN ON THE ROLL PREPARED AND VERIFIED BY THE ASSESSOR FOR THE 2010-2011 FISCAL YEAR.

RESOLVED, that there be levied and assessed against the real property of the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson the following sums for village government and other charges for the fiscal year 2010-11 with a tax rate of \$8.95 per thousand of assessed valuation:

General Fund	
Total taxes for Current Budget	\$2,029,031.00
Delinquent water rents & charges	28,600.40
Delinquent sewer rents & charges	20,107.66
Delinquent garbage charges	22,144.62
Total Relevy	\$ 70,852.68
Total Real Property Taxes and Other Charges on Roll	\$2,099,883.68

The foregoing resolution was seconded Trustee Gioia and carried by a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

Trustee Edsall made a motion to authorize a six percent (6%) increase in garbage fees which was seconded by Trustee Gosda and carried by a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

Trustee Edsall made a motion to authorize a three percent (3%) increase in hydrant and fine line fees which was seconded by Trustee Gosda and carried by a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

Discussion followed regarding a proposed water rate increase. Trustee Gioia suggested the Village provide “water line insurance” to customers for an annual fee and seek out inter-municipal connection agreements to help reduce the increase to water rates. Trustee Edsall explained the situation where other water suppliers have Improvement Districts to charge for capital improvements. For the Village, this is not possible and all improvement costs are paid via the user charges which makes rate look high in comparison to others. He suggested the Village look to adopt an expanded procurement policy to monitor and control spending during the year and consider a less significant water rate increase. He further stated that the revenue for this department is based on actual consumption, which makes the water rates based on an assumed annual usage, rather than fixed revenues, which makes it very difficult. Mayor Gross stated that there has been no water rate increase in the past two (2) years.

Trustee Gioia made a motion to authorize an eighteen percent (18%) increase in water rates for the Town and Village. The Village sewer rate will remain at 85% of the water charge. This motion was seconded by Trustee Gosda and opened for discussion.

Trustee Edsall stated he is “very uncomfortable” with establishing an eighteen percent (18%) water rate increase based on one years’ consumption numbers. It should be an average of two, three or more years to provide a more reasonable calculation, especially since 2009 was a “wet year” and consumption numbers were lower than usual.

The motion was then put to a vote which was carried by a vote of 3 ayes and 1 nay (Edsall).

Having concluded the business set before them, Trustee Edsall moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:35 P.M. which was seconded by Trustee Gioia and upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays, the meeting was adjourned.