

**Town of Stuyvesant  
Town Board Workshop  
November 5, 2020**

The Town Board of the Town of Stuyvesant held their monthly workshop on Thursday, November 5, 2020 at 7pm . In attendance were Supervisor Ron Knott; Councilmembers Kelley Williams, Brian Chittenden, Tom Burrall, and Bill Schneider; Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli; and Highway Superintendent Chuck Stiffler.

Supervisor Knott opened the Public Hearing for the 2021 Preliminary Budget at 7:00pm and asked the Town Clerk to read the public notice.

***PUBLIC NOTICE  
Town of Stuyvesant  
Public Hearing  
Preliminary 2021 Budget***

***PLEASE TAKE NOTICE*** that the Town Board of Stuyvesant will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, November 5, 2020 at 7:00pm for the purpose of taking comment from any interested resident with regard to the Preliminary 2021 Budget. Copies of the Preliminary Budget are available in the Town Clerk's Office during normal business hours and on the Town Website at [stuyvesantny.us](http://stuyvesantny.us). Salaries included in the Preliminary Budget are: Supervisor \$7,535.00; Town Board Members (4) 11,980.00; Town Clerk/Tax Collector \$23,643.00; Highway Superintendent \$58,435.00; and Town Justice \$8,744.00 The Hearing will be held at the Stuyvesant Town Hall, 5 Sunset Drive, Stuyvesant, NY 12173.

Melissa A. Naegeli, RMC  
Town Clerk

Supervisor Knott reviewed the 2021 Preliminary Budget that was viewed on the new large screen television.

Supervisor Knott explained that there is 1.32% increase in the budget, under the allowable 1.8%. This equates to a \$5,806 increase. There was a 2% pay raise to the Highway Department employees. The projected tax rate will be \$.01 higher than last year. Supervisor Knott further explained that the Valatie Rescue Squad will have a significant increase but their amount gets included in the County tax amount. There were no changes to the Library amount, the Stuyvesant Falls Fire District raised their budget by the tax cap, and the Stuyvesant Fire District lowered their budget by \$7000.

Councilman Bill Schneider asked the Board to consider a donation of \$250 to the Rail Trail Volunteer Group (those who care for the maintenance of the trail). There was a discussion about the legalities of spending public money and whether or not a contract would be required. The Board asked Supervisor Knott to approach the County for funding this group.

A motion to close the Public Hearing was made by Ron Knott. The motion was seconded by Kelley Williams and was approved by unanimous vote. The Hearing was closed at 7:50pm.

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The first order of business for the Workshop was a motion by Tom Burrall to adopt the 2021 Preliminary Budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Brian Chittenden and was approved by unanimous vote. Town Clerk Melissa Naegeli will sign and certify the 2021 Adopted Budget and Supervisor Knott will hand deliver two copies to the County.

Highway Superintendent Chuck Stiffler said there is approximately \$15,000 left from the CHiPs money and would like to purchase a new mower for the care of the parks and cemetery. He had price estimates:

Ferris	\$9,125
Toro	\$10,889
Kabota	\$9,677

There was a discussion about the pros and cons of each brand, where they could be serviced, and whether or not we could purchase two. Bill Schneider made a motion to approve an expenditure of up to \$20,000 and to use \$15,000 of the CHiPs money to offset the cost for the purchase two new mowers for the Highway Department. The motion was seconded by Brian Chittenden and was approved by unanimous vote.

There was a discussion about the status of the road closure on County Route 25 in Stuyvesant Falls. Supervisor Knott said there continues to be conversations between Albany Engineering, the Town, the County, and National Grid to get the work completed.

Tom Burrall asked about getting the Emergency Management Plan updated and there was a discussion about the recent power and cable outage and the necessity of having a plan in place.