

Public Hearing: 2013 Preliminary Budget

The following Notice of Public Hearing was legally advertised in the Daily Gazette, The Post Star and the Saratogian newspapers:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE That the Town Board of the Town of Wilton, New York, County of Saratoga, will hold a public hearing on the Preliminary Budget for the Town of Wilton for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2013.

SAID PUBLIC HEARING will be held on Thursday, November 8, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wilton Town Hall located on 22 Traver Road in said town at which time all persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

SAID PRELIMINARY BUDGET will be completed and filed in the office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Wilton at 22 Traver Road where it may be examined by any interested person during regular business hours.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH TOWN LAW, SECTION 108, PROPOSED SALARIES OF TOWN OFFICERS ARE LISTED BELOW:

Supervisor	\$22,387
Councilman (4) (each)	\$13,104
Highway Superintendent	\$68,762
Town Clerk/Tax Receiver	\$50,000
Town Justice (2) (each)	\$31,017

BY RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF WILTON

At 7:01 p.m., Supervisor Johnson called the first public hearing to order and asked the Town Clerk to read the public hearing notice aloud, she did so. Supervisor Johnson asked if anyone had any comments on this item. No comments. He then closed the public hearing at 7:04.

Public Hearing: Ethics & Disclosure Law (Amendment) LL # 4 of 2012

Immediately following the first public hearing Supervisor Johnson called the second public hearing to order at 7:15 p.m. and asked the Town Clerk to read the public hearing aloud, she did so. He then asked if anyone had any comments on this item.

Scott Kingsley, from 105 Traver Rd. apt.8 stated that the board has worked very hard on this document. He thought all the board members should be commended and he urged the board to adopt this new local law.

Dennis Towers, 90 Ernst Rd stated that the propose of an Ethics Law is to recognize that there are rules of ethical conduct for public officers and employees, which must be observed at a high degree of moral conduct is to be obtained and public confidence is to maintained in local government. He then had a couple of questions: 1.) What are the grounds for dissolving the Ethics Board, the only thing he saw is that several Town Councilman have publicly criticized the board and; 2.) How is the Ethics Law

strengthened by removing the non-disclosure. He went on to state that officers and employees of this town hold this position to benefit the public and the ethical standards are to protect the public.

Chris Ramsdill, 4280 Rt. 50 stated that there were contentious moments in the last few years concerning the ethics Law. He thought it was nice that Councilman Streicher and Lant taking the lead in this because they were fresh faces that were not involved any of the prior concerns that may have come up around this. The new Law looks like a better product then we had before and will benefit the community. He then thanked them.

Supervisor Johnson stated on action would be taken tonight. He wanted to leave this item open for 30 days for any comments from the public and would bring them up at the December 6, 2012 Town Board meeting. The cut-off date for comments would be Monday December 3, so board members would have a chance to review them. Supervisor Johnson then closed the public hearing at 7:21 p.m..

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Immediately following the public hearings, Supervisor Johnson called the Regular Town Board to order at 7:21 P.M..

Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Johnson led the board and the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call

Roll Call by the Town Clerk showed all members present.

Arthur Johnson-Supervisor
John Lant-Councilman
Robert Pulsifer-Councilman
Robert Rice-Deputy Supervisor
Steve Streicher-Councilman

Also present were Town Attorney Richard DeVall, Town Comptroller Jeffrey Reale, Park & Recreation Director Steve Port and Director of Planning and Engineering Ryan Riper.

Public Comment

Supervisor Johnson asked if anyone had signed up for the public comment session.

Deanne Savage, 44 Gailor Rd. stated that she is a lifelong resident and a teacher at the middle school. She was at the meeting to thank the Town of Wilton specifically the Highway Department. On October 6, the middle school hosted their second annual back to school car show. Last year there were one hundred cars in attendance. This year even with a down pour we had fifty cars. The Town of Wilton Highway Department brought a dump truck, which was a big hit. She hoped to see the Town participate again next year.

Gary Hasbrouck stated that he would like to thank the Town Board for the 31st year of presenting the Town Budget without a Town Tax. One thing that has been in common for the last 31 years has been good Conservative Republican leadership. We have had our differences but, for the most part this entire board has done well throughout the history. He stated that the Recreation Department is the envy of our neighbors and everyone in Town. Steve Porto is doing a great job down there. He wanted to thank Kirklin Woodcock, it has been twenty five years as our Town Highway Supervisor and he helped with the success at Gavin Park and Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park using highway equipment and labor. He stated his friend Kirklin is getting a verbal kick in the teeth just about every other meeting in regards to his job performance. He thought it was time that we appreciate the leadership we have in the Highway Department and our Town Board and quit the political sniping, remember, it is supposed be about the people instead of politics, and lately, it has been the opposite.

Owen Monroe, a town resident and a member of the Wilton Republican Party, stated that he was impressed with the Highway Department mowing around the political signs that were put out around town. They were very careful and did not mow them down.

Approve Pending Minutes

On a motion introduced by Councilman Pulsifer, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 175

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the minutes from the October 4, 2012 meeting as typed without amendment.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Streicher, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

Presentation Re: (Playground area Improvements)**L.A. Group**

Steve Porto, Park Director, stated that the L.A. Group was not coming and he would combine both presentations.

Presentation Re: (Park & Recreation update)**Steve Porto**

Mr. Porto stated that he wanted to thank the Town Board for inviting him tonight and went over his slide presentation as follows: He stated that the presentation focuses on Adult, Youth Recreation and Special Events at Gavin Park in 2012. The agenda included Gavin Park, parks, and residents, programming evolution and resident benefits, operations and financial outlook and the future. Wilton Town leadership can be proud of their foresight and efforts that have led Gavin Park helping define the lives of Wilton residents. Park growth and evolution has created a central spot for residents with a variety of activities in varied ways. Mr. Porto mentioned the summer program they have at the park and thanked all the counselors who participate in that program. He mentioned Gavin Park Community Day

and thanked everyone involved in that event. He showed that the park is about 12% of the town's budget but program fees and field and gym rentals generate about 5% or \$388,200.00. A 12% increase or \$43,095.27 over the 2012 budgeted revenue for this year. Improvements at the park include a new 1.8 mile walking trail which is expected to be built next year around the entire perimeter of the park athletic fields. A new sand volleyball court, shuffleboard and horseshoe facilities are being installed by the park's playground area, adjacent to the Dailey Gymnasium that should be ready in the spring. He then mentioned that the last event of the year is the Tree Lighting Ceremony and invited all to be there it is on December 7th, from 6-8:45 p.m. Supervisor Johnson thanked Mr. Porto and the staff for the great job they do.

2013 Preliminary Budget (adoption of budget)

Discussed last month and public hearing held earlier

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor Rice, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 176

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to
adopt the 2013 Preliminary Budget as
presented.

The adoption of the resolution was
seconded by Councilman Lant, duly put to
a vote, all in favor.

Zoning Revision Committee (Report)

Councilman Pulsifer

Councilman Pulsifer thanked Supervisor Johnson for trusting him to take a look at this. He was honored to be the chairman of the committee but there are a lot of other people that had input in this. One person who will be at the next meeting to answer any questions is the former Town Engineer, Keith Manz. Engineer Manz and myself put together some suggestions, but he went back and did a lot of the nuts and bolts research to give the direction in which to go. Councilman Pulsifer stated that since Ryan Riper has come on as the new Town Engineer he has certainly jumped in and picked up where Engineer Manz has left off. We have been very blessed with great professionals in this town. He went on to state that the list of twenty-three suggestions, are largely housekeeping items and then went over the major proposed changes as follows:

Sidewalk Ordinance – The old sidewalk ordinance required business owners to install sidewalks on their property that is not the way to do things. The adjustment will require the sidewalk to be placed in the public right-of-way. He said "The public should be passing over public property, not private property.

Code Changes-Councilman Pulsifer believed that the previous Town Board did a little too much micromanaging of private property up and down Route 9 and Route 50. What the Master Plan said is that "Route 9 and Route 50 should be incubators of small business." The previous board took many uses that were in those areas out, such as self-storage units and small retail. The revisions that were done are basically putting back what used to be there and combining RB-1 & RB-2 into a modified RB-1 zone.

Digital Signs-Business owners would be allowed to put lighted digital signs on their property as long as they don't infringe on the residential neighbors during night-time hours.

The board set a public hearing for December 6, at 7:00 p.m..

Mike Worth, a town resident asked to make a comment. He stated that 75% of occupied pieces of property on Route 9 are single family homes, the rest are businesses most of them have there for several years. His concern with this committee was other then town officials and employees and appointees everyone else was a business person with an interest in those zones including him. Whatever you do will benefit me. What his concern is it seems like a shotgun approach to zoning decreasing the setbacks you're increasing the usages and this town has no lighting ordinance to keep a business from flooding onto a home owner's property.

Councilman Pulsifer stated that Mr. Worth was factually wrong. There were residents at that meeting.

Proposed Housing Ordinance Change (Smith Bridge Rd.)

Steven Wood

Supervisor Johnson stated that Mr. Wood came in and asked to have this item tabled due to illness, until next month.

Letter of Support for a grant (Grants Cottage)

Supervisor Johnson

On a motion introduced by Councilman Pulsifer, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 177

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve a letter of support for Grant Cottage.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Lant, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

Memorandum of Understanding

Between Town of Wilton & the Friends of Wilton Recreation Inc.

Supervisor Johnson stated he wanted to table this item. It is a 501c3 group that the board talked about a couple of years ago. Councilman Gerber had the lead on that. The group finally got their approval from the Federal Government for the 501c3 status. The board needs to put together a memorandum of Understanding what their roll is and their relationship would be between the Town and this group. The Town Attorney has looked at the language but there are changes that need to be made before the board votes on it. (Tabled)

Committee Reports (If Any)

Supervisor Johnson asked if anyone had any committee reports.

Supervisor Johnson stated he had been contacted by Debbie Oigny, They are putting together a truck load of supplies and materials to go down to New York City to help those displaced by Hurricane Sandy. They are looking for boxes, rakes, shovels anything useful.

Supervisor Johnson stated he wanted to announce that our great Town Clerk, Carol Maynard will be retiring at the end of the year. Along with that, we at the Town Board intend to replace her effective January 1 with Sue Baldwin. Scott Kingsley stated that Carol can be succeeded, but she cannot be replaced.

Comptroller's Report
(Including Bills & Transfers)**September 2012 Cash Disbursements**

General Fund	\$233,829
<u>Highway Fund</u>	<u>\$117,013</u>
Total	\$350,842

2012 Budget Transfers

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor Rice, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 178

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the budget transfers requested for and listed in the Comptroller's 11/8/12 report to the board.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Streicher, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

Copier for Parks Department

On a motion introduced by Councilman Lant, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 179

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the request from the Comptroller to transfer \$8,000 from A1990.4 Contingency into A1680.2 Central Data

Processing so He can purchase a new copier for the park.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Pulsifer, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

Parks Fee Schedule

On a motion introduced by Councilman Pulsifer, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 180

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the request from Parks Director, Steve Porto, to modify the Parks fee schedule for the Breakers Club as follows:

	<u>Current Fee</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Resident	\$29/day	\$35/day
Non-Resident	\$37/day	\$45/day

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Streicher, duly put to a vote, all in favor.

Adjournment

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor Rice, and seconded by Councilman Pulsifer, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m..

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol D. Maynard

Supervisor, Arthur Johnson

Councilman, John Lant

Councilman, Robert Pulsifer

Deputy Supervisor Robert Rice

Councilman, Steven Streicher

