

**Town of Malone
Budget Work Session
10/06/2014**

The Town Board of the Town of Malone conducted a Town Budget 2015 Work Session 3:00pm, Monday, October 6th 2014, at the Malone Town Offices, 27 Airport Road, Malone, New York.

PRESENT: Supervisor Howard Maneely
Councilor Louise Taylor
Councilor Jack Sullivan
Councilor Mary Scharf
Deputy Supervisor Walbridge (arrived at 3:34pm)

ALSO PRESENT: Budget Officer Andrea Stewart
Town Clerk Susan Hafter
Deputy Clerk Denice Hudson

Supervisor Maneely opened the work session at 3:10pm.

The board members engaged in general discussion regarding the departmental requests included in the 2015 Preliminary Town Budget.

Councilor Sullivan recommended the elimination of a pick-up truck, in the amount of \$45,000.00, from the highway budget. The request for 2 summer highway workers has already been reduced to one in this preliminary budget.

Supervisor Maneely asked that, with the exception the contractual highway employees, all salary increase requests be eliminated from the preliminary budget; to be considered later in the budget process.

Councilor Scharf asked whether the Town, like the Village of Malone, is expecting increased retirement costs in 2015. Budget Officer Stewart said the Town's cost is reduced by about 1%, noting that the Village has a different fiscal year and more employees.

Councilor Scharf noted the small addition (\$5K) to the Airport Capital fund for 2015 and asked whether there is enough money in the fund to cover the town share of the cost of a fuel farm, should a grant be awarded. Stewart said the fund has a balance of 53K and the 2014 allotment of 53K has not yet been added, providing more than enough for the town share.

Councilor Scharf asked whether the potential loss of tax revenue from K-Mart is factored into the preliminary budget. The budget officer answered that can't be done because the impact would show in the tax rate. She noted that there is \$24K in the judgment and claims fund to provide for potential refunds.

Councilor Scharf said the Town Garage is in dire need of repair. Superintendent Mallette has asked for \$50K for repairs, and may ask for funding for a new roof in the 2016 budget.

Supervisor Maneely said it might be good to look at using an outdoor wood-burning furnace at the garage for safety and savings.

Deputy Supervisor Walbridge arrived at he meeting at 3:34pm. He said he supports eliminating the highway pick-up truck request,, all employee raise requests, and giving the Justice Court a part-time clerk rather than the full-time requested.

Supervisor Maneely suggested cutting the incoming Justice salary by \$5K.

The Budget Officer will re-calculate the tax rates based on the following: Deleting the pick-up truck; deleting all but highway salary increases; reducing the requested full-time justice court clerk to part-time (at \$10K) and reducing the salary for the incoming Justice by \$5K.

At 3:50pm, Supervisor Maneely closed the budget work-session with no subsequent meeting yet scheduled.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Hafter
Malone Town Clerk
]October 16, 2014