

**Official - Town of Montezuma Board**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Budget Meeting**

**October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**At 6pm**

Supervisor David Corey opened meeting, led by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Supervisor: David Corey

Deputy Supervisor/Councilman: Lee Brew

Councilman: Tom Fitzsimmons

Councilman: Tom Hitchcock Jr.

Councilman: Chris Howard

Others Present: Town Clerk: Marie Cronin

Highway Superintendent: Ken Cook

Historian: Cheryl Longyear

Water Operator: Stan Longyear

Supervisor David Corey, I have 3 things to talk about before the Budget.

1. I met with the Amish gentlemen on Tuesday 10/3/23 at 11am to talk to him on the trees on the Towns property that he wants to cut. He is going to take a walk around next week and put a dot on all the trees he is interested in cutting and taking. Then will quote the Town a price. May have 6 trailer loads of trees to be taken.

2. Bill Stewart from the Refuge called David last Friday 9/29/2023, there are 2 proposals for the water to go to the Refudge. Bill proposed that the Refudge would pay for the water line and would like to know if the Town would take ownership of this line. The Town will only take ownership of the water line that is located in the Town. Circle K no longer want to participate in the water. Bill wondering what the Town of Montezuma's preference would be. Alternative #1 going across rt. 20 or Alternative #2, does the Town have too be involved at all. Motion made by Chris Howard second by Tom Hitchcock Jr. to take ownership of the water line only in the Town of Montezuma, Alternative #1 that goes across rt. 20. Motion carried 5/0.

3. (Clint Halftown) License agreement for the Cayuga Nations was looked over by the Town Lawyer Kevin Cox wants the Town to sign off on it. The Town is set to move ahead with the trials for Cayuga Nation as stated in the signed agreement. Motion made by Lee Brew second by Chris Howard to allow Cayuga Nations rental use of the Town Hall for the upcoming trials.

Budget changes are as follows: Unsure what comes out of acct's and what it's for. Not labeled so any new member wouldn't know where to take anything out of.

A1660.4 Central Storeroom we moved the funds to this account in the amount of \$3,700.00, for office supplies. Ink, paper, etc. and the Town is doing away with the Central mailing and printing acct. A1670.4.

Dog warden nothing heard yet on finding a new one. Suzie Tracy contacted the Town of Legard with a price, and David to try and call her.

A6510.4 increase to \$2,300.00 from \$600.00 account for veterans: \$200.00 for the meeting hall rental at VFW & \$2,100.00 to the banners & brackets. The Town pay half of the flags for the vets. Heather Tanner will pay the other half. Banners are \$69.95 and the brackets are \$69.95, total \$139.90. Cheryl Longyear wonders why are the Veterans listed under Economic Asst.

A7510.44 Contractual for Historical Society and no putting over by the Programs for the Aging A6772.4. Unsure which account we're going to use for this. Cheryl said maybe in Cultural & Recreation account with Mentz Church A7989.4c this could go into.

A7510.1W account went from \$2,100.00 to zero. This account is for the Town News Letter and Town Website. Raise this acct. back too \$2,100.00 and it should state what it's for. Website Administration it should say. David to research this. It's important to know what each account is and what it's for. Needs to be taken out of the Historian account. A1620.1 operation of plant make it A1620.1W. Tom Hitchcock Jr. asking Cheryl if she has been approached about making the website ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant. Not at this time. Tom also asked if Cheryl handles the questions that need to be answered. Yes she does.

Can we have an acct. for website and website contractual. David to check on this also.

Tom Fitzsimmons asking about what the Town wants to do about handling the new truck we ordered, payment when it arrives. David stated that last week we spoke about it on paying with the sales tax. The Town should have a Capital Reserve Account Machinery Highway to pay for this. David said we have and established account already for the Highway Department. \$120,000.00 for the next 2 years to pay for the truck. Move money from other account. The

Town Board are would all be more comfortable having a Capital Reserve Account, and it would be easier to keep track of this. Public Hearing if we want to take any money out of it. Motin made by Lee Brew second by Chris Howard to create a Machinery Capital Reserve Account in the Highway Dept. for the replacement plow truck. Motion carried 5/0.

Cheryl Longyear asking what account is the Grant Reimbursement money put into, where does it show up. Per David Corey it's in the General Fund balance A- account. Not a budgeted item. So Cheryl's next question, soil and water did the Town approve them doing the boom mowing & it was \$750.00 what account will I take that out of. (A7110.4 – Parks & Recreation contractual or A7140.4 – contractual expense) can come out of either one.

Tom Fitzsimmons, going back to the Grant we have started keeping track of that under the Parks Grant account A3897 unsure where bookkeeper Pat Craine has moved this too. Lee Brew requesting to have the Bookkeeper come to the next meeting for the Budget. Have to reschedule the Thursday 10/12/23 meeting to Thursday 10/19/23 at 6pm as the Planning Board is meeting on 10/12/23. Tom has old Supervisors reports and will go back and look at them to see how Pat is keeping track of things. This year should have been carried over. It's showing under Revenue but not what its for. Lee Brew government operations used 2% of the COVID money and when it runs out in 2025 then what are they going to do. That money wasn't intended for government operations. Need to have a Public Hearing and after Election. And no problem with the tax cap.

Chris Howard asking if we have anything to do with the Fire Department Budget. David told Chris that they do their own and give a copy to the Town Clerk Marie Cronin to file with our Budget.

Heather has given a copy of the water bills have been adjusted and need to be approved. Per Tom Fitzsimmons can we set up a payment plan if someone asks for one that have the higher bills and a time line plan with reasonable payments. Possibly a 6 month payment plan. Motion made by David Corey second by Chris Howard to have the 6 month payment plan, and only if requested. Motion carried 4/0. Lee Brew abstained. Test runs to train on the new drive-by meters and have the Highway staff train with Stan and Andy. Stan Longyear will be retiring at the end of this year from the meter reading only. So we'll be in need of a new Meter reader. Do this during working hours and not on a Friday. Ken Cook asking if Heather Tanner the Water Clerk can do a print out of Serial numbers with addresses or anything like that to help in training Highway staff on the test run reading. Per Stan, yes Heather will have this. 3 meters unable to get to and 2 of the 3 need pits installed. Pits are \$1,200.00 per pit. Lee Brew asking if a payment plan could be set up to help the 2 residents that need the pits. Tom Fitzsimmons suggestion of the Town paying ½ of the \$1,200.00 and a payment plan for the residents for the rest. Motion made by Lee Brew second by Chris Howard to pay half of the pit charge and that the balance the home owner needs to pay is on a 6 month hardship payment plan, and notify the residents that this is a one time deal. Motion carried 5/0. The 3 house they can't get to the meter.

Adjourn: Motion made by Lee Brew second by Tom Hitchcock Jr. to adjourn the meeting.  
Motion carried 5/0.

Minutes Submitted by Town Clerk:

Marie L. Cronin