

Minutes of the Special Town Board Meeting on Town Budget held at the Wevertown Community Center, Wevertown New York 12886 @ 4PM February 15, 2008

Supervisor Goodspeed opened the meeting at 4 P.M. Town Board member present were Councilman Ronald Vanselow and Councilman Eugene Arsenault. All attendees were handed packets containing the 2008 Town Budget, a sheet explaining the basics of a municipal budget, Town of Johnsbury Newsletter, a 5 year comparison of total payroll and number of employees, a National Grid and Fuel oil spread sheet, a building (1620.4) expense sheet, Tannery Pond 2007 expense sheet, Culture and Recreational Fees schedule, a review of the last 8 yrs comparing budgeted numbers with actual expenses, and a Budget Reform Memorandum (packet is attached).

Supervisor Goodspeed explained each page of the packet and stated the budget is the hub of what the town can and can not do. He explained some of the positive steps that have been taken to relieve some of the line items in the budget and noted there are some pressure points that need to be addressed. A good example is the Attorney line item (A1420.4), in 2005 this number was 5,000, 2006 it increased to 7,000 that figure for 2007 is 35,000.00. At the Supervisors request the Town Attorney will attend one board meeting a month, instead of two, and only designated employees will seek the attorneys' advice.

Group members noted that there are revenues from the use of buildings, however those revenues are very low. It was also noted there was change in the accounting report for 2002. Up until 2002 the Library was reported as part of the General Fund, in 2002 the Library was broken out, creating another fund-Library.

When the Supervisor asked for comments, members of the audience felt it would be beneficial to understand the budget and offer suggestions if they were to break up into smaller groups. It was decided that Supervisor Goodspeed and Candace Lomax will arrange for another meeting and divide the group into smaller group for brainstorming sessions.

The Budget meeting ended at 5:40PM

Minutes recorded by Candace Lomax.

Guests list on attached page.