

**REGULAR MEETING, WARRENSBURG TOWN BOARD, NOVEMBER 9, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Warrensburg Town Board was held on Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2011 at the Albert Emerson Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present:

PRESENT:	Supervisor	Kevin Geraghty
	Councilman	John Alexander
	Councilman	Bryan Rounds
	Councilman	Dean Ackley
ABSENT:	Councilman	Austin Markey

OTHERS PRESENT: Donna A. Combs, Town Clerk; Ed Pennock, Highway Superintendent; Tom Belden, Water Department; Sandra Parisi, Historian; Steve Parisi, Warrensburg Museum; and numerous Town residents.

**RESOLUTION #162-11  
MOVE TO SCHEUDLED PUBLIC HEARING**

On motion of Councilman Alexander, seconded by Councilman Rounds, the following resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 4 NAYS 0

RESOLVED, that this meeting be interrupted to hold a public hearing advertised and scheduled for this evening.

**PUBLIC HEARING – 2012 PRELIMINARY BUDGET**

Public Hearing was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

A legal notice was printed in the Glens Falls Post Star on November 1, 2011; a copy of that legal notice was submitted for the record.

Supervisor Geraghty opened discussion explaining changes to the Health Insurance policy and said the Town is now able to accept the Blue Shield policy with no premium increase, it can be incorporated into this budget and the only budgetary change he would have to make would be a slight change to the sewer budget but that is all inclusive and does not affect the tax rate. Supervisor Geraghty explained the move to the Blue Shield Health Insurance plan from the CDPHP Health Insurance plan the Town Board had approved by resolution saying that once all of the towns started moving to the CDPHP Insurance, Blue Shield adjusted their rates for 2012, making them more affordable for the Town without causing disruption to the employees by the company change.

Alan Smith – thanked the members of the Town Board who voted in support of presenting the Budget as it is and told the Town Board it is appropriate to come with a flat tax levy in this time, and said that at the last meeting it was said the non-union town employees were going to be held at less than three percent, somewhere around 2.6 percent raise for the upcoming year, and, as he went through the budget he came across a couple of lines that did not fit in the 2.6 percent. Mr. Smith asked why appropriation

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A7450.100 and A7510.100, the first one under Museum personal services and the second one is Historian personal services go from a current budget of \$4,150.00 to \$5,000.00 for next year which is a 20.48 percent raise.

Supervisor Geraghty explained both of those positions were increased for the upcoming year because of the Bicentennial of the Town, 200 year anniversary of the Town and they incorporated a little extra money in there for the extra time and effort. Supervisor Geraghty said that Sandi serves on extra committees and Steve is working on exhibits that they are going to put forth for next year, it is a lot of extra time and effort, it is a one time raise and it was done for that reason.

Mr. Smith asked if the Bicentennial is in 2013, Supervisor Geraghty said the work would be done next year, in preparation for it. Mr. Smith asked if there would be anything in 2013 for the Bicentennial and the Supervisor said there probably will be some money included in the Budget for expenses, it would depend on how far they take the celebrations. Mr. Smith said he had seen other budgets where when a special event comes up like a Bicentennial, a special event committee is formed. Supervisor Geraghty explained the Town has done that, Mr. Smith suggested it would be easier for the public to follow if the additional money were spent in the Bicentennial Committee, then he would know what it was going for. Mr. Smith told the Town Board to look at that raise and say it is a twenty percent –Supervisor Geraghty explained the Town had not set up a separate code, the Town knows the expenses and he and the Town Board feel this is justified, their expenses will be tracked.

Sandi Parisi- said she wished to clarify that she is not only doing the Warrensburg Bicentennial for the Town but she is also on the Warren County Committee and they have frequent meetings; she is spending a lot more time.

No one else wished to comment. The public hearing was closed at 7:10 p.m.

### **REPORTS OF TOWN OFFICIALS**

Reports were received and placed on file from the following Town Officials: Town Clerk; Supervisor, Assessor, Justice, Dog Control Officer, and Enforcement Officer.

### **ZONING UPDATE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Councilman Rounds gave a verbal update on the Zoning Update Committee report telling the Town Board the Committee has been looking at light commercial use and other areas of the town without encroaching on residential use to make it easier for small business development or business use to go on; as well as to protect Main Street. Councilman Rounds explained the meetings are open to the public and that any final decisions and adoption of the Comprehensive Plan will be done by the Town Board. Councilman Rounds said there will be one more meeting before this is presented to the Town Board.

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**TOWN COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The following town committees gave reports: Highway, Museum, Historian, Parks and Rec., Sewer, Water and Town Properties and Buildings.

**DISCUSSION –SEWER LAGOON**

Supervisor Geraghty opened discussion explaining the Town is going to be able to extend the lagoons; this will be part of the extension of the town and the extension of the economic development. Supervisor Geraghty said there is potential that the town can generate some revenues by taking sewer trucks to our lagoon to off load where the haulers have always had to go out of Warrensburg in the past.

**RESOLUTION #163-11**

**MINUTES**

On motion of Councilman Rounds, seconded by Councilman Ackley, the following resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 4 NAYS 0

IT IS RESOLVED, to accept the minutes as presented.

**RESOLUTION #164-11**

**RESCIND RESOLUTION FOR CDPHP HEALTH INSURANCE**

On motion of Councilman Ackley, seconded by Councilman Rounds, the following resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 4 NAYS 0

On motion of Councilman Ackley, seconded by Councilman Rounds, the following resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 4 NAYS 0

IT IS RESOLVED, to rescind Resolution #140-11, to change Health Insurance for 2012 to CDPHP.

**RESOLUTION #165-11**

**AUTHORIZE ENROLLMENT IN HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN**

On motion of Councilman Ackley, seconded by Councilman Rounds, the following resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 4 NAYS 0

IT IS RESOLVED, to authorize enrollment in the Blue Shield EPO Sky Value Health Insurance Plan for 2012.

**RESOLUTION #166-11**

**ADOPT 2012 BUDGET**

On motion of Councilman Alexander, seconded by Councilman Ackley, the following resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 4 NAYS 0

IT IS RESOLVED, to adopt the Preliminary 2012 budget.

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**RESOLUTION #167-11**

**2011 BUDGET TRANSFERS**

On motion of Councilman Ackley, seconded by Councilman Alexander, the attached resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 4 NAYS 0

**RESOLUTION #168-11**

**OCCUPANCY TAX GRANT**

On motion of Councilman Alexander, seconded by Councilman Rounds, the following resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 4 NAYS 0

RESOLVED, to award \$200.00 in Occupancy Tax funds to the Warrensburg Historical Society for brochure distribution.

**RESOLUTION #169-11**

**PAY BILLS**

On motion of Councilman Alexander, seconded by Councilman Ackley, the following resolution was ADOPTED – VOTE – AYES 4 NAYS 0

IT IS RESOLVED, to pay the bills as outlined on Abstract #11-11, in the following amounts: General fund-\$72,261.48; Highway-\$51,497.87; Capital Project Car Wash-\$386.00; Lighting District-\$5951.59; Sewer Fund-\$5149.38 and Water Fund - \$11,226.02.

**DISCUSSION PERSONAL POLICY**

Councilman Alexander opened discussion by saying he wished to have the Town Attorney address the Personal Policy in regards to Health Insurance, tenure coverage after serving on the Boards.

Supervisor Geraghty asked Councilman Alexander what he wished to have the Town Attorney do; and asked if he wanted the Attorney to address the policy that you can be an employee or elected official, part-time and you work for the Town for ten years, you are given health insurance. Councilman Alexander said that he feels that needs to be changed, even abolished perhaps because this is ridiculous.

Councilman Rounds asked what the Town does for the current retirees, and, said they have retired and got their health insurance. Councilman Rounds said those guys obviously had that in their program, you can move forward and do away with it but what do you do with those guys.....Councilman Alexander said with this ten years service thing, anyone who is working for an employer is not going to have paid health insurance after working ten years whether it is public or private, you are not going to have paid life time health insurance.

Supervisor Geraghty said in our current policy we have two paragraphs, one addresses elected and part time officials letting them keep their health insurance after ten years and

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the second paragraph addresses employees of the town who also get to keep their health insurance after ten years. Supervisor Geraghty said some of this will have to be negotiated with the Highway Department in the future. Supervisor Geraghty asked Councilman Alexander if it was his understanding that the Councilman wished to have the ten year policy visited, done away with; and said he needed some direction to go to the Town Attorney. Supervisor Geraghty said this is the Personal Policy and he really would like it written up by the .....Councilman Alexander said as far as part time Councilmen or anything like that, it has become very apparent that it is very unreasonable to think they should enjoy the benefit while serving as a Councilman, then again he also offered the twenty percent of their stipend towards Health Insurance. Councilman Alexander said as far as thinking he would serve for ten years as a councilman and then adieu and think he would have health insurance is not the direction; it is his thought that in the future it will be an incentive to do a good job while they are up here.

Supervisor Geraghty said it was his thought that it is a short ten years to keep your health insurance and if the town is going to adopt a policy they need to adopt a policy that is similar to other towns, he will ask the Attorney to research it and bring back some language they can adopt in December, he does not feel the Town should wait until January, he would like to see this buttoned up before the new Board comes in. Supervisor Geraghty will have the Town Attorney attend the next Town Board meeting to answer questions about any deficiencies that are written.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

Mike Currie, Schroon River Road- spoke about the cost of Health Insurance to the tax payers for people who are serving on the Board in their thirties and will receive free health insurance for life.

On motion of Councilman Ackley, seconded by Councilman Alexander, the meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Combs, Town Clerk