

Town of Morristown
2017 Budget Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2016

Present: Gary Turner, Harvey Bender, Shawn Macaulay, David Stout III, Chris Coffin
Also Present: Richard Johnson, Frank Putman, Junior Aldrich

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Supervisor Coffin.

Supervisor Coffin reviewed the various funds and what they represented with the Budget Committee. .

The following items were also discussed.

- State Retirement Costs- Difficult to project due to several variable including changes in the number of retirees and returns on state investments. The Supervisor will contact the NYS Retirement System for an update.
- Budget modifications to the funds
- Sales Tax Income – The Supervisor will try to get projection from the County on what the Town could expect to receive this year and the change for next budget year.
- Income –Fines, Bail and forfeitures.
- Fund Balance-Would like an accurate number for the next meeting.
- Audits and financial review of the Town's accounts. Might want to start putting money aside for this. Unannounced spot checks of accounts might be another good idea.
- Highway Budget- The Highway Superintendent should have that budget for review at the next meeting. Noted that items such as contractual wage increases are not within the control of the Highway Superintendent.
- Assessments in the Town – Noted that the Town rate is low and waterfront assessments are high in most towns. Updated assessments keep the tax rate stable.

The Board agreed that the tax rate has been stable over several years but saw a recent increase due to a large increase in the retirement contribution. Supervisor Coffin stated that the budget is fairly precise and to make any large cuts would require cutting staff or stop paving roads and run trucks and equipment for longer intervals before replacing them. Rick Johnson asked for the reason that from the 2015 to the 2016 Highway budget that the tax levy increased approximately fifty thousand dollars. Part of the increase was the unexpected rise in the retirement contribution. The reason for the remainder was not immediately clear. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 24th at 7 PM.

The meeting was adjourned upon motion at 8:25 PM.

Meeting minutes prepared and respectfully submitted by David Murray, Town Clerk