PUBLIC HEARING

November 3, 2010

The Byron Town Board Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Crnkovich at 7:00 p.m. with the following people present:

Supervisor	Robert Crnkovich
Councilmen	Jeanne Freeman
	Jeff Thompson
	Jack Redick
Highway Superintendent	George Heins
Town Clerk	
Absent	Councilman Ivison
Public:	
John Durand	6383 Townline Road, Byron
Barb and Jim Cudney	
Mickey Truax	Swamp Road, Byron
June Eichenberger	
David Chupp	
Richard VonBergen	6721 Townline Road, Byron
George Squires	McElver Street, Byron
Tom Felton	6376 Townline Road, Byron
Robert Wilson	Mill Pond Road Byron

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

Supervisor Crnkovich led the people in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2011 BUDGET:

A <u>motion</u> was made by Councilman Redick to open the Public Hearing on the 2011 Budget at 7:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thompson and carried with the following vote:

Vote: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF BYRON 2011 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the Preliminary Budget for the Town of Byron, the Preliminary Budget and Assessment Roll for the Byron Sewer District and the Preliminary Budgets and Assessment Rolls for the Byron Water District No. 1, Byron Water District No. 2, Byron Water District No. 3 and Byron Water District No. 4 for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2011 have been completed and filed in the office of the Byron

Town Clerk, 7028 Rte. 237, Byron, New York where they are available for public inspection during regular business hours. Further notice is hereby given, that said Preliminary Budget, the Preliminary Budget and Assessment Roll of said Sewer District and the Preliminary Budgets and Assessment Rolls for the Byron Water District No. 1, Byron Water District No. 2, Byron Water District No. 3 and Byron Water District No. 4 will be reviewed at a Public Hearing to be conducted by the Town Board of Byron at the Byron Town Hall, 7028 Rte. 237, Byron, NY on Wednesday the 3rd of November, 2010 at 7:00 p.m., at which time all interested persons will be heard and objection to said Assessment Rolls considered, pursuant to Section 108 of Town Law. The proposed salaries of the following Town of Byron Officials are as follows:

Supervisor	\$ 11,000
Deputy Supervisor	\$ 1,000
Councilmen (4/each)	\$ 3,000
Town Justice	\$ 11,075
Town Justice	\$ 10,500
Highway Superintendent	\$ 47,000
Town Clerk	\$ 25,016
Tax Collector	\$ 4,202
Registrar of Vital Statistics	\$ 420

By Order of the Byron Town Board Debra Buck-Leaton, Byron Town Clerk

Supervisor Crnkovich reviewed the 2011 Preliminary Budget:

- ·Amount to be raised by taxes is \$194,200.00
- •General and Highway Funds: The estimated tax rate is \$2.00/\$1,000.
- •Sewer District: \$0 to be raised by taxes. O&M will be \$90.00/unit and debt service will be \$0
 - ·Water District #1: \$100,000.00 (301.5 units) is the amount to be raised by taxes
- ·Water District #2: \$72,838.00 is the amount to be raised by taxes, with the Town of Byron having 164.5 units for \$63,564.00, and the Town of Stafford having 24 units for \$9,274.00.
 - •Water District #3: \$4,390.00 (9 units) is the amount to be raised by taxes.
 - •Water District #4: \$4,722.00 (11 units) is the amount to be raised by taxes.

Public Comments:

Councilman Redick read the following comments on behalf of Councilman Ivison:

Please excuse my absence tonight. The "Make A Wish" foundation has given our family an amazing gift that was scheduled this week.

As many of you know I voted against this budget at our last meeting. I regret that I can't be here to advocate for my position in person.

First of all – it's important to understand that I think the primary task of a Town Board is to establish a budget for the people and materials necessary to provide the services that citizens need. The Supervisor and the Highway Superintendent must then execute within the confines of that budget and can do so with a high degree of discretion. In most cases – consultation with the board isn't required so that town government can operate efficiently.

If you accept that premise – now is the time to impact the track we are on.

I opposed this budget because I disagree with the spending priorities in the highway fund. The equipment reserve must be funded with the future inmind. What are our equipment needs now, next year and 5 years from now? If we had to replace all of our equipment today it would cost well in excess of one million dollars! To avoid financing our equipment needs with debt we need to reserve at least \$100,000/year.

Therefore I suggest the following modifications to the budget:

- 1. Decrease General Repairs Contractual (DA5110.4) by \$25,000 to \$125,000
- 2. Decrease Machinery Equipment (DA5130.2) by \$20,000 to \$11,000
- 3. Decrease Snow Removal Contractual (DA5142.4) by \$15,000 to \$105,000
- 4. Increase Highway Reserve Fund (DA9950.9) by \$40,000 to \$100,000
- 5. Keep the remaining \$20,000 in the unexpended balance

Here's some additional rationale...

If it is deemed that a pickup truck is a high priority for the town's capital we can fund that piece of equipment from the Highway Reserve Fund with a public meeting and an open debate within the community.

The combined funding of the general repairs contractual account and the CHIPS account has risen steadily over the last few years as its become apparent that some of our roads have lacked attention. The amount we budgeted in 2010 represents a 20% increased over 2007 spending levels. I think this is enough until Sales Tax revenue allows us to more aggressively fund this line item.

Snow removal is an "icy" topic. I'm frustrated that increases are always forecasted. In 2007 and 2008 we were spending \$90,000 on this. In 2008 there was significant inflation due to salt and diesel. Since those years we've budgeted \$100,000 and \$105,000 respectively. I think \$120,000 in 2011 is excessive. I'd like to se the Highway Superintendent use a higher level of analysis regarding the decision to salt.

Thomas Felton: Why has the Health Insurance line item gone up so much? **Highway Superintendent Heins:** Two anticipated new retirees will be covered under the General Account

Thomas Felton: Has the Town been happy with the new Bookkeeping firm? **Town Clerk Debra Buck-Leaton:** Yes.

Thomas Felton: Why has the revenue for Fines and Forfeitures gone down from what was estimated for 2010.

Supervisor Crnkovich: The revenues have been increased by \$5,000. **Thomas Felton:** Why is the Interfund Transfer (A9901.9) so much? **Highway Superintendent Heins:** To help pay for the retirees sick pay

Thomas Felton: The Town is decreasing General Fund by \$100,000 and the Highway Fund is increasing 10%? Is the money from the sale of the loader going back into Highway Reserve? The Highway Reserve will get \$95,000 only, not an extra \$56,500 from sale of loader?

Highway Superintendent Heins: The sale of the loader will go into unexpended balance.

Thomas Felton: Commends the Town Board for keeping tax rate the same, but it was done so at the cost of the unexpended balance.

John Durand: Would like to know why dumpsters are going to be removed from fire departments, and whether a Public Hearing will be held on the fire district budgets per their contract with the Town.

Supervisor Crnkovich: It was decided to remove the dumpsters since they were not used very much and the fire departments could bring their garbage to the transfer station for free. This would save the Town about \$2,100/year.

Town Clerk Debra Buck-Leaton: The Town Attorney said a Public Hearing was not necessary since it was a two year contract, but it does state in Resolution #68 of 2009 that "a Public Hearing will be held prior to December 31, 2010, solely on the question of said renewal". The Town Board can schedule a Public Hearing at the next Town Board meeting for a later date.

There was a discussion regarding keeping the dumpsters at the fire departments and revisiting the issue at the end of the fire contract in 2011.

A <u>motion</u> was made by Councilwoman Freeman to keep the dumpsters at the fire departments, and to renegotiate the Waste Management contract regarding the dumpsters at the fire departments at the end of 2011 when the fire contracts need to be renewed. The motion was seconded by Councilman Redick and carried with the following vote:

Vote: Ayes: 3 (Councilman Redick, Nays: 1 (Supervisor Councilwoman Freeman, Crnkovich)

Councilman Thompson)

A <u>motion</u> was made by Councilwoman Freeman to close the Public Hearing at 7:40 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilman Redick and carried with the following vote:

Vote: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

A <u>motion</u> was made by Councilman Thompson to approve the 2011 General, Sewer, Highway, Water District No. 1, Water District No. 2, Water District No. 3 and Water District No. 4 Preliminary Budgets. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Crnkovich and carried with the following vote:

Vote: Ayes: 3 (Councilwoman Freeman, Nays: 1 (Councilman Councilman Thompson Redick)
Supervisor Crnkovich)

Councilwoman Freeman: She has reservation about passing the budget due to the Machinery Reserve Account.

ADJOURN:

A <u>motion</u> was made by Councilman Thompson to adjourn the Public Hearing on the 2011 Preliminary Budget at 7:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Freeman and carried with the following vote:

Vote: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra M. Buck-Leaton Byron Town Clerk