

**BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING-DAY TOWN HALL
APPROVED MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024
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A WORKSHOP MEETING of the Town Board of the Town of Day, County of Saratoga State of New York, was held in Day Town Hall, 1650 North Shore Rd Hadley, NY 12835 on September 30, 2024.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Diana Edwards at 11:00am with the following answering roll call: Councilman George Lembo, Councilwoman Cheryl Allen, Councilman Harry Brennan, Councilman Joseph Flacke, Supervisor Diana Edwards and Highway Superintendent Leonard Allen.

Supervisor Diana Edwards mentioned how the insurance reps came in to go over the insurance for the retirees and employees of the Town. Supervisor Edwards said from what she gathered from the last meeting was that the Board was leaning towards the Excellus with Blue Cross Blue Shield for the retirees and keeping the CDPHP Gold 224 Triple Zero HMP plan for the employees. Supervisor Edwards said she did put the cost for the insurance plans which shows in the tentative budget as well as an extra budget line for the HRA reimbursement for emergency and hospital for general and highway.

Councilman Harry Brennan said he doesn't like the idea that the Board is making the decision for the retiree's insurance, and they should have a choice. Councilwoman Cheryl Allen said the coverage and copays are the exact same its just through Blue Cross Blue Shield so it shouldn't be a problem. The Board said a meeting will be set up with the retirees to go over everything and make sure they understand it's only the carrier that would be changing from what they currently have and make sure they understand the insurance. Supervisor Diana Edwards said she reached out to one person who has the insurance, and she didn't have time to call the rest of them to let them know.

Highway Superintendent Leonard Allen put a request in for a 4% raise for himself and the highway crew. The Board agreed to the pay increase. Leonard said he would like to purchase a new bucket truck, one-ton pickup truck with a sander and plow and a tandem dump plow truck. He said the bucket truck he has is a 1984 and they need a new one. The pickup truck is a 2019 and can be sold to get a decent amount on it, rather than waiting and get nothing for it. The tandem truck would be replacing a 2001, which would get them back into the 15 year cycle. Councilman Geroge Lembo asked if the Town vehicles get undercoated, Leonard said he will be getting that done to help the vehicles last longer.

Supervisor Diana Edwards mentioned that the money is in savings and would be used to purchase these vehicles needed for Highway, with a nice cushion left in savings.

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Councilman Joseph Flacke mentioned that the cost of living is at 3.2%. The Board agreed to do a 4% raise for General as well. Councilwoman Cheryl Allen said there should be an exception to some positions, like the Town Clerk. Councilwoman Allen did some research and saw that Hadley, Corinth and Edinburg who are neighboring small towns are paid a lot more than our Town Clerk. She mentioned how extra hours are put in and how she is at the Town Hall all the time on her days off to do work. It was also mentioned that 80% of the Clerks in Saratoga County are paid more than the Supervisor because of the amount of work they must do.

Councilman George Lembo said the current Board has been working hard and having extra meetings for things needed. He would like to Board to consider a bit more for a raise.

Supervisor Diana Edwards said she would like a \$7,000. increase in her salary which she said she knows this is a new Board, but she has a heavy workload. Councilwoman Cheryl Allen said per the website she has no hours posted and it says by appointment only. Councilwoman Allen said the Supervisor wouldn't have so much work if she let the members on the committees do their jobs. Supervisor Diana Edwards said she will make the adjustment and so the 4% raise.

Supervisor Diana Edwards said she feels that if the Board agrees to raise the Clerks salary to what's requested and what other Clerks are getting, than she should have to work more hours. Also, the Board agreed to offer the Town Clerk benefits.

Tracy Ladd, Town Clerk/Tax Collector said her hours are Tues-Thurs 9am-3pm and she works an additional 2-3 days to come in and get more work done, while she is here that door is unlocked so residents can come in and be helped. At tax time the Clerks here 6-7 days a week to stay on top of the property tax payments and additional duties. The Clerk feels she puts plenty of hours in now, which are extra to stay on top of her work. Also, the Clerk did some research from 2008 to present and saw that the Clerk/Tax Collector took four salary pay cuts. Councilman George Lembo said that is not right, it should never be decreased. Tracy Ladd also explained that the health benefits are in place if she decides to take them, its not something she knows for a fact she will use its there in place incase she needs to sign up for them. Councilman Harry Brennan said that was a decision the Board already made previously, and you can't hold that against her.

Tracy Ladd also mentioned that last year during the budget process Supervisor Diana Edwards said as a Supervisor she feels she should make more than the Town Clerk/Tax Collector. Tracy explained how at that meeting the Supervisors salary was compared to the Clerk/Tax Collectors, the Supervisors Budget Officer salary wasn't mentioned. Tracy

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explained that if Clerk and Tax Collector were being looked at as one salary then Supervisor and Budget Officer should've been as well. The Board agreed.

Councilwoman Cheryl Allen said she feels the Tax Assessor should be here more than just one day a week. She also doesn't take calls for our Town any other day but Friday. Councilwoman Allen explained that the Tax Assessor currently makes \$589.13 for working one day at our Town.

Supervisor Diana Edwards said once the new Code Enforcer/Building Inspector gets hired the salary can be adjusted, that will depend on experience and if training will be needed.

Motion, made by Councilman George Lembo, 2nd by Councilman Harry Brennan to adjourn the special workshop meeting at 12:57pm.

Tracy Ladd
Town Clerk