

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY GARY A. EPPOLITO, SUPERVISOR.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: GARY A. EPPOLITO, SUPERVISOR
JAMES M. KREZMIEN, COUNCILMAN
PAUL F. SALZLER, COUNCILMAN
DEBORAH A. KING, COUNCILWOMAN

EXCUSED: WILLIAM F. SNYDER, III, COUNCILMAN

ALSO PRESENT: DARLENE G. SCHWEIKERT, DEPUTY TOWN CLERK
DENNIS DAINS, HWY SUPT
DENISE CISZAK, Bookkeeper GEORGE DONHAUSER
CHRIS PROCTOR, Springville Journal

Supervisor Eppolito opened the hearing at 6:30 p.m. Supervisor Eppolito asked George Donhauser if he had questions. Mr. Donhauser had concerns regarding the budget lines for the Trevett Road Water; General Fund – Townwide budget lines: Hulbert Library Roofs, the doubling of the Municipal Association Dues, Historical Property Miscellaneous; General Fund – Outside Village budget lines: Update Code Books, State Retirement; and Highway Fund – Outside Village budget lines: State Retirement. Supervisor Eppolito and Bookkeeper Ciszak addressed his concerns on these budget lines.

Supervisor Eppolito noted that essentially the budget held the line. Our Union received 2% raises. Most officials, no councilmen and appointed officials received any raises. Raises were limited to full time employees and a few regular part-time employees. Raises were kept to 2% and were extremely limited. Employees were encouraged, but not forced to accept, the high deductible town health insurance plan which won't really save the Town a lot this year but in hopes the future the high deductible will save the employee as well as the Town money. Old employees already pay 10% of their health insurance and have for years and new employees pay 20%. Most town accounts were decreased slightly with the exception of Kissing Bridge Sewer and that was due to major repairs to the system in 2010 so the Kissing Bridge Sewer did receive a significant increase but that is a Special Use District and is not a general tax. The dream is getting the Kissing Bridge Sewer combined with the Craneridge Sewer but that will take a few years to happen. Craneridge Sewer fees are significantly lower than Kissing Bridge Sewer. There was an increase in Fire Protection where the town is contractually obligated to a 3% increase to our 4 fire protection districts however this \$.13 increase is offset by decreases in other accounts. DB Highway is reduced by \$.11 per \$1,000 and Library \$.04. Our fire departments are extremely fair and reasonably in their requests.

The town has a complicated budget process. There are 13 budget lines. What a resident owns will depend on what services that property owner receives because of Special Use Districts but when everything is put together for the vast majority of the Town of Concord residents there is no tax increase, except the residents in the Kissing Bridge Sewer district.

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There was an adjustment in General Fund A; some funds were taken out of Fund Balance and applied it to General Fund A to lower it a little bit and by doing that it got the budget under the 2%. Laura Landers, Town CPA, strongly recommends because of the state's confusion about this, that we pass a local law allowing the Town to go over the 2% even though there is no intent to use it. The local law would only be good for one year so it would have to be done each year.

No one else addressed the Board.

Motion by Councilman Krezmien, seconded by Councilwoman King, to close the hearing at 7:00 p.m. Councilwoman King, Councilmen Krezmien & Salzler; Supervisor Eppolito, voting aye; Councilman Snyder, excused. Carried.

Darlene G. Schweikert