

TOWN OF RIB MOUNTAIN
Special Town Board Meeting
Budget Workshop #1
September 27, 2016

Chairman Allen Opall called the September 27, 2016 Special Town Board meeting of the Rib Mountain Town Board to order at 5:20 p.m. at the Rib Mountain Municipal Center, 3700 North Mountain Road, Wausau, WI. Supervisors present included Pete Kachel and Gerry Klein. Supervisors Fred Schaefer and Jim Legner were excused.

Also present were Administrator Gaylene Rhoden, Community Development Director Steve Kunst, Finance Director/Clerk Jessica Trautman, SAFER Fire Chief Matt Savage and Street/Park Superintendent Scott Turner.

On September 23, 2016 copies of the meeting notice were made available to the media, Town Board, Town Attorney and posted at the Rib Mountain Municipal Center and Town website.

2017 Budget Discussion

Administrator Rhoden reviewed her budget memo.

The Board discussed different options and prices for the replacement of the Code Enforcement Officer's vehicle.

The Town Board questioned what options they have for special assessments as referred to in the Administrator's memo. Finance Director/Clerk Trautman referenced her handout and said that Ehlers structured the tax rate with an increase in the beginning, then leveling and lowering in future years. We have some flexibility and could apply more of the special assessment payments to the debt service.

Town Board also discussed the Attorney's budget, which showed an increase. Supervisor Klein questioned the cost of having an attorney at our Board meetings. Administrator Rhoden expressed her desire to continue having the Town Attorney at meetings. Finance Director/Clerk Trautman said that she could prepare a report detailing legal expenses.

Supervisor Klein expressed his desire to keep the \$5,000 in the budget to set aside for future retirements. This was recommended by the Finance Committee.

The Town Board asked Chief Savage about the increase of 8.56% for the SAFER budget. Chief Savage said that most of the increase is going towards wages. In order to meet the demands of Inter-facility Transfers, the Chief recommends additional staff on shift at both stations. There would also be an increase in revenues for the additional transfers.

For the Technology budget, there was discussion on using the Cloud instead of purchasing a new server. Staff stated that they were working with the Dirk's Group on the feasibility of using the Cloud instead of purchasing a server. Ms. Trautman discussed the new Workhorse software she requested for the Special Assessment module. This would be beneficial as the Town utilizes more special assessments for large road projects (i.e. Rib Mountain Drive Phase 2). Mr. Kunst discussed the Muni Logic software that is requested in the budget. Muni Logic would move the files into an electronic format. This project has been discussed for several years.

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The Town Board discussed the Room Tax Fund and use of room tax money to fund the Corridor plan. The proposed budget has one-half of the plan funded by the Room Tax Fund. The Town Board recommended it being funded 100% with room tax money.

Next Budget meeting will be held on October 4th at 5:00

Adjourn – Motion by Kachel/Legner to adjourn at 6:30 p.m. Questioned and carried 3:0.

Submitted by
Jessica Trautman
Finance Director/Clerk

Note: These minutes are not to be considered official until acted upon at an upcoming regular meeting, therefore, they are subject to revision.