

TOWN OF PENDLETON
PUBLIC HEARING
November 9, 2023

Supervisor Maerten opened the Public Hearing at 7:03 p.m.

The notice for the Public Hearing was published in the Lockport Union Sun & Journal on November 1, 2023 and on the Town's website.

The purpose of this Public Hearing was as indicated below:

Public Hearing Part 1 on the Preliminary Budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2024, as required by Town Law §108 for the purpose of considering the Preliminary Budget, and receiving comments from the public relative thereto. Said Budget was on file with the Town Clerk of the Town of Pendleton to be inspected by any interested person during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Preliminary Budget was also located on the Town's website at www.pendletonny.us.

Pursuant to §108 of the Town Law, the proposed salaries of the following Town Officers are hereby specified as follows:

SUPERVISOR	\$ 28,048.00
COUNCIL (4 @ \$12,000.00 each)	\$ 48,000.00
TOWN CLERK	\$ 61,155.00
SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS	\$ 55,450.00

Public Hearing Part 2 on amounts to be raised by taxation for Special Districts in the following districts:

PENDLETON WATER DISTRICTS	\$ 110,000.00
PENDLETON REFUSE DISTRICT	\$ 590,457.00
PENDLETON FIRE DISTRICT	\$ 634,491.00

The Special Assessment Rolls have been completed for such districts as required and all tax rates established for benefit districts. All persons interested shall be heard at the Public Hearing to be held by the Town Board relative to assessments and amounts to be raised in said districts, and to hear any objections to the Special Assessment Rolls, which were available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office.

Public Hearing Part 3 to authorize a contract with the Wendelville Fire Company, Inc. at a yearly amount as follows:

WENDELVILLE FIRE COMPANY, INC	\$ 432,636.00
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FURTHER NOTICE is given that pursuant to Real Property Tax Law §495, the Exemption report that shows total assessed value on the Final Assessment Roll that was used in the budgetary process that is exempt from taxation is on file with the Preliminary 2024 Budget.

Supervisor Maerten opened up the discussion by informing those in attendance that there was an error in the formula used in the budget spreadsheet on line A7550.401. This error created some incorrect totals in the worksheet. He noted that a budget amendment will be made to correct this error before the final budget is adopted at the November 13th meeting. Supervisor Maerten then opened up the floor to public comments.

Mr. Ed Harman, from Lockport Road, provided the Board with a written statement outlining his concerns with items in the budget. The main points of his statement were regarding items in the sewer accounts. After pointing out his concerns, he requested that the Board do a complete review of the actual revenue and expenses relating to the yearly sewer budgets over the past few years.

Next, Mrs. Annmarie Reeb, from Sheetram Road, who also provided a written statement to the Board, stating that she did not support the proposed Preliminary Budget for 2024. She commented on the budget process, the Highway Fund, the BAN lines in the General Fund that begin with 9800, and the amounts listed under the Capital Fund section for the Community Center. She also asked about the omission of anticipated revenue for the Water Infrastructure

Capital Project. Mrs. Reeb's comments were also regarding unexpended funds in multiple reserve accounts and how they are reported on the tax levy page of the budget.

Lastly, Mrs. Sara Siracuse, a Monroe Street resident, stated that she supports both Mr. Harman and Mrs. Reeb with all of the concerns they shared with the Board. She also said that she is extremely frustrated with the Town Board for not allowing the public to be part of the budget process. Her last statement was that she is not in support of the proposed budget.

There were no other public comments.

Motion made by Councilman Leible, seconded by Councilman Lombardo, to close the Public Hearing at 7:15 p.m. Motion carried.

Deborah K. Maurer, Town Clerk