

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PRELIMINARY 2010 BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF THURMAN HELD OCTOBER 28, 2009 AT THE TOWN HALL, 311 ATHOL ROAD, ATHOL NEW YORK, COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT: MR. CHARLES BILLS**  
**MR. JAMES LIGON**  
**MR. LAWRENCE [RED] PITKIN**  
**MR. AL VASAK**  
**MR. LEON GALUSHA**

Recording secretary: **Cynthia R. Hyde**, Town Clerk

The meeting was called to order by **Supervisor Lawrence [Red] Pitkin**.

**RESOLUTION # 90:**

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE HIGHWAY CONTRACT FOR 2009 AND 2010**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Thurman does hereby amend the Highway Contract for 2009 and 2010, which provides an additional 6 hours sick and 6 hours vacation per man in exchange for eliminating the 12 year policy of only charging 8 hours sick or vacation when Highway Employees take 10 hours off during the summer schedule.

On a motion by **Councilman Galusha** , seconded by **Councilman Vasak**

**MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ GALUSHA, BILLS, LIGON, PITKIN, VASAK**

**RESOLUTION # 96:** A Resolution to authorize funding recommended by the Occupancy Tax Committee for the amount of \$600.00 for 4-1/2 page ads in the Adirondack Guest Explorer in 2010. On a motion by Councilman , seconded by Councilman

**MOTION CARRIED: 4 AYES ~ GALUSHA, BILLS, LIGON, PITKIN,**

**1 NAY ~ VASAK**

The Town Clerk read the notice of the Preliminary Budget Public Hearing published in the newspaper.

There was discussion regarding the emergency squad and the shortage of volunteers.

There was discussion regarding the use of Occupancy Tax funds.

Due to the garbage truck being driven by Highway employees it was suggested that \$5,000.00 be dropped from A8160.1 [refuse and garbage personal services]. **Susan Shepler** [Account clerk] recommended not moving the \$5,000.00 at this time.

**Thomas Birdsall** asked if the decision to purchase a new Highway truck was made at a duly called meeting and if there had been any bidding. Supervisor Pitkin said the meeting had been advertized and there had been no bidding as the truck was on state contract.

There were questions and discussion pertaining to the following areas

- Highway Revenues
- Tax rate
- Appointed personnel not getting an increase
- Fund balance
- Funds used for remodeling
- The court grant [which helped pay for the roof]
- Buying down the budget with the fund balance and realizing that in future years there won't be a large fund balance to use to buy down the budget.
- Getting away from wild swings in tax rates
- The possible 1% sales tax increase the county is looking at.
- Budgeted salaries for Town Clerk and Personnel
- Job descriptions

**Supervisor Pitkin** suggested an in house meeting with elected officials to discuss job descriptions and purchase orders.

**ADOPTION OF 2010 BUDGET:** **Supervisor Pitkin** said that the Town Board would adopt the 2010 budget at the next regular Town Board meeting.

**FINAL PAYMENT:** The Town Board authorized final payment of \$5,010.50 to **Murphy** Construction for the court renovation project. On a motion by **Councilman Galusha**, seconded by **Councilman Ligon**.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES ~ GALUSHA, BILLS, LIGON, PITKIN, VASAK**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9: 24 P.M...

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia R. Hyde, Town Clerk