

TOWN BOARD
OCTOBER 27, 2004

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem was held on the above date at the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY. The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Theresa Egan, Supervisor
George Lenhardt, Councilman
Thomas Marcelle, Councilman
Tim Gordon, Councilman
Catherine T. Picarazzi, Deputy Town Clerk
James T. Potter, Esq., Town Attorney
ABSENT: Daniel Plummer, Councilman

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Supervisor Egan announced that Councilman Plummer was not going to be in attendance at the meeting. She said they would brief Councilman Marcelle when he arrives.

The Supervisor opened the meeting to public comment for any item on the agenda. Mr. Robert Jasinski first thanked the students for coming and hoped they continue to attend town meetings, whether they stay in town or live elsewhere. He said as you look around you will see many classmates but you only see a few elderly people or people of their parents age. He said he wished they would get together and have them attend also.

Mr. Jasinski said first off he wanted to address the 5:30 p.m. meeting time. He said he had to leave dishes and said on his way over he noticed since sidewalks are being put in that he hoped there was some kind of a tool that could be used if someone blocks the sidewalks. He stated he noticed one car blocking a new sidewalk which forces people out into the road. Supervisor Egan said the tool would be to call the Police Department and they would go down and chat with the owner of the car. Mr. Jasinski asked if there is some kind of ordinance that could be put in place. Supervisor Egan thanked Mr. Jasinski.

Mrs. Marie Capone said the Board is hiring a new Building Inspector and asked about his background. Supervisor Egan said they would when the item is reached. Mrs. Capone thanked the Supervisor.

Supervisor Egan asked if anyone else wished to speak on any other item on the agenda. She said they would go to the other items on the agenda.

The first item was to approve the Town Board minutes of September 22, 2004 and October 13, 2004.

The motion was made by Mr. Lenhardt to approve the Town Board minutes of September 22, 2004 with one correction on page 12. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gordon and passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Lenhardt, Mr. Gordon.
Noes: None.
Absent: Mr. Plummer.

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The motion was made by Mr. Gordon and seconded by Mr. Lenhardt to approve the minutes of October 13, 2004 as submitted. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Lenhardt, Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.
Noes: None.
Absent: Mr. Plummer.

For an official copy of the minutes, please visit the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY or call 439-4955.

The following item was a request from Principal Engineering Technician, David M. Saxe, DPW, for approval of construction of proposed garage encroaching on existing Town drainage easement, 73 Henderson Road, Glenmont. Supervisor Egan said there is an existing 15-foot wide drainage easement between the lot 71 and 73. She said there is a pipe within the easement and the encroachment would be 3 feet but leave at least 5 feet from the proposed drainage pipe.

The motion was made by Mr. Lenhardt and seconded by Mr. Gordon to approve the construction of the proposed garage with encroachment of 3 feet on the Town easement. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Lenhardt, Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

Noes: None.

Absent: Mr Plummer.

The next item was a request from Nan Lanahan, Administrator, Parks and Recreation Department, for approval of appointment of seasonal personnel.

The motion was made by Mr. Lenhardt and seconded by Mr. Marcelle to approve the appointment of seasonal personnel as requested by Nan Lanahan, Administrator, Parks and Recreation Department, as follows:

Lifeguard at a rate of \$8.00 per hour

Aurelia Abba

Delmar, New York

Recreation Supervisor II at a rate of \$8.10 per hour

Kipp W. Spencer

Delmar, New York

Recreation Supervisor II at a rate of \$8.50 per hour

Jacqueline M. Hill

Slingerlands, New York

Recreation Supervisor II at a rate of \$9.30 per hour

Heather G. Barclay

Delmar, New York

The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Lenhardt, Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

Noes: None.

Absent: Mr. Plummer.

The following item was a request from Assistant Building Inspector, Mark J. Platel, for approval of appointment of Assistant Building Inspector, effective October 28, 2004. Supervisor Egan noted Mr. Chamberlain has 2 years of experience as an inspector with the City of Troy and is currently certified under the Code of the State of New York.

The motion was made by Mr. Lenhardt and seconded by Mr. Gordon to approve the appointment of George L. Chamberlain, III, Cohoes, New York to the position of Assistant Building Inspector, effective October 28, 2004 at an annual salary of \$39,579 as requested by Mark J. Platel, Assistant Building Inspector. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Lenhardt, Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

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Noes: None.
Absent: Mr. Plummer.

The next item was a request from Chief of Police, Louis Corsi, for approval of transfer of funds in the amount of \$1,640.88 from Insurance Recovery Revenue line item to Collision Repairs account.

The motion was made by Mr. Gordon and seconded by Mr. Lenhardt to approve the transfer of funds in the amount of \$1,640.88 from Insurance Recovery Revenue line item to Collision Repairs line item for repairs to police vehicle 728 as requested by Chief of Police, Louis Corsi. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Lenhardt, Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.
Noes: None.
Absent: Mr. Plummer.

The next item was a request from Terrence Ritz, Engineering Division, DPW, for approval of reduction in Bonding for Dowerskill PRD 4, Phases 2E and 5E.

The motion was made by Mr. Lenhardt and seconded by Mr. Marcelle to approve the reduction in bonding for Dowerskill Village PRD 4, Phase 2E by \$22,000 to a new amount of \$14, 000 and Phase 5E by \$46,500 to \$33,500 as requested by Terrence Ritz, Engineering Division, Department of Public Works. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Lenhardt, Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.
Noes: None.
Absent: Mr. Plummer.

Supervisor Egan noted a lot of people know that there was a community survey mailed about 2 weeks ago that is being done in connection with the Town-wide comprehensive planning efforts. She said 1600 surveys were sent out to a randomly selected sample of people. If anyone has received one, Supervisor Egan urged everyone to return them noting the deadline is Friday. She said at that point, the tabulation will be done and have the results within the next couple weeks.

The Supervisor noted the Town Board Members received the survey asked that everyone complete it. She said the email is up in regard to any of the planning information. She said it has gotten quiet but again November 18th will be a public meeting where the draft plan will be presented.

The Supervisor said she had an Executive Session item at the end for a personnel issue but commented it should be short.

Supervisor Egan asked if there was public comment on anything else before the public hearing. There were none.

HEARING BEGAN: 5:45 p.m.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: We have a public hearing on the 2005 Preliminary Budget. At this time, Terri, could we do the call?

DEPUTY TOWN CLERK PICARAZZI:
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
UPON PRELIMINARY BUDGET

For an official copy of the minutes, please visit the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY or call 439-4955.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Preliminary Budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2005 has been completed and filed in the Office of the Town Clerk at the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY where it is available for inspection by any interested person during office hours.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem will meet and review said Preliminary Budget and hold a public hearing thereon, at the Town Hall, Delmar, NY at 5:45 p.m. on the 27th day of October 2004 and that at such hearing any person may be heard in favor of or against any item or items therein contained.

Disabled individuals who are in need of assistance in order to participate should contact the Town Clerk's office at 439-4955, ext. 183. Advanced notice is requested, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 108 of the Town Law, the proposed salaries of the following officers are hereby specified as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Supervisor | \$93,152 |
| Councilmen (each) | 12,291 |
| Town Clerk | 60,475 |
| Superintendent of Highways | 82,971 |
| Receiver of Taxes & Assessments | 54,043 |

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such Notice shall be published once in the following newspapers: THE SPOTLIGHT, the official newspaper of the Town on October 13, 2004 and the TIMES UNION, an Albany newspaper, on October 12, 2004.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF BETHLEHEM
KATHLEEN A. NEWKIRK, CMC,RMC
TOWN CLERK

State of New York)
County of Albany)

LIZA CLINE of the Town of Bethlehem, being duly sworn, says that she is the RECEPTIONIST for THE SPOTLIGHT, a weekly newspaper published in the Town of Bethlehem, County of Albany, and that the notice of which the annexed is a true copy, has been regularly published in said THE SPOTLIGHT ONCE A WEEK FOR 1 WEEK consecutively, commencing on the 20th day of October 2004.

/s/ Liza Cline

Sworn to before me this 22nd day of October 2004.

/s/ Sharon A. Doldo

Notary Public, Albany County

STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF ALBANY) ss.:

KATHLEEN A. NEWKIRK, being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is the Town Clerk of the Town of Bethlehem, Albany County, New York and that I posted on October 20, 2004, a Notice of Public Hearing, a copy of which is hereto attached, on the sign board of the Town maintained pursuant to subdivision six of Section thirty of the Town Law.

/s/ Kathleen A. Newkirk
Town Clerk

Sworn to before me this
26th day of October 2004.

/s/ Julie S. McNeil

Notary Public

The motion was made by Mr. Lenhardt and seconded by Mr. Gordon to indent the Notice of Public Hearing, Affidavit of Publication and Affidavit of Posting on the minutes of the meeting. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt, Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

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Noes: None.
Absent: None.

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SUPERVISOR EGAN: I open up then the public hearing on the 2005 proposed budget for the Town of Bethlehem. Do we have any comments?

MR. MORAN: A lot of comments. Number 1 you got a 5.2 percent increase in tax base, right? Is that what you're talking about? You're pulling the sewer charges out of the last year's bill and you're making that a separate item now so that's a tax increase.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Okay, Mr. Moran, the sewer charge is not a tax increase. All it is doing is being removed from the tax bill and put onto the utility bill in a quarterly payment.

MR. MORAN: I understand what it is but right... this year I paid it in my annual bill.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: That's right.

MR. MORAN: Did I not?

SUPERVISOR EGAN: That's correct.

MR. MORAN: So, this bill is going up 5 percent... 5.2 percent and in addition to that, you're pulling the sewer charges out of there and you are putting it as a separate item. So, whether you are transferring the cost one account to another it's still a tax increase.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Judi, do you want to be heard on that? It's not a tax increase, Mr. Moran, all it is, you're just moving sewer charge from one place to another and going quarterly.

MR. MORAN: Theresa, would you read this please.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: I don't need to read it, sir.

MR. MORAN: You know where it came from last year.

MRS. KEHOE: And, I had spoken with Mr. Moran earlier as well. The 5.2 percent is the increase in the taxes for the general fund, highway fund, the water... the base Water District and the sewer. And, that is the increase in just those 4 tax items which is represented...

MR. MORAN: I understand that.

MRS. KEHOE: So, that's where the 5.2 percent...

MR. MORAN: I understand that. Last year...

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Mr. Moran, could you let her finish please.

MRS. KEHOE: And, that other taxes...

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Let her finish, please.

MRS. KEHOE: The other taxes, again, that sample bill that we put on that was not representative of your total tax bill as we emphasized it includes the county taxes which we do not control, the special district taxes for fire and ambulance which is not the subject of this hearing this evening. The 4 main operating funds have the 5.2 increase. There is no increase in the sewer usage charge. The only variable

there will be consumption. So, there is no increase in the rates. Tax increase is 5.2 percent.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Thank you.

MR. MORAN: Then I don't understand why I paid it here and I've got to be paying it separate next year.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Because it won't appear on that tax bill next year, Mr. Moran.

MR. MORAN: That's right but I paid it this year on this tax bill and if you are switching it from one account to another it's still a tax increase. It's an increase in cost to me. It's an increase in cost to everybody in this community.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: I would disagree with that. Do you have further comments, Mr. Moran?

MR. MORAN: Yes, I do.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Okay.

MR. MORAN: You talked about personnel costs, according to your figures, personnel services went up a total of 1.690. Now, if you are talking about a 3 percent cost of living increase -- and I would like some comments from some of the other Board members except for you -- they are the ones that are approving the budget, they ought to have some comments too and be able to answer some of these questions.

COUNCILMAN LENHARDT: I can comment on your issue of the sewer tax. It is being spread out over 4 equal payments rather than upfront lump sum amount. There's no specific increase in that tax of 5.2 percent.

MR. MORAN: There's not, how come back here you say it is a 3 percent increase in sewers.

COUNCILMAN LENHARDT: The 5.2 percent... excuse me... if you don't mind...

SUPERVISOR EGAN: No, feel free.

COUNCILMAN LENHARDT: The 5.2 percent is the average of the 3 or 4 accounts total, okay. One account... in fact I hate to quote percentages because one account actually went up like 8 percent, one account stayed even one may have reduced somewhat and the total average of the 4 accounts is 5.2 percent.

MR. MORAN: And, here you're talking about sewer fund here says it's going up 3 percent.

COUNCILMAN LENHARDT: Okay, that's one fund went up 3 percent.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: And, there's 3 other general funds...

COUNCILMAN LENHARDT: That 3 percent is factored in the average of the 4 accounts to be 5.2 total.

MRS. KEHOE: And, if I can just add for a moment, the percentages, 5.2, equates to \$19 per \$100,000. So, don't lose sight of the fact that it is a nominal dollar amount. I believe it is a nominal percentage increase also which has been our goal throughout the entire set of years that we've been working together on the budget.

MR. MORAN: We pay for consultants to help through planning in town. I moved

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in Slingerlands in 1977 and I was told there was going to be a Slingerlands bypass. You know what year it is going to be put in according to your latest forecast, 2006.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Labor Day 2006.

MR. MORAN: And, that ain't going to happen either okay. And, in the town you do all this planning, what happened to the planning? They built a new bridge on Route 85, they put 3 lanes in, they should have put 5 lanes in because eventually that's going to have to go to 4 lane. Did the town get any input on that? I would assume you should have. We pay for all this planning and everything else and what happens to it, it gets filed away, is that what happens to it?

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Do you want an answer to that?

MR. MORAN: Yea.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: You are not going to like the answer because you are going to say it's not true but, DOT makes those decisions, Mr. Moran. They had a public hearing before I got here, long before I got here and the decision in regard to how the Route 85 extension was going to be constructed was made by DOT. They have made those changes. They made certain decisions. We have been pushing with respect to this road since I got here in January which has gotten us to the point that we are now with a construction date. With a design commencement date and we are moving forward with that.

MR. MORAN: The year 2006.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Yes.

MR. MORAN: And, it's supposed to been done, like I say, since 1977 it was going to be done and it still isn't done. Got another question for you. Why are we paving Kenwood Avenue?

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Why are we, as in...

MR. MORAN: I thought Kenwood Avenue was a State highway.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Mr. Sagendorph.

COUNCILMAN LENHARDT: I can answer that because I asked that same question.

MR. SAGENDORPH: The section of Kenwood Avenue between New Scotland Road and Cherry Avenue is Town highway. It was formerly a State highway but the State turned it over to the Town a number of years ago.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Thank you.

MR. MORAN: And, that carries a 35 mile an hour speed limit. Blessing Road has a 30 mile an hour speed limit. I think Kenwood Avenue is a lot more highly populated than Blessing Road is. So, if we're doing planning. We ought to be looking at what kind of speed limits we got in the Town too.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Well, Mr. Moran, if you want us to look at any certain road in regard to speed limit, if you send me a letter, then what we do is we will disseminate it through the traffic safety, as well as, the highway and they will do a study on that.

MR. MORAN: And, why do we have a police force 44 officers? You know, the Town of Clifton Park, which is the same size as we are, population wise, they don't have a police department.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: They are serviced by a different police agency, sir.

MR. MORAN: That's right.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: And, they contract and pay for that.

MR. MORAN: We also have the Sheriff's patrol and the State police going through the Town of Bethlehem.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Stretched thin, correct. They do service this area.

MR. MORAN: That's right. The police department costs us 6.9 million dollars according to the budget.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: And, there would be an expense to have the State troopers and the Sheriff be policing this area exclusively there would be an expense to that also.

MR. MORAN: What would be the expense?

SUPERVISOR EGAN: That I don't know, sir.

MR. MORAN: Well why don't we do a study on it?

SUPERVISOR EGAN: It's a request, the Board can consider it. I mean at this time, personally, I'm very happy with our police department. I know that when I pick up the phone and there is an emergency call one way or the other, that there's going to be a prompt response and there's going to be somebody at my house or my place of business, you know, almost immediately.

MR. MORAN: Well, I don't like the fact that if you want to talk to the Chief of Police, I got to go through his chain of command. I had an incident I wanted to talk to the Chief of Police, oh you can't talk to the Chief of Police, you got to go through the Sergeant and then the Lieutenant and then... I said no, I'm a taxpayer in this Town, I help pay his salary, I want to talk to him. I can go and see you whenever you are free, if you are not busy; you are willing to see me. Why doesn't the Chief, what's he somebody special? Got to go up through a chain of command, are we in the Army here?

SUPERVISOR EGAN: No, I mean... if the Chief wants to answer this... my feeling is on that is the police department does have a chain of command. Similarly, if I have a question of something and I know its traffic safety I go to the Traffic Safety Sergeant or Lieutenant. If it's a criminal matter, I go to another Sergeant or Lieutenant before it goes to the Chief.

MR. MORAN: Well, I guess what you ought to do is circulate that around to the public so that they know whom to contact in case they have an incident.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: I think if you call the dispatchers, they'll let you know exactly who it is that you need to contact.

MR. MORAN: But, you know, Town of Bethlehem has increased taxes the last 2 years. Yea, we go out and hire more people.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: The Town's growing, Mr. Moran.

MR. MORAN: Hey, I work for GE for 30 some odd years and when they were making money then fine. When they weren't making money, you cut. And, you shouldn't be putting more people on the payroll when you are already adding 5.2 percent. You're adding taxes; the School Board is adding taxes. The increase to the taxpayers this year is going to be like 10 percent and wait'll the new school start hitting. You know, somebody ought to start doing some fiscal responsibility

here and cutting costs.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: That's exactly what we are trying to do in regard to a comprehensive plan, Mr. Moran. Is looking at ways to...

MR. MORAN: Well, what I can see in this budget, I don't see where you're cutting costs.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: It has to do with sufficient planning in the Town so that we have a good diversified and stable tax base with a little bit more commercial development to kick in to help defray some of those expenses.

MR. MORAN: You talk about that; you've got a 60 million dollar increase in your tax base. You got 1.7 million dollars in mortgage fees, they go away next year or they get reduced and plus the fact you're using surplus money to reduce the 5.2 increase, if the tax base don't increase the way it has 60 million dollars, on your figures now, and 1.7 million for mortgage taxes, when that money goes away and that's not going to continue on, what's the tax rate going to go up then?

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Well, again, hopefully with some good fiscal planning in conjunction with the comprehensive plan, we will have some more economic development in Town that will defray some of that. And that is something that is watched here on a daily basis in regard to the revenues that are coming in...

MR. MORAN: Well, all I know is you're talking about a 5.2 percent increase on top of having a 60 million dollar increase in your tax base plus the 1.7 million dollars that you are getting in. Once that goes away... and... what are you going to do, you going to cut the size of the government here. You're not going to cut the size of government, you just added to it. And, those costs are going to continue on, they're not going to be reduced. Every time you spend more money, there's no additional revenue. And, the taxpayer is going to come to the point eventually; they're going to move out of Town if that's what you want. I see a lot of senior citizens now moving out of Town because they can't afford the school taxes plus the taxes that are going on here.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: We recognize that as an issue, sir, but not to sound like a broken record but that's why we have engaged in the master planning process so that we can do some good planning...

MR. MORAN: And, that's spending more money and let's see what comes out of that.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: For the Town and let's see what comes out of that. Thank you for your comments, Mr. Moran.

Any additional comments?

MR. JASINSKI: One of the things I got to say is and it doesn't pertain to budget right now but you said Mr. L. does not work and you corrected me on my English. So, I mean if you are referring to Mr. Lenhardt, fine. If you're referring to George Leveille, he does work hard. They both work hard.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: No, no, I didn't mean that they don't work physically, I meant the reference to them and I will stand corrected.

MR. JASINSKI: So, you know, just in case...

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Both Mr. Lenhardt and Mr. Leveille work very hard.

MR. JASINSKI: All right. Now, do we have a balanced budget? I looked at that in a hurry and it seemed that you were about \$40,000 short or something. Am I correct?

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Judi, do you want to address that.

MRS. KEHOE: The highway, water and sewer funds are balanced.

MR. JASINSKI: Right.

MRS. KEHOE: The general fund has what we have referred to consistently as a planned deficit of \$791,000. Remember this is a conservative estimate. We've had planned deficits for each of at least the last 7 years which have not materialized. We've in fact had surpluses every year. So, that's why I'm proposing a planned deficit because we have the availability to draw down on that and control taxes.

MR. JASINSKI: And, what is our fund balance at present? I mean, we have safety fund here.

MRS. KEHOE: Yeah.

MR. JASINSKI: I'll use that word.

MRS. KEHOE: Yes.

MR. JASINSKI: What is that?

MRS. KEHOE: The fund balance in the general fund is projected to be at about \$4.5 million as of the end of this fiscal year.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Which is what percentage, Judi? 22?

MRS. KEHOE: With backing out the commitments, it's about 22 percent, 23 percent, yes.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: And, just again for information purposes, the... is it the Comptroller's office has certain guidelines and their guideline is about 15 percent.

MRS. KEHOE: Yes, 10 to 15 percent is what they say is a reasonable range.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: So, we're in excess of the guideline...

MR. JASINSKI: So, you're above it.

MRS. KEHOE: Yes.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Yes.

MR. JASINSKI: Thank you very much. I want to kind of agree with some of the things the gentleman before me said. I mean, we are looking forward, you're doing planning sometimes on a 30-year plan for the Town but some of the comments the gentleman made should be addressed in some way and thought about.

I do have a couple questions and the bad thing about rumors is you never get the answer to them. So, I'm going to put 2 items to you. I've heard through rumors and the grapevine that there's 2 pieces of property the Town may be considering purchasing. One is the farm over off... Cubela's farm. So, by your expression, I take it that there is no thought.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Unless there is somebody else on the Board that knows something that I don't.

COUNCILMAN LENHARDT: I was looking at you.

MR. JASINSKI: All right. Okay. Well, you know I always bring a laugh to the meeting so, you know...

SUPERVISOR EGAN: To my knowledge... I mean, that is brand new to me, Mr. Jasinski.

MR. JASINSKI: Now, the other one is you have a training range down on Quarry Road. I believe it is owned by one of the cement companies. Are you considering...

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Callanan. Is it Callanan?

TOWN ATTORNEY POTTER: Yes.

MR. JASINSKI: Are you considering purchasing that and if you are, under what fund would you purchase that – under DARE or town fund or anything? And, if you are doing such a thing I caution you because every time you take a piece of paying property off the tax rolls and put it under the Town, you lose that tax base and then it comes back upon us to support. Now, you want to answer my question whether you are?

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Yes. I will answer that question. We can dispel the rumors, Mr. Jasinski. We have looked at... there is a training range that the Police Department uses, I believe Callanan owns it currently, it's a very large piece of property of which the Police Department only uses a very small part of that for its training range. They are looking to sell the entire piece of property.

MR. JASINSKI: 105 acres, I believe.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Yes, they approached us because Callanan's interest is certainly to continue to be a service to the community by providing the range. One of the thought processes has been to survey out just that portion that the Police Department uses. We have very initially looked at that to see if that is even possible having to do with access and things like that. That's about as far as we have gotten on it. Survey hasn't even been completed. There hasn't been much more of a thought process in regard to price or anything else at this point. You know, as we move through that certainly it would be something that would be brought to the Board's attention if we progress much further than that. But, that's kind of where we are at on it.

MR. JASINSKI: Okay, fine. Thank you very much.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: No more rumors?

MR. JASINSKI: No.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: That's it, okay. And, the Police Department is not moving to Wal-Mart's. That was the rumor I heard this week – was that we were moving the whole department to Wal-Mart's. That's not true either.

MR. JASINSKI: How many... what's the budget of the Police Department?

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Budget for the Police Department, I don't have it right at my fingertips. Judi's got the book.

MRS. KEHOE: Around 6 million.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: I think Mr. Moran quoted 6.2.

MRS. KEHOE: About 6 million.

MR. JASINSKI: It's quite high. Thank you.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Thank you. Any further comments on the budget?

COUNCILMAN LENHARDT: Can I make one comment regarding one of the comments previously regarding our new employee tonight? That new employee is filling one vacancy in the Building Department that was either created through a death or a retirement. I believe there is still a vacancy in that department that is unfilled. So, we haven't effectively added to our employee base.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: That's correct and his position is actually filling the Assistant Building Inspector position, which was leaving the Building Inspector position still open.

Okay, any additional comment? Great, do I have a motion to close the hearing?

The motion was made by Mr. Lenhardt and seconded by Mr. Gordon to close the public hearing at 6:00 p.m. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Lenhardt, Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

Noes: None.

Absent: Mr. Plummer.

Deputy Town Clerk

Supervisor Egan noted the 20005 Budget would be voted on at the November 10, 2004 meeting.

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Supervisor Egan asked if there was anyone wishing to address the Board. There were none. She thanked everyone for attending.

The motion was made by Mr. Lenhardt and seconded by Mr. Gordon to adjourn the regular Town Board meeting at 6:05 p.m. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Lenhardt, Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

Noes: None.

Absent: Mr. Plummer.

Deputy Town Clerk