

**Town Board
October 27, 2010**

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 meeting was called to order by the Supervisor at 6:00PM.

PRESENT: Samuel Messina, Supervisor
Joann Dawson, Councilwoman
Mark Hennessey, Councilman
Mark Jordan, Councilman
Kyle Kotary, Councilman
Nanci Moquin, Town Clerk
James T. Potter, Esq., Town Attorney

Supervisor Messina called the meeting to order and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS-----

Norman Morand – 52 Carstead Dr. – He had attended the last budget workshop and he agreed with Councilman Kotary, no COLA's and no step increases. As a retired person he has had no increases and no increases in social security. Senior citizens have high medical costs that they end up paying for. He sees taxes going up in the State, County and Town. Money is used every year from the surplus accounts to hold down budget increase. 20/20 says there should be bond issue for infrastructure because it's falling apart. He thought it would cost 50 million. The Town should replace old piping. He said the taxes should be increased where they should be and use the money for something beneficial and not to hold the tax increase down a ½ %. We shouldn't do a big increase in bonding but do it now. The pension fund payment shouldn't be spread out over a few years but paid now to eliminate the interest. If the surplus accounts are large enough to take money out, the Town must be overcharging people. He thinks there should be another building moratorium because we don't have the infrastructure to support more buildings. He wonders where the people are coming from. Every year there's a 2 or 3 million dollar increase in the budget. He only increases his necessities.

Marie Capone – She wants to talk about the senior retiring from the Town and there's a cut in the pension. She thinks the sidewalk on Feura Bush Rd. isn't used and cost a lot. Should use sidewalk money to fix infrastructure. The employees in Town Hall just talk in the hallways.

Bob Jasinski – He thinks the amount the Town is spending on the fishing platform is good. His concern is the bulkheads and whether the dock will be permanent or removable. He is concerned that the ice will damage the structure. He asked if it would increase the current dock. He asked that the Town engineer overlook the project. He thought it is a good project and many people in Town do use it. Outside people also use it.

Mr. Kelleher – Sent in a memo stating that he was against the spending money on the fishing pier at Henry Hudson Park. He thought the Town should address the decaying wood sheet piled dikes first. He thought the USACOE should be held responsible for the cost of dyke replacement which could be in the millions.

PUBLIC HEARING: TOWN OF BETHLEHEM 2011 TENTATIVE BUDGET-----

Presentation on the 2011 Tentative Budget

This presentation is on our WEB site in its entirety.

Jared King thought the public hearing should take place before the presentation because that was when it was advertized to begin. Mr. Potter said the hearing cannot be held before it is advertized but a presentation before is OK.

Supervisor Messina presented. The tentative budget had a 1.8% tax increase. In relation to other communities, he thought it was reasonable and the lowest in six (6) years. It amounts to about a \$12.85 per house increase. He had asked the Department Heads to look at their budgets and cut expenditures where they could and expenditures were cut about \$800,000. New revenue sources were generated in the amount of \$221,000. The staffing levels have remained constant at about 240 and he wants to keep them at that level. He said there is a capital component, not a capital plan, in the tentative budget. It totals, 4 million 140 thousand, it would be funded from the capital reserve fund, the operating fund and bonding some initiatives. The Supervisor's budget includes a 1% COLA for the staff, the lowest COLA in 17 years. Internally costs for administrative services have been allocated to individual departments where they belong. The connection of the water supply has saved the Town 1.8 million dollars going into 2011. The Supervisor mentions the 20/20 implementation committee often because they are looking at substantial issues in the Town. He said he is ready to work with the Town Board on the issues they have not yet come to agreement on. Those issues include: the tax levy, COLA's and performance advance steps, the amortization of the employee retirement costs, additional expenditure reductions and the use of fund balances.

Ms. Traylor showed a slide comparison between the 2010 Budget and the 2011 proposed budget. She said it was flat. Proposed spending is \$40,159,239 in 2011, compared to \$40,166,000 last year. These figures are broken into 4 funds, the general, highway, water and sewer funds. Ms. Traylor and the Supervisor had worked with department heads to cut expenditures. A few of the larger cuts included closing the landfill one day per week, reducing the number of part time and seasonal employees, reducing contractual spending by at least 3%, increasing the employee contribution to health care costs, reduction of salaries of various board members and the Supervisor by 10% and the amortization of the employee retirement costs. Some revenue changes include: police department charges of one time event, charging for false alarm calls, increased dog licensing fees, increase in cable franchise fees, charging for notary services and increasing park utilization fees.

The proposed tax levy increase, a 1.8% increase, will bring in \$168,000 to the Town. The Town's share of your tax dollar is 14 cents. She said most of the Town's cost goes to the salaries of the employees that provide services to the Town residents. That cost in the 2011 budget amounts to about \$22 million dollars, equipment is \$1,225,000, operating expenditures \$14,297,000, debt service \$2,307,000.

Health insurance increase is about 7% this year, up \$154,000 from last year. The Office of the State Comptroller sends the Town a bill for the pension costs which have risen 39%. There is a contractual obligation with the police for a 2.5% COLA in the budget and the other employees are to receive a 1% COLA. There is a schedule in the budget that shows how the Town will pay for certain capital items in 2011 and beyond. \$749,000 would come out of the current budget, \$2,000,000 would come from capital reserves and the Town would bond or lease \$1,390,000 for various infrastructure needs. The documents are available on the WEB site, in the library and in the Town Clerk's office.

A motion to indent the notice of public hearing and affidavit of publication was offered by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Hennessey and approved with the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Messina, Councilwoman Dawson, Councilman Hennessey, Councilman Jordan, Councilman Kotary
NAYES: none
ABSENT: none

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING UPON PRELIMINARY BUDGET

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Preliminary Budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2011 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 6:00 p.m. on the 27th day of October 2010 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 x1183. 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, subject to final approval of the 2011 Town Budget, are hereby specified as follows:

Supervisor	\$96,201
Councilmen (each)	12,694
Town Clerk	67,190
Superintendent of Highways	96,260
Receiver of Taxes & Assessments	62,395

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, 2010 and the TIMES UNION, an Albany newspaper, on October 13, 2010.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF BETHLEHEM
NANCI MOQUIN, TOWN CLERK

Dated: September 22, 2010

STATE OF NEW YORK) SS:
COUNTY OF ALBANY)

NANCI MOQUIN, being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is the Town Clerk of the Town of Bethlehem, Albany County, New York and the attached Legal Notice was published in the Town's legal newspaper, The Spotlight, and that I posted the Notice of Public Hearing on October 13, 2010 on the sign board of the Town maintained pursuant to subdivision six of Section thirty of the Town Law.

Nanci Moquin
Town Clerk

Jared King – 22 Paxwood Rd. – I have some comments on the budget obviously. First of all I would like to address the issue of the CPI adjustment. The CPI, which is a government calculated figure, in this year is increasing 1.1%. The 1% is an approximation of the CPI, if that is something the Board wants to do and thinks is appropriate. However, I have not been able to double check, I have a FOIL request in but it has not been responded to at this time but it's for the increase last year. My understanding is that there was a 3% CPI increase last year and at the time I had said that the CPI had actually decreased, indeed it had. It had fallen 1.5% last year. It's something that you might want to address in so far as our employees have done very well. I have also pointed out that my sister works for Manhattan College and they did not have a pay increase last year and they're not having a pay increase this year. That is how the private sector is dealing with the current economic situation. Mr. Moran is a former GE employee, I also know individuals that work for GE and as of last year, I don't know about this year, they also had not had a pay increase. One thing I do like about this budget is the cap plan. We are starting to think about what our needs are going to be and start budgeting for those needs. I think that is long overdue, I thank the Board for doing that. I would also say that when you are addressing things like this you need to start looking at the big stuff, not the small stuff, the big numbers. One of the big numbers is the pension. I brought this up with Senator Seward when I was a voter in Coxsackie and he mentioned to me after a question that municipalities or counties can opt out of the state pension fund. Our pension fund is one of the worst managed funds in the United States and I think it is long overdue since this is what I do for living. I would think we could do a lot better on our own. To sit there and see these kinds of needs where we basically fund a defined benefit plan because their doing such a bad job is very sad and disturbing. I don't know the specifics but it's something to look into. I think it could be very well done on the county level. And according to your our figures, it was a 39% increase on that line item. The highway fund is up 6.8% and I would like to know why. Often times when that fund has increased it had been because of an oil price increase which leads to an asphalt price increase. Asphalt prices are the same if not lower than they were last year so that is certainly a question I would have. We are obviously building more roads and this gets into the next point I wanted to make and the last point I want to make is about some of Mr. Moran's comments about our infrastructure. We do need to do a better job when we look at doing a development in Town, the marginal cost associated with building the infrastructure associated with that development. I think we always underestimate it in this Town. In other towns I have lived in I've seen this also where we accommodate developers and I don't think that is appropriate. Just make sure that whatever the marginal cost is that's covered. If we're building more roads then we need to make sure we can afford that. Those are my comments.

Bob Jasinski – Bender Ln. Now the budget needs to be submitted by November 20th, am I correct?

Supervisor Messina: Yes, there is a meeting scheduled for November 10th.

Bob Jasinski – It still may be changed somewhat. I want to talk about a couple subjects. I'll try to be as quick as I can. Sidewalks, I know Mrs. Capone mentioned sidewalks. Sidewalks have a place but most of the sidewalks that the Town pushes for or moves towards building should be for the main streets. If you have a request for a sidewalk in a certain development or area, I wonder if this can't be presented in such a way that the people of that development will pay for it or their tax will pay for it in some way. If the sidewalk is something that will only be used by them, then why not consider this. That's number one. I think the Board ought to look at the amount of cars that are owned by the Town and this includes the police cars too. They're not immune from a cut from some of the expenses. The other thing that was mentioned at the budget hearing and I'll bring it out publically. The amount paid by the school district for the police DARE officer that is assigned there. There is a small amount that's reimbursed to the Town but the Town has no contract on this. So if you go forward with this, I would like to see a written contract where the Town Board all agrees that this is a fair and equitable price to get for the return for what the expenses of the police officer is. I question you on the bonding that's taking place, not to be a hypocrite because I spoke probably a year ago that bonding for a few projects was very good. But then I caution you that you can't bond everything because as you bond, every year you're going to have an increase in costs for these bonds. You have to be careful of what you bond, I know you bonded the equipment for the highway department and different projects that you're looking at but don't forget that all adds to a certain amount per year that's spent for bonding so don't over look that item. Thank you very much.

Scott Bonano – 34 Dominico Dr. – First I came here with one set of comments but since reviewing the budget again and seeing it all, I have another set of comments. I sat through most of the budget meetings for the school board last year and they were forced like you all were to make some very difficult cuts. Among those cuts were 14 teaching positions which directly impact the future education of the children of the Town of Bethlehem.

While I can completely agree with your interest in preserving the 241 positions here at the Town of Bethlehem, I really think potentially there are some places where we need to look at it. If you're looking at 1.8% tax increase that would save \$168,000 I think you commented that the average Town of Bethlehem employee makes something like \$50,000, you could potentially take care of the 1.8% tax increase by looking within your own group. I'm not saying that's likely or possible that that happens but if one or two of those positions were eliminated potentially like in the private sector and every other surrounding town community, they're doing more with less people. Maybe that would be one way of making up some of this tax increase or expenditures. I actually came here to speak about one of the small line items of this 40 million dollar budget and that's the proposed increase to the parks and recreation fees. I think they are projected to bring in an additional \$22,000. My objection to this increase is that it specifically targets youth based organizations that are really designed for our children. The proposed increase which is really a pretty big number is a 33% increase in fees for the fields. I haven't seen increases like that over anything. The COLAs are 1%, the tax increase was 1.8% and we're looking at a 33% increase in the use for the fields. I'll share a couple of numbers with you from the Town of Niskayuna, East Greenbush, Saratoga and Guilderland and I'll bring you back to our little piece of the world. We pay a fee for the use of field number five to the Town of Bethlehem, Town Park. Our yearly fee before the increase is \$1,875. The proposed increase would bring that up to \$2,500 which is a pretty big jump for an organization that directly benefits the youth, specifically the 13 to 18 year olds in the Town of Bethlehem. What does this all mean? If you look at those 4 other areas that I talked about, they don't pay of fee for the use of their fields. I shouldn't say that, I exaggerated, they pay a 1 dollar lease fee for their fields. I don't see the equity in our fees being increased when you look at the rest of the Town facility. Now this goes for the Town of Bethlehem Babe Ruth, the Town of Bethlehem soccer club, the Town of Bethlehem lacrosse club and the Town of Bethlehem Tomboys. All those clubs are looking at a 33% increase yet at no other point in any other part of the facility is there going to be an increase that I can see. There's not going to be an increase to play volleyball, tennis or for the use of the pavilions. It looks as if this increase directly taxes the groups that are trying to provide an opportunity for sports, exercise and education. I just don't think that would be the best thing for our youth. We should be able to find \$23,000 elsewhere. I propose to the Town and to the parks department outside revenue streams: there's big ball leagues that would pay money to come and play of the fields when they're not in use by our kids. There's other ways that money could be raised so we don't have to continually tax the people that we're trying to support which are the children. Thank you.

John Shiperd – 72 Salisbury Rd. – I'm trying to follow the budget from the public availability budget information. I was very lucky to be able to attend an October 20th meeting of the Town Board and I was really impressed by the effort that everybody at that meeting made to put forth their ideas and listen to everyone else and their ideas. I'm really happy to have done that. What I did after that meeting is I sat down and made a list of 8 suggestions that followed most of the things on which a dialogue had been initiated. I'm not going to go into them here, I put together a letter and I would like to hand them out. That's all I need to say. Thank you very much for the effort you're putting into this process.

The following is Mr. Shiperd's letter.

Dear Supervisor Messina,

I want to thank the Town Board for opening its October 20th meeting on the proposed 2011 Town budget. Not only did my attendance at this meeting give me a new perspective on the tensions among the members of the board that I have witnessed at most of the regular Board meetings I was able to attend this year, it gave me a new appreciation of the various roles, backgrounds and experiences that the individual members of the board bring the task of governing in a manner that serves the best interests of the Town's citizens.

Both the proposed Town Budget and the discussion at the October 20th also gave me a new perspective on how much our Town's employees and managers have given to this year's efforts to develop a balanced and practical 2011 budget proposal. Everyone who contributed deserves the thanks of the entire community. Please give them my thanks. I wish more people had taken the time to see firsthand the efforts they made in the budget process and throughout the year. The Board needs to recognize and reward their efforts. To that end, I have offered a suggestion for doing so in the recommendations listed below.

As I listened to the Supervisor and to each of the other members of Town Board on the 20th, I thought I heard a willingness to collaborate and, where needed, to compromise that was seldom apparent at the few Town Board meetings I was able to attend this year. I also thought I heard many good suggestions for modifying the proposed budget's spending plan. The recommendations below are largely my interpretation of what I thought were the proposals on which the Board members showed a desire to reach agreement.

So, without further adieu, here are the recommendations I wish to make for inclusion in the public record at the time of the formal public hearing on the proposed 2011 budget for the Town of Bethlehem.

Recommendation on the proposed 2011 Town of Bethlehem Budget:

1. Reduce the proposed use of the fund balance monies from a proposed \$2.1 million to \$1.6

2. Do not defer payments into the retirement system; i.e., spend the \$144K needed to pay the full cost imposed by the State Comptroller for the 2011 Town fiscal year.
3. Reduce the proposed NPS funding by at least \$250K.
4. Reduce the proposed PS funding by implementing the employee evaluation program in 2011, but deferring the step advances part of the program until at least 2012. Consider expanding the evaluation program to include a competitive ranking score that allows step advances for an annually established “eligible score” group of the highest performing employees. .
5. Replace the proposed COLA with a one-time, 1%, bonus for top ranked, high performing employees in 2011.
6. Ask all elected Town officials to join the members of the Town board in taking a voluntary 10% cut in compensation in 2011.
7. Reduce the proposed town tax increase to 1% - this at a time when most communities are facing significant tax increases.
8. No layoffs and strict vacancy control oversight.

I believe that the town of Bethlehem property tax payers will support such a small increase in taxes while most Town of Bethlehem property owners are unlikely to support the proposed County tax increase.

Please make this correspondence available to every member of the Town Board as promptly as you are able. Please enter this letter into the Public Hearing record. Further, feel free to include this letter as an attachment to the Agenda of the Town Board Meeting that includes the formal public hearing on the proposed 2011 Town Budget.

Sincerely, John Shiperd

Marie Capone –When Mr. Moran talk about facture, he can talk about the hole on the corner of Delaware and Borthwick. Kyle Kotary knows about it for years and I have complained a lot. And nothing has been done. In the winter it freeze. It doesn't affect the people here. The Town of Bethlehem is very small compared to the Town of Schenectady, the Mayor of Schenectady makes \$45,000 less than the Supervisor here. It was on television. Why do people have to have a window by their desk, you were going to put 2 window upstairs so the people can see out the window. There is no window in the senior office nobody has ever complained but at the same time its business as usual.

Michael Connors – Albany County Comptroller- I know you folks have done a lot of work on this budget and you're to be congratulated. I think you're extremely lucky to have the kind of citizenry turnout that you had. We have as you know a much more difficult budget to face ourselves and we had only 7 speakers last night at our hearing. You have close to 60 people here which I think is a tremendous thing. We did look at your budget and I thought it was a balanced budget, it was creative and I think you folks have done a lot of work. I think you're in a very strong financial position, maybe we'll ask to borrow some money from your fund balance. Your fund balance is significantly higher percentage wise than ours, if that were legal for you to loan money, that would be a good way to generate some additional revenue. But I will ask 2 things for you to consider. We are working with other governments within the county local governments to try and do some things. We are recently completing a financial review of Town of Rennselaerville, helping them with an audit. There's going to be \$25,000 to get one year looked at and we've looked at 4 years for them and done some work there. We're also working with the City of Cohoes and the Village of Menands on a water and sewer bonding effort and should the State Comptroller allow us to do will save them considerable. The county has an investment rate, bonding capability, so they'll avoid the enormous cost of paying for bond insurance. Their cost of issuance will be much lower and quite frankly our rating is much higher so their interest costs will be lower also. We think there are opportunities down the road for you to take a look at that. I think long term we are going to be looking at a serious change in the way we all do business. I think it behooves all of us to recognize that we're all in the business of delivering services to the same people and we should look at how to share staff and do some things with each other. We look forward to working with the Town of Bethlehem and we applaud you on your efforts and your excellent passing of the budget. You are very lucky to have this kind of citizen input it's kind of surprising considering how tough our budget is that we had such a small turnout. Your blessed to have this kind of turnout.

A motion to close the Public Hearing was offered by Councilman Kotary, seconded by Councilman Jordan and approved with the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Messina, Councilwoman Dawson, Councilman Hennessey, Councilman Jordan, Councilman Kotary
 NAYES: none
 ABSENT: none

The public hearing closed at 6:55pm.

APPROVAL OF 10/13/10 MINUTES-----

A motion to approve the Town Board minutes as drafted was offered by Councilwoman Dawson, seconded by Councilman Kotary and approved with the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Messina, Councilwoman Dawson, Councilman Hennessey, Councilman Jordan, Councilman Kotary

NAYES: none

ABSENT: none

PERMISSION FOR THE JUSTICE COURT, RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM TO APPLY FOR A GRANT THROUGH THE JUSTICE COURT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (JACP)

Supervisor Messina said under this program the Town is allowed to apply for a grant up to \$30,000. This grant proposal is for \$10,000 to be used for security purposes in the courts.

A motion to authorize the Town of Bethlehem to apply for a grant through the Justice Court Assistance program was offered by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilwoman Dawson and approved with the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Messina, Councilwoman Dawson, Councilman Hennessey, Councilman Jordan, Councilman Kotary

NAYES: none

ABSENT: none

#30 Resolution

Resolution To Authorize The Town of Bethlehem To Apply For A Grant Through the Justice Court Assistance Program

WHEREAS, funding is available to eligible municipalities under the Justice Court Assistance Program, wherein eligible projects can receive up to \$30,000 in grant monies; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Bethlehem has determined that additional Court supplies and equipment will provide enhanced services to the Town's Justice Court, and is a qualifying purpose and therefore an appropriate use of grant proceeds; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem does hereby authorize the Supervisor to file an application for grant funding under the Justice Court assistance program.

The forgoing resolution was presented for adoption by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilwoman Dawson and duly adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Supervisor Messina, Councilwoman Dawson, Councilman Hennessey, Councilman Jordan, Councilman Kotary

Nayes: none

October 26, 2010

REQUEST FROM THE SUPERVISOR TO RESCHEDULE THE NOVEMBER 24, 2010 TOWN BOARD MEETING TO TUESDAY NOVEMBER 23, 2010 @ 6:00PM.

A motion to reschedule the November 24, 2010 Town Board meeting to Tuesday November 23, 2010 @ 6:00PM was offered by Councilwoman Dawson, seconded by Councilman Kotary and approved with the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Messina, Councilwoman Dawson, Councilman Hennessey, Councilman Jordan, Councilman Kotary

NAYES: none

ABSENT: none

REQUEST FROM COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2011 SEWER TAX ROLLS

A motion to set the public hearing for the 2011 Sewer Tax Rolls at 6:00pm on Tuesday November 23, 2010 was offered by Councilman Kotary, seconded by Councilman Jordan and approved with the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Messina, Councilwoman Dawson, Councilman Hennessey, Councilman Jordan, Councilman Kotary
NAYES: none
ABSENT: none

REQUEST FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO SPEND \$27,000 FROM THE PARKLAND SET ASIDE FUND TO SATISFY OUR MATCH FOR A NYSDEC GRANT TO CONSTRUCT AN ACCESSIBLE FISHING PLATFORM AT HENRY HUDSON PARK

Ms. Lanahan said this was a grant received in 2004. The Town is moving forward now, the Town has gone out to bid for the dock portion, they are working with one of the TDE's to help with some of the permitting and the design and bid documents. The \$27,000 is the Town's matching 25% portion of the grant. This grant has not yet been received but will be reimbursed once the work is completed. The funds will come out of the Parkland Set Aside funds which come from residential development. The fishing platform is designed as removable because of the ice in the river. The Park's Department will be reviewing RFP's that are out for another grant through NYSDEC which will allow a shoreline stabilization study. This is to identify the best types of stabilization. Councilman Kotary asked if the dock would be fitted to whatever stabilization takes place along the shoreline. Ms. Lanahan said yes because it is removable. They hoped to have the study done by the time the docks were constructed. It would help with the placement. Councilman Kotary replied to Mr .Keller's comments that the US Army Corps of Engineers who originally built the bulkhead should be the one to fix it. They will not and the Town doesn't have the ability to change that. The park cannot be limited to residents only because of the grant monies that are used.

A motion to approve the resolution to spend \$27,000 from the parkland set aside fund to satisfy our match for a NYSDEC grant to construct an accessible fishing platform at Henry Hudson Park was offered by Councilman Kotary, seconded by Councilman Jordan and approved with the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Messina, Councilwoman Dawson, Councilman Hennessey, Councilman Jordan, Councilman Kotary
NAYES: none
ABSENT: none

RESOLUTION # 31

RESOLUTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem in the County of Albany, State of New York has on the 27th day of October, 2010, duly adopted a resolution as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem has determined that it is in the public interest of the Town to construct an accessible fishing platform at Henry Hudson Park and

WHEREAS, the funds requested are the required 25% match portion of a Dept. of Environmental Conservation grant, and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the match will not exceed \$27,900 in cash and in-kind services; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of these needs, funds for such purpose are in the Parkland Set Aside Fund; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that it is in the public interest to complete the project as described above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the expenditure of the Parkland Set Aside moneys to fund this project up to a maximum amount of \$27,900 and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Comptroller is authorized to expend from the Parkland Set Aside Fund the funds necessary up to \$27,900 in said fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves a budget modification for the project as described above, with an increase to Parks and Recreation Capital Expenditure line items (110-7120-551-22-03), and a corresponding increase to Planning Board Fee revenue (110-0000-327-21-15), in the amount of \$27,900.

The motion to adopt the resolution was made by Councilman Kotary, was seconded by Councilman Jordan and duly adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Messina, Councilwoman Dawson, Councilman Hennessey, Councilman Jordan, Councilman Kotary

NOES: none
ABSENT: none

DATED: October 27, 2010

REQUEST FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION FOR APPROVAL OF SEASONAL PERSONNEL.

Supervisor Messina said this person will work with the Youth Employment Service in the Parks Department. It helps young people find employment. She also has some knowledge of public relations and economic development. He proposes to fund this position partially our the YES program and partially from the Supervisor's budget for this year. He thought it would help get the word out about the Town's recreational programs.

A motion to approve the hiring of the person in Ms. Lanahan's memo of October 27, 2010 to work in the YES program and advancing the town's recreational activities and helping economic development was offered by Councilwoman Dawson, seconded by Councilman Jordan; discussion

Councilman Hennessey said he has heard this candidate was very qualified, though her name had not been mentioned. He said there wasn't a public posting of the position, he hasn't seen a job description and it is characterized as a seasonal position on the agenda and he thought it was a permanent job. He thought this hiring process was different from past positions. He thought the candidate was qualified but he differed with the process.

The above mentioned motion was approved with the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Messina, Councilwoman Dawson, Councilman Jordan, Councilman Kotary
NAYES: Councilman Hennessey
ABSENT: none

RECOMMENDATION OF THE SUPERVISOR TO APPOINT DIANNE KANSAS TO THE BETHLEHEM 20/20 IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

A motion to approve the appointment of Dianne Kansas to the Bethlehem 20/20 Implementation Committee was offered by Councilman Kotary, seconded by Councilwoman Dawson and approved with the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Messina, Councilwoman Dawson, Councilman Hennessey, Councilman Jordan, Councilman Kotary
NAYES: none
ABSENT: none

REQUEST FROM TOWN ENGINEER TO AWARD A CONTRACT FOR THE HENRY HUDSON PARK FISHING PLATFORM PROJECT TO THE DOCK DOCTORS FOR \$93,900 AND AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR THIS WORK.

A motion to award a contract for the Henry Hudson Park fishing platform to Dock Doctor's for \$93,900 and authorize the Supervisor to execute a contract for this work was offered by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Kotary and approved with the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Messina, Councilwoman Dawson, Councilman Hennessey, Councilman Jordan, Councilman Kotary
NAYES: none
ABSENT: none

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS-----

Linda Jazinski – She liked the availability of the agenda attachments. She had an issue with the seasonal personal person that was hired. She didn't think the exemption from public information applied to this person. She also wanted to see more information on the people appointed to committees. She asked if the Town was going forward with WEB casting even though the budget was very tight.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS -----

A motion to adjourn the meeting was offered by Councilwoman Dawson, seconded by Councilman Kotary and approved with the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor Messina, Councilwoman Dawson, Councilman Hennessey, Councilman Jordan, Councilman Kotary
NOES: none
ABSENT: none

The meeting closed at 7:25 PM.

Nanci Moquin
Town Clerk