

A Public Hearing Scheduled for the Town of East Bloomfield was held at the East Bloomfield Town Hall on Monday November 24, 2014 at 7:00 PM with the regular scheduled Town Board Meeting to follow at 7:30 PM with Supervisor Dianne Crowley presiding.

Present:	Supervisor	Dianne G. Crowley
	Council Person	Ronald P. Hawkins
	Council Person	Michelle T. MacMillan
	Council Person	Frank W. Fessner
	Council Person	William J. Mitchell Jr.

Attending the meeting were Margaret Gochenaur (Town Clerk), Brian Bernard (Highway Superintendent), Andy Hall (Code Enforcement Officer), Ron Roach (AWA Liaison), Gary and Sheree Hooper, Deidra Stoddard, Hillary and Gary Lindner, Laurie Newell, John Guilford, Anson Rogers, Brian Witz, Nelson Thorpe, Bob Schenk, and Kathy Cooper.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor Crowley.

Crowley welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for coming.

Crowley opened the Public Hearing at 7:00PM and the Public Notice was read by Town Clerk Gochenaur on the 2015 Preliminary Budget. Crowley asks the people in attendance if they have any questions or concerns. Jay Mitchell started by giving a history of the Boards attempts to complete the Budget Process including Public Workshops that started back in September of 2014 with the Board meeting at least twice a month and working 4 of those nights passed midnight. Mitchell reported that the Board met again last week and went over the Budget once again to see if they could try to figure out where some of the money went so that the Board could explain it to the residents tonight. Mitchell reported that the Board doesn't believe that there is any money missing but that the money may have not been spent properly. Mitchell gave an example of a piece of Highway equipment that was purchased in 2014. The Board paid cash for the equipment instead of getting a BAN for it. This would explain some of the reserve shortage. Crowley reported that another piece of the shortage was that a number was entered into the Budget twice from 2013. Gary Hooper questioned expenditures from 2013 and 2014 then going forward to 2015 such as Data Processing, the Supervisors Budget, the Assessor's Budget, Maintenance, Traffic Control, and Public Safety, just to name a few. Discussion was held. Brian Witz asked about what is being categorized as additional revenue sources and what they are. Discussion was held. Brian also asked why those revenues have been reduced by \$300,000.00. Discussion was held. Andy Rogers reported that the Town spent the Fund Balance Down, "kicking the can down the road a few years" is that right? Mitchell responded that is exactly right. Andy then questions the Highway Loader issue. Discussion was held. Rogers asked if other Towns are facing these same issues, Crowley reported that yes, some of the other Towns are, as has been reported in the local media. Crowley reported that the State of New York has asked that Municipalities stay below the 2% Tax Cap but that the Towns can only stay below so long before they have to exceed it. Crowley reported that the State has also capped how much money The Towns can have in Reserve. Discussion was held. Rogers asked if there is any way the Highway can cut back on equipment for 2015. Bernard reported that the only equipment that is being purchased for the Highway in 2105 is a Highway Mower. Gary Linder asked the Board why the Highway Superintendent and the Code Enforcement Officer have to get a new truck every year. Crowley reported that the trucks are purchased under state bid and that the Town actually made money when they sold them one year later. Crowley reported that if the time came when the Town wasn't making money off the sale of the trucks that the Board would then take a look to see what should be done going forward. Discussion was held. Bernard reported that this was the same type of situation with the Loader that was purchased and then sold. The Town actually made money on the sale of the Loader. Rogers asked Bernard about the low hours that are put on pieces of Highway Equipment such as the Grader, and the Excavator and why we can't share equipment with other Towns. Bernard reported that he did contact Bristol and West Bloomfield last year to see if either were interested in sharing the purchase of the Trac Machine that was purchased last year and both declined. Discussion was held. Bob Schenk asked Bernard why the Highway Department doesn't rent equipment that isn't used very often instead of buying it. Bernard reported that it isn't easy to rent equipment when needed. Schenk disagreed with Bernard and said that you can rent any piece of equipment within a week. Discussion was held. Schenk told the Board that he wasn't there to belittle the Board but if the Town was a Business they would find ways to cut the Budget. A Business would not have any other choice but to cut their Budget somewhere. Discussion was held. Rogers told Schenk they have cut the Budget but that the Town Has spent the Fund Balance down to nothing and that the Town has to start rebuilding that Fund Balance. Discussion was held. John Guilford wanted to make sure he was understanding the 2015 Proposed Budget correctly. With a 20% tax increase at the end of next year 2015 that the Town is still going to have one of the lowest Fund Balances ever. Guilford questions what is in store for the residents of the Town of East Bloomfield for next year. Discussion was held. Gary Hooper asked when the Town was having a REVAL. Crowley reported that the REVAL would be done in 2015. Hooper said that could then be a double hit. Mitchell disagreed. Discussion was held. Crowley reported that the 2015 Proposed Budget is a "No Fluff" Budget. Crowley reported that the Town

buildings are in need of repairs but the Board is currently putting a band aid on the issues. Discussion was held. Andy Rogers wanted to hear from the rest of the Board Members on what they thought about the 2015 Proposed Town Budget specifically Frank Fessner, Ron Hawkins and Michelle MacMillan. Hawkins reported that people knew how he felt about the 2015 Proposed Budget. Hawkins went on to say that he would have to work the rest of his life because he couldn't afford to retire. Discussion was held. Fessner nor MacMillan had a chance to respond to Rogers question before the next person spoke. Hillary Linder told the Board with a 20% increase that would really hurt her. She asked why she has to pay for mistakes that have been made by the Board. Mitchell responded that maybe it's time for some "new blood" on the Board and that three seats would be up for re-election next year. He encouraged people to consider running. Discussion was held. Nelson Thorpe asked how much your assessment would go up on \$100,000.00. Mitchell responded \$56.00. Thorpe reported that some people spend that a week on going out to dinner or buying Lottery Tickets. Thorpe reported that he is a retired Highway Superintendent for the Town of East Bloomfield and the Budget is not an easy thing to put together but the Town Board always got thru that. Thorpe noted that a lot of the problems this Board is being faced with is a result of actions from the past years. Discussion was held. Crowley reported that the Board has spent many hours making sure that the numbers presented tonight were a true picture of what the Town is facing. Kathy Cooper asked if the County Tax and the Fire Tax are going up? Crowley reported that the County is not but the Fire District is. Cooper asks if there is any concern that the Town will lose the State Tax because the Town went over the cap. Crowley reported not that she was aware of. She will contact Robin Johnson from the County about this. Discussion was held. Andy Rogers asked isn't the only place to cut the Budget is in the Highway Department. Noting that the Highway is 64% of the Budget. Discussion was held. Nelson Thorpe noted that the Highway Budget is an easy target for a cut but it's not the smart choice. Discussion was held. Deidra Stoddard asked when the Audit will be completed. Crowley reported in 2015. Mitchell again told the residents that the Board may need new blood, with new ideas and encouraged people to consider running for the three Board seats that will be up in the Fall of 2015. Discussion was held. Motion made by Mitchell, seconded by MacMillan, to close the Public Hearing at 8:30PM. Motion Approved: Ayes 5 (Fessner, Mitchell, Hawkins, MacMillan, and Crowley) Nays 0

Crowley opened the regular Town Board meeting at 8:42 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Motion made by Mitchell, seconded by MacMillan, to approve the November 10, 2014 minutes. No Discussion was held. Motion Approved: Ayes 5 (Fessner, Mitchell, Hawkins, MacMillan, and Crowley) Nays 0. Motion made by Mitchell, seconded by MacMillan, to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing held on November 17, 2014. No Discussion held. Motion Approved: Ayes 5 (Fessner, Mitchell, Hawkins, MacMillan, and Crowley) Nays 0

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT: Hall reported that he has received 3 bids for replacing all the windows in the Town Hall with U26 Grade Double Payne windows. Hall reported the 3 bids were from: Rayburn Remodeling with a price of \$16,489.33. Wonder Windows with a price of \$10,300.00 and Kevin Wyand with a price of \$7,000.00. Crowley reported to the Board that \$7,200.00 was allocated to spend in the 2014 Budget for window replacement for the Town Hall. Discussion was held. Motion made by Mitchell, seconded by MacMillan, to award Kevin Wyand the bid and authorize the spending of \$7,000.00 to replace the windows in the Town Hall. Motion Approved: Ayes 5 (Fessner, Mitchell, Hawkins, MacMillan, and Crowley) Nays 0

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Motion made by MacMillan, seconded by Mitchell, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report. Discussion was held. Motion Approved: Ayes 5 (Fessner, Mitchell, Hawkins, MacMillan, and Crowley) Nays 0. Motion made by Mitchell, seconded by MacMillan, to approve the proposed Municipal Snow and Ice Agreement Extensions for 2016/2017. Discussion was held. Motion Approved: Ayes 5 (Fessner, Mitchell, Hawkins, MacMillan, and Crowley) Nays 0

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Motion was made by Mitchell, seconded by Fessner, to adopt the Resolution 2014-041 To Appoint John R. Wadsworth to the East Bloomfield Board of Assessment Review and waive the reading of the resolution. Adopted: Ayes 5 (Fessner, Hawkins, Mitchell, MacMillan, and Crowley) Nays: 0

RESOLUTION 2014-041

**RESOLUTION 2014-041
RESOLUTION TO APPOINT JOHN R. WADSWORTH TO**

EAST BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW

WHEREAS, Thomas J. Rogan resigned from the Board of Assessment Review in July 2014.

WHEREAS, his term does not expire until September 30, 2015 and

WHEREAS, the Board of Assessment Review needs to have a replacement to finish his term and

WHEREAS, John R. Wadsworth has been approved by the Town Board of East Bloomfield to fill this position from November 24, 2014 thru September 30, 2015 therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that this Town Board hereby appoints John R. Wadsworth, to the Board of Assessment Review starting November 24, 2014 through September 30, 2015; and be it also

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to John R. Wadsworth.

Motion was made by Mitchell, seconded by Fessner, to adopt the Resolution 2014-042 To Re-Appoint Nick Glamack to the East Bloomfield Board of Assessment Review and waive the reading of the resolution. Adopted: Ayes 5 (Fessner, Hawkins, Mitchell, MacMillan, and Crowley) Nays: 0

RESOLUTION 2014-042

**RESOLUTION 2014-042
RESOLUTION TO RE-APPOINT NICK GLAMACK TO
EAST BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW**

WHEREAS, the Board of Assessment Review members are appointed for a five year term and

WHEREAS, the term for Nick Glamack was completed as of September 30, 2014 and is interested in serving another five year term.

RESOLVED, that this Town Board hereby re- appoints Nick Glamack, to the Board of Assessment Review, starting October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2019; and be it also

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to Nick Glamack.

Motion was made by Mitchell, seconded by MacMillan, to adopt the 2015 Final Budget. Discussion was held. Motion Approved: Ayes 3 (Mitchell, MacMillan, and Crowley) Nays: 2 (Fessner and Hawkins)

OTHER BUSINESS: Don Collins reported that under State Law there has to be an Exemption Report submitted with the Approved Town Budget and that he will provide that to the Town Supervisor. The report is 4 pages. Collins also reported that he spoke with the Attorney concerning the Commodore Lawsuit. The Attorney noted that they are waiting on a bid from the appraiser. Once this happens this could be a lease hold interest which means the facility is being leased. Collins reported that they typically drag their feet and this could be a two year project. Collins said he cannot predict what will happen. Discussion was held. Collins reported that he is on schedule for the REVAL. Discussion was held. Hawkins asked Crowley how she would find out if there was any repercussions for going over the Tax Cap. Crowley noted that she will contact Robin Johnson from the County. Crowley reminded the Board that Laurie Newell is retiring and that she will prepare a Resolution for the Boards Approval. Crowley also reported that Gene Rogers from the Planning Board is resigning and so is Don Rimlinger from the Zoning Board. Crowley reported she will prepare Resolutions for each of them for the Boards Approval. Discussion was held. Hall reported that both of these positions should be advertised. He will meet with Kim Rayburn to prepare the ad for the paper. Discussion was held. Hall reported that the concrete sidewalk has been poured at Veterans Park. Hall reported that the dumpster area is still not complete at Veterans Park. Discussion was held.

BUDGET TRANSFERS/AMENDMENTS: None.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Motion made by Fessner, seconded by MacMillan, to approve paying of the Bills. Discussion was held. Motion Approved: Ayes 5 (Fessner, Mitchell, Hawkins, MacMillan, and Crowley) Nays 0

General Fund A	- Abs. #422-	Vouchers - 396,398-401,404-413,7259,7263	\$	52,461.59
General Fund B	- Abs. #422 -	Vouchers - 396,402-404,407,414	\$	13,547.53
Highway DA	- Abs. #422-	Vouchers - 407,7267	\$	37,076.95
Highway DB	- Abs. #422-	Vouchers - 396,407,7260-7262,7264-7266	\$	21,826.09
Sewer District #1	- Abs. #422 -	Voucher - 411	\$	285.72
Water Dist. #1	- Abs. #422 -	Voucher - 411,415	\$	4,363.05
Water Dist. #2	- Abs. #422-	Voucher - 397	\$	35.00
Water Dist. #2 Ext.#2	- Abs. #422-	Voucher - 397,411	\$	57.33

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Fessner, seconded by MacMillan, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 PM. Motion Approved: Ayes 5 (Fessner, Mitchell, Hawkins, MacMillan, and Crowley) Nays 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret M. Gochenaur
Town Clerk