



Town of Porter

Work Session

~ Minutes ~

3265 Creek Road
Youngstown, NY 14174

TownofPorter.Net

Barb Dubell
716-745-3730

Tuesday, October 11, 2016

6:00 PM

Town Hall Auditorium

I. Call to Order

6:00 PM Meeting called to order on October 11, 2016 at Town Hall Auditorium, 3265 Creek Rd., Youngstown, NY.

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Mert Wiepert	Town of Porter	Supervisor	Present	
Larry White	Town of Porter	Deputy Supervisor	Present	
Thomas Baia	Town of Porter	Councilman	Present	
Jeff Baker	Town of Porter	Councilman	Present	
Joe Fleckenstein	Town of Porter	Councilman	Present	
Barb Dubell	Town of Porter	Town Clerk	Present	
Kara Hibbard	Town of Porter	Deputy Town Clerk	Absent	
Mike Dowd	Town of Porter	Attorney	Present	
Roy Rogers	Town of Porter	Code Enforcement Officer	Present	
Susan Driscoll	Town of Porter	Assessor	Present	
Scott Hillman	Town of Porter	Highway Superintendent	Late	6:40 PM

II. Reports

1. Report 2016-201

2017 Budget Review

Pat Brown from Brown & Company attended the meeting. He used a 5 year comparison from 2011 to 2015, from prior audit reports to focus on fund balances.

It doesn't give an opinion on fund balances, it's not designed to do that. What it is intended to do is report third parties for the board and third parties the financial position status of the town.

The town's financial position is very strong, very good fund balances. It puts the town in a good position to address various items, and there is quite a few options. You are borrowing from within instead of going to third party, paying higher interest, closing costs things of that nature.

We have been doing the audit for a lot of years and have found the budgeting here very conservative. Revenues are not over inflated, expenses are pretty much what you need.

He handed out a chart showing the 5 year comparisons for Unappropriated/Unrestricted/Undesignated Fund Balance Surplus (Deficit) and Operating Surplus (Deficit). He focused on General A Fund and General Part Town B.

He explained to the board how to read the chart and understand how the funds are allocated.

Councilman Fleckenstein had questions about the amount of money that is in some of the accounts. The fund balance is growing and he feels that we might be a little high on taxes.

Pat went into great detail about the accounts and the way the money is allocated.

A work session to discuss the 2017 budget was set for Monday, October 17th at 6:00 pm.

Attorney Dowd went over the **SEQR** Form to Amend the Zoning Ordinance to permit Sales & Service of Farm and Garden Equipment in a rural residential zone. We are going to go along with the Planning Boards recommendation. The code does provide that you have to get Site Plan approval and a Special Use Permit. It's up to the Planning Board on each individual basis in there site plan process to set up hours of operation, where the building is, it's case to case.

Peddlers Permit:

Attorney Dowd: I can put something together that says there is NO SOLICITATION period. First of all is anyone going to challenge it and second if they do, who is going to get them, follow up?? Is it up to the cops? I haven't seen anything that says there is "no solicitation" at least not in New York. If the resident puts a sign out in their front yard that says "no solicitation" and somebody walks up, they can call the cops.

We can do something with a permit, a hefty fee and a registry. I think that would chase most people away. We'll put that on the agenda for next month.

Councilman Fleckenstein: I have been asked by a couple of employees to entertain the thought of a flat rate raise, instead of a percentage. The only way you can do that is if we get the figures and we discuss it at our next meeting. I have been asked so I would like to look at it and see where it comes out.

Constabulary:

Fleckenstein: If we do this do we have to have an actual constable or is this just pertaining to the courts and police.

Dowd: Your have the constable for 4 hours a week in front of the town justice. If you want to have them do something else you can call them to cover.

RESULT:	REPORT ISSUED
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