

Town of Independence
 Regular Meeting
 Preliminary Budget Hearing
 November 12, 2020

The Independence Town Board met in the Town Hall on November 12, 2020 at 7:00 pm for the regular monthly meeting and the 2021 Preliminary Budget Hearing.

Present: Supervisor Reichman; Council: Meunier, Ellison, Brubaker, Howe ; Town Clerk , Bledsoe; Highway Superintendent, Acomb
 Visitors: Two Independence Residents

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Reichman called the Public Hearing to order. The Clerk declared the Hearing had been duly advertised in the form of Legal Notice and posting on the Town Clerk signboard.

Review and discussion was held among residents and board regarding 2021 budget.

A motion to close the Preliminary Budget Hearing was made by Supervisor Reichman, seconded by Council Howe and carried by all at 8:20pm.

Superintendent Reichman called the regular meeting to order.

A motion to accept the October 8, 2020 minutes was made by Council Meunier, seconded by Council Brubaker and carried by all.

Resolution # 16-2020 - Budget Adoption for 2021 was offered by Council Meunier, moved upon by Council Ellison. Clerk called a roll vote, all voting "yes." Clerk to file with the County.

Superintendent Acomb gave highway report. The highway dept has been busy fixing washouts on Heselton, shouldering, assisting Wellsville, Willing and West Union, ditching South Hill and Forsythe, cold patching and getting trucks ready for the winter months.

Fuel Report:

	Used	Purchased	Fire Dept.	IES	Police Dept.	Measure
Diesel:	994.6	1377.0	20	19	0	3'2"
Gas:	113.4	128.2	18.1	0	25.2	2'2"

Supervisor Reichman reported that Armstrong will be assisting the Highway Dept. on November 18th to hang the Christmas lights and decorations on the electric poles in town!

A motion to accept the updated Teamster's contract was made by Council Howe, seconded by Council Meunier and carried by all.

Supervisor Reichman gave an update on the Town Hall and Water Dept. Generators.

Supervisor Reichman gave an update on the Well house bathroom install. Construction will start in December.

Resignation read from volunteers mowing Fulmer Valley cemetery.

Discussion was held regarding Tax Exemption for residents 65 and older. A motion was made by Council Howe, seconded by Council Meunier with all members voting "Yes" to accept **Resolution #15-2020, Changing Income Level For Partial Tax Exemption for Persons Over 65 Years of Age** from \$9,000 to \$15,000.

Update given on Police Reform. Board will be surveying the community in the future as part of its process.

Clerk Bledsoe reported that she had reported the delinquent water bills to the County for the Tax Levy.

Clerk and Police reports were reviewed by Board.

Bills were reviewed with a motion made by Supervisor Reichman, seconded by Council Brubaker and carried by all to pay abstracts #11-2020 in the following amounts:

Water:	Voucher: 83-88	\$987.12
General:	157-174	\$6,317.19
Highway:	157-172	\$21,732.18

A motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Reichman, seconded by Council Meunier and carried by all at 9:15pm.

Jasmine Bledsoe, Town Clerk

