Budget Meeting, Colton Town Board, October 23, 2019

**County of St. Lawrence, State of New York, 94 Main St., Colton 13625**

Present: George R. Cayey, Supervisor Councilpersons: Grace Hawley

 Kevin Hawley, Hwy. Supt. Katheryn Hayes

 Donna Buckley, Clerk Lisa Fisher-Davis

 Ronald Robert

Others present: Shelley Rayner and Tim Hawley

Supervisor Cayey opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 3:00 p.m. as advertised.

Mr. Cayey and Mr. Robert met with each department head to review their budget requests. The numbers were put into the Tentative Budget and presented to Board Members.

Mr. Cayey started with the General Fund using the same tax revenue as last year. The Board discussed several budget lines and asked questions about the requests.

Mr. Hawley stated he wants to build fund balance in order to replace 2 bridges. Highway Fund balance is to be increased by $30,000 for bridges. At this time the Board discussed whether or not the $30,000 would be with or without payback and/or with or without interest.

Mr. Hawley said there is 1 more year remaining of the 5 year CHIPS Agreement. It’s unknown if it will be available after that.

Mrs. Hawley asked if the taxes increased by $30,000 would it still keep us under the 2% tax cap? Yes.

Mr. Robert added the people can’t continue to pay increases every year. Mr. Cayey replied the taxes will remain the same because we are using an estimated $135,000 of fund balance.

The Union Contract has not been negotiated yet so there may be some changes to come.

The salt barn grant is a 50% match, we received $105,000. So far only $15,000 has been charged against it. The barn itself won’t be built until 2021.

Mr. Cayey said the changes will be made and a preliminary budget will be presented at the next budget meeting on October 28, 2019 at 3:00.

More discussion was held on different views of the budget and requests and the effect on the tax payers.

Motion # 1

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mrs. Fisher-Davis, seconded by Mrs. Hawley to adjourn.

Ayes 5 Hawley, Hayes, Fisher-Davis, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried, 4:45 p.m.

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 Donna Buckley, Town Clerk