

**Board of Trustees
Minutes
April 17, 2017**

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Dennis Siry, Deputy Mayor Kevin Smith, Trustee Jessica Bernius, Trustee Nick LaLota, Trustee Thomas Whalen

ALSO PRESENT: Chief of Police, Glenn Slack
Superintendent of Public Works, Bruce S. Hopper
Code Enforcement Officer, Robert Alweis
Chief of Fire Department, Jeff Erath
Village Attorney, Bruce Kennedy
Deirdre L. Parker, Deputy Village Clerk
Administrative Assistant, Katie DeGraff

The salute to the flag was led by Chief Slack

Mayor Siry welcomed everyone to the April 17th meeting of the Board of Trustees

There being no “Mayor’s Actions”, Mayor Siry began with the items on the Agenda:

Public Hearing:

Discussion of the tentative **2017-2018** Village of Amityville **Budget**

Village of Amityville

Proposed Budget 2017-18

To: The Board of Trustees

Submitted herewith, in accordance with Village law, is the budget for the Fiscal year June 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018. The total recommended appropriations amount for revenue an expense is \$15,802,779

Mayor Dennis Siry

Preliminary Budget 2017-18

AVG TAX CHANGE \$0.00

COMPLIES WITH CAP- YES

Tax rate - 35.23/100

Budget includes:

- 200K Contingency for unanticipated expense
- 175K Sergeant Promotion /separation pay
- 120K Amityville Fire Dept. paid Paramedic
- 200K Capital Expenditures
- 250K FD LOSAP

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Fund Balance:

The Village currently has an unassigned Fund balance of \$352,496
Estimated surplus for 2016-2017 of \$200,000 to \$250,000

Amount:

Total Appropriations:	\$ 15,802,779
Tax levy	\$ 12,884,458
Less: Estimated Revenue other than Real Property Taxes	\$ 2,918,321

Revenue:

Shared Services	13,939,745
Administration Dept.	910,346
Police	195,000
Building Dept.	268,000
Public Works	229,173
Fire Dept.	35,515
Court	225,000
Capital Projects	<u>0</u>
Total Budget Revenue	<u>15,802,779</u>

Expenses:

Shared Services	1,282,327
Administration Dept.	959,646
Police	7,200,524
Building	308,525
Public Works	3,164,952
Fire Dept.	1,166,874
Court	320,053
Capital Projects	200,000
Debt Service	<u>1,166,878</u>
Total Budgeted Expenses	<u>15,802,779</u>

Mayor Siry explained the budget in full detail line by line and that they are hoping for a 0% tax increase. He explained that the bond rating has dropped, it was refinanced a few months ago at a lower rate. He explained that there was \$150,000 put into a restricted line so that it cannot be touched for anything other than retirement buyouts. He explained that the non-property tax money they get from Suffolk County sales tax went up \$70,000 from having the Amityville Police Department. The Quality of Life line has gone up \$20,000 in the budget, Mayor Siry let the public know that if they have any issue to let Village Hall know and they will be taken care of.

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Mayor Siry went through the budget line by line explaining the changes; For the Building Department the total expenses only went up to \$100,000 and can expect the building permit revenue to go up with the big projects we have coming in. For the Department of Public works Mayor Siry explained that they hope to get more road openings done which will bring in more fees, and where CHIP money comes from they get \$153,000 per year and if it isn't used it rolls over. He explains that we are working with Town of Babylon to replace the street lights to LED lighting and that will save around \$60,000-\$70,000 a year. Also they added \$25,000 for a contract with a street sweeping company, if we can purchase a new street sweeper it will save us that \$25,000 a year; For the Amityville Fire Department they need to increase their line by \$20,000 for EMT services, this will give them more coverage every night, they are looking into increasing taxes by .05% to cover this expense which will end up being about \$7.00 per household; For the Court he hopes to get a lot of money from the amnesty program, they need to increase their budget for training and school which they have been lacking; The Capital Projects line has not been touched that much so if it continues to not be used it will roll into the surplus line; Mayor Siry apologizes for how long it took to get the proposed budget online but he is planning to give the best service he can to the Village, he feels that if taxes have to go up .05% for EMT services it is a good decision so we can all be kept safe. Also he explained that this is a temporary budget that changes will be made on it; Trustee Whalen thanks Mayor Siry for all of his work he put in the past 5 days it is appreciated;

Joe Morin 94 Wood Ave asked what the estimated revenue other than real property taxes was for the last budget and if there is a plan in line to get the courts to make more money instead of lose it; Mayor Siry answered that that cannot be answered because that budget hasn't been closed out yet and that he is going to look into increasing the fines for the court and not be so lenient with the decisions so they can bring in more money from the big cases we have;

Margaret Shuff 77 South Bayview Ave stated that this is the first Board of Trustees budget meeting she has attended and she was looking for an education on this meanwhile there was no proper way for her to follow along because there were no printouts of the budget and it was put online so late. She feels there should have been print outs available for the public; Mayor Siry noted this;

Donelle Cronin 32 Mole Place stated that as of 4:00pm when she looked the budget was not online and according to NYS it should be available to all residents, unless everyone has a computer and printed it out they are in violation of that law;

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Bruce Pescitelli 60 Bedell Place thanked Mayor Siry for their time and effort on this budget that was handed to them only on the previous Wednesday giving them 4 days to put this together; Trustee Whalen added that he was expecting the board to work together on this but that didn't happen, they did their best;

James Squicciarini 42 Terry Avenue asked Mayor Siry if the Village Attorney was involved in this budget, Mayor Siry answered that he emailed a copy of the budget to him. Mr. Squicciarini also asked Mayor Siry was aware of the Section 5-506 subsection F of the Village Law, which states "A schedule of wages and salaries to be paid which shall be subdivided by administrative units and shall show in parallel columns, for each office or position of employment, the title, the number of persons in the title, the recommended rate of compensation for the title and the total recommended appropriation for the title." Mayor Siry states that he is not 100% familiar with this code. Mr. Squicciarini explained that it is their duty and responsibility to comply with the code and they have failed to do that they have failed to do their job;

Ed Moore 79 Wood Avenue asked about the Capital Projects portion of the budget because it affects him, he is wondering what capital projects they are planning to do in the budget and that they have done a lot of energy saving work in the Village and he would like to see that continue. Also can we use the money in that section of the budget to get a Engineering intern for the summer their going rates are around \$15 per hour;

Jane Schmitt 6 Unqua Place questioned why was Clerk/Treasurer Dina Shingleton was fired if they didn't have anyone to replace her, we are still paying her to do nothing and asked Mayor Siry if he thought that was a smart decision because she goes into Village Hall looking for answers to her questions and can't get them because "Dina handled that and she is no longer here" so no one knows what to tell her. Mayor Siry answers that this was a decision that he made and that everything will work out in the long run;

There being no further comments from the Board or from the Floor a MOTION to ADJOURN was made by Trustee LaLota and seconded by Trustee Whalen

Vote on Motion:	Mayor Siry	aye	
	Deputy Mayor Smith	aye	
	Trustee Bernius	aye	
	Trustee LaLota	aye	
	Trustee Whalen	aye	
Motion Carried:	5 aye		0 nays

Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm

Deirdre Parker, Deputy Clerk