

**SPECIAL WORKSHOP
2025 TOWN AND WATER BUDGETS
MINUTES VAN ETEN TOWN BOARD
OCTOBER 22, 2024**

RESOLUTIONS THIS MEETING 70-24 THRU 70-24

SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING OF TOWN OF VAN ETEN WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY TOWN SUPERVISOR GEORGE KETURI AT 7:01 PM.

ROLL CALL OF TOWN BOARD

HAROLD SHOEMAKER-COUNCILPERSON/DEPUTY SUPV.
FRED SWAYZE, JR.-COUNCILPERSON
CATHY LECLAIRE-COUNCILPERSON
ANDREW LARISON-COUNCILPERSON-EXC
GEORGE KETURI-SUPERVISOR

TOWN OFFICERS

BOB EASTWOOD-H'WAY SUPT.
SALLY WHITSON-ASSESSOR-EXC
DAWN ROSE-TOWN CLERK
BRANDON DECKER-CODE ENF-EXC
DENEEN DILLER- TOWN HISTORIAN-EXC
HEATHER GABLE- WATER OPERATOR-EXC
DUSTIN ROSE-CEMETERY CURATOR AND
DOG CONTROL OFFCR.-EXC
DONNA REDSICKER-WATER CLERK-EXC
LEON TUTTLE-TOWN JUSTICE-EXC

OTHERS PRESENT: REBECCA WRIGHT, PENNY FLORA, CRISTIE TREDEAU, JEREMIAH WHEELER AND SCOTT RODMAN

NEW BUSINESS:

2025 TENTATIVE WATER BUDGET

- SHOEMAKER STATED 2025 WATER BUDGET TOTAL IS \$186,500 AND 2024 WAS \$181,500-DEBT OF \$67,000 REMAINED SAME FOR INTEREST FREE WATER BOND PAYMENT. WATER TECHNICIAN, RICH LECLAIRE, HAS BEEN WORKING MORE HOURS WITH SPECIAL WATER PROJECTS AND UPDATING METERS, TRANSMITTERS AND INSTALLING RESETTERS (TOOL USED TO POSITION WATER METER BODY HORIZONTALLY, WHEN NECESSARY) (APPROXIMATELY 70 MORE METERS/TRANSMITTERS TO UPDATE).

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2025 TENTATIVE TOWN BUDGET

- KETURI STATED \$549,000 FOR GENERAL AND \$959,404 FOR HIGHWAY AND FIRE REMAINS \$160,000; TOTAL BUDGET OF \$874,504.
- KETURI NOTED TOWN HAS TRIED TO STAY UNDER 2% TAX CAP FOR YEARS AND UNFORTUNATELY, CAN NO LONGER ADHERE TO THAT.
- KETURI STATED 2024 WAS FIRST YEAR VAN ETEN EXCEEDED 2% TAX CAP; BUDGET PROCESS STARTS EARLY (AUGUST, SEPTEMBER) AND PROJECTED HIGHWAY FUND BALANCE HAS TO BE ESTIMATED AND UNFORTUNATELY, HIGHWAY PROJECTED FUND BALANCE WAS INCORRECT. KETURI IS HOPING FOR MORE CHIPS FUNDING FOR TOWN PROJECTS NEXT YEAR.
- LARISON ASKED IF FORMER VILLAGE RESIDENTS PAY FOR REFUSE SERVICES; SHOEMAKER EXPLAINED FUNDS COME FROM CETC MONEY (~91K) FROM DISSOLUTION IN AMOUNT OF ~13K PER YEAR FOR REFUSE SERVICES. SWAYZE, JR. NOTED TOWN HAS REQUESTED SEVERAL ESTIMATES FOR REFUSE SERVICES (SOME ESTIMATES AS HIGH AS \$60-70K) AND FRANK'S DISPOSAL ALWAYS COMES BACK AS LEAST EXPENSIVE.
- SWAYZE, JR. STATED NYS TAX CAP OF 2% IS OUTDATED AND IS DIFFICULT TO ADHERE TO; SWAYZE, JR. FEELS STATE SHOULD LOOK AT ABOLISHING 2% TAX CAP AND INCREASING CETC AMOUNTS FOR QUALIFYING MUNICIPALITIES. SWAYZE, JR. IS ATTENDING FUNCTION AND HE'S HOPING TO ASK

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ASSEMBLYMEMBER PALMESANO AND SENATOR THOMAS O'MARA ABOUT 2% TAX CAP AND CETC FUNDING.

- KETURI STATED TOWN PAID OFF TWO (2) INTEREST BEARING BONDS IN 2021, LOWERED MINIMUM WATER USAGE RATE, ADDED MORE MONEY TO GO INTO RESERVES; TOWN HAS BACK UP PUMPS ON HAND.
- SHOEMAKER STATED WATER DISTRICT PURCHASED SUBMERSIBLE PUMP FOR \$6,000 AND INSTALLATION WAS \$6,300; 2 PUMPS FOR SOUTH HILL BOOSTER AT \$4,600; MAIN PUMP WAS \$19,300 AND \$2,200. WAS PAID FOR TESTING OF EXISTING PUMP. SHOEMAKER NOTED TO COMPLETE WATER METER/TRANSMITTER PROJECT DUE TO BATTERY LIFE OF EXISTING TRANSMITTERS COST WILL BE APPROXIMATELY \$35,000.
- SHOEMAKER NOTED ONLY ASSESSOR WILL BE GETTING RAISE NEXT YEAR OF \$3,000-SHE'S DOING COMPLETE REEVALUATION IN HOUSE AND SAVING TAXPAYERS SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS. SHOEMAKER STATED KETURI AND SHOEMAKER ARE TAKING \$6,000 CUT IN PAY AND SWAYZE, JR. IS TAKING \$2,000 CUT IN PAY FOR 2025. SHOEMAKER STATED CODE ENFORCEMENT IS NOW HOURLY AND REDUCED SALARY APPROXIMATELY \$20,000.
- KETURI WILL MAKE TENTATIVE 2025 BUDGET AS PRELIMINARY.

RESOLUTION 70-24

TOWN BOARD OF VAN ETTEN APPROVES ADVERTISING FOR 2025 TOWN AND WATER BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:00 PM ON NOVEMBER 7, 2024. SPONSOR- SHOEMAKER. SECONDED-SWAYZE, JR. ROLL CALL VOTE-SHOEMAKER, LECLAIRE, SWAYZE, JR., LARISON AND KETURI. ALL AYE. CARRIED

- LARISON ASKED EASTWOOD FOR 2025 HIGHWAY PLAN; EASTWOOD WILL PROVIDE.

REGULAR TOWN BOARD WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 14, 2024 AT 7:00 PM.

ADJOURNED AT 7:51 PM MOTION BY LARISON. SECONDED BY LECLAIRE. ALL AYE. CARRIED.