

**HIGHLAND FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
2019 PROPOSED BUDGET HEARING
OCTOBER 16, 2018 6PM
Minutes**

Commissioners: Stephen DiLorenzo, Chairman	(Present)
Benjamin Bragg	(Absent)
John Fraino	(Absent)
Christian Erichsen	(Absent)
Alan Barone	(Present)
Secretary/Treasurer Jim Passikoff	(Absent)
District Clerk Denise A. Holzberger	(Present)

1. Opening of Hearing- *Chairman Dilorenzo called the hearing to order, led the salute to the flag and called for a moment of silence for fallen firefighters.*

2. Public Hearing:

Chairman's statement: This is the public hearing regarding the 2018 Proposed Budget.

In accordance with New York State Town law, all fire districts must, prior to the adoption of their Budget; hold a public hearing on their budget. This budget hearing must be held in such a manner to maximize participation in the budget process. The purpose of this hearing is to discuss the contents of the budget. The Board of Fire Commissioners in accordance with legal Requirements, has adopted their proposed budget, on the 12th day of September, 2017, which is 21 days prior to this budget hearing.

The Proposed budget was posted on the Highland Fire District's Website pursuant to the requirement of the Town Law.

Notice of Public Hearing was published or posted as least once at least 5 days before the date specified for the hearing in:

- The official newspaper of the fire district- Southern Ulster Times
- The official signboard of the Town of Lloyd
- The Fire District's webpage on the website of the Town of Lloyd
- The signboard located at Highland Fire District headquarters

The notice of public hearing specified the time, date and place where the hearing would be held. Upon its adoption, the Secretary made available for copying and inspection the proposed budget to any interested person during district office hours.

Purpose of hearing is to allow members of the general public to make comments on the budget. Any person may be heard in favor of or against the preliminary budget.

Please note that this is a proposed budget until the Board of Fire Commissioners adopts the final budget.

Prior to the public comment portion of the hearing, The Treasurer will make a brief presentation about the preliminary budget to the Board of Fire Commissioners and members of the public who are present. In the Treasurer's absence, the Chairman will present the budget.

This budget must be adopted no later than November 4, 2018 and submitted to the Town of Lloyd budget officer.

3. Presentation of Budget by Chairman DiLorenzo

Chairman DiLorenzo noted that the budget increase is 1.19%. The 2019 Proposed Budget is \$1,253,373.00 of which \$1,173,360.00 is to be raised by real property taxes. It was noted that we are not exceeding the tax cap. Rate per thousand of assessed value is \$1.1666.

4. Public Comment- Chairman requests any person wishing to be heard to come forward so that he may be heard in favor of, or against the proposed budget

Please raise your hand to be recognized, and state your name.

Please limit your comments to five minutes and direct your questions to the Board or Treasurer.

Please note that this is not a question and answer session. The Board is looking for your opinion on the budget or any part of it, what you are in favor of or what you are against. You may ask questions, but this board will not answer any questions until the conclusion of the public comment period.

Chairman DiLorenzo noted for the record that there was one member of the public present and commented regarding Apparatus Fund and asked about funding of Service Award Fund.

Chairman DiLorenzo noted that LOSAP funding is approximately 90%.

5. Conclusion of the Public Comment portion of the hearing

There being no further comment, Chairman DiLorenzo stated the public comment period is now concluded.

6. Questions from the Board-none

7. Close of Public hearing- Chairman DiLorenzo stated that there will not be a meeting immediately following the Public hearing as we do not have a quorum.

At 6:25 PM the Public Hearing was declared closed by Chairman DiLorenzo.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise A. Holzberger

APPROVED BOFC 11/13/18

APPROVED