

SPECIAL MEETING -BOARD OF TRUSTEES-DECEMBER 9, 2010-7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: ERNEST W. MARTIN, MAYOR; TRUSTEES - JOHN BASILE, KEN BAKER, ELLEN VOMACKA ABSENT: TRUSTEE COLLINS

Mayor Martin called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the pledge to the flag.

MOTION to approve TSCO#11 from The Chazen Companies increasing Task 30 in the amount of \$10,000 made by Trustee Basile, seconded by Trustee Vomacka
Discussion: we previously authorized \$25,000 to cover survey costs but we'll need at least one more which will be discussed during Executive Session
Motion carried 3-0

MOTION to approve payment of \$8400 to The Chazen Companies to cover boundary survey and wetland delineation for the Storm water Project made by Trustee Basile, seconded by Trustee Baker Discussion: Questions were answered regarding the need to begin surveying the Jason Rich property immediately in order to complete before snow comes. An MOU may be drafted but the survey work must be authorized tonight and the easement can be negotiated at a later date. Trustee Vomacka expressed concern about the cost and was asked to forward the latest cost analysis prepared by NYS DOT which states the project is expected to exceed \$600,000.
Motion carried 3-0

**VILLAGE OF STILLWATER
RESOLUTION DATED DECEMBER 9, 2010
A PROPERTY TAX CAP MUST INCLUDE MANDATE RELIEF**

Offered by Trustee Basile
Seconded by Trustee Vomacka

At a Special Meeting of the Village Board of the Village of Stillwater, County of Saratoga, State of New York, held on December 9, 2010, the following resolution was made as indicated above,

WHEREAS, the level of property taxation throughout New York has reached dangerously high levels; and

WHEREAS, New York leads the nation in property taxes simply because we lead the nation in imposing inefficient state mandates on our local governments; and

WHEREAS, two of the largest components of every municipal budget over which local officials have little control – pension payments and health insurance costs – are increasing at exorbitant rates; and

WHEREAS, in the case of pension costs, bills from the State Retirement System will increase by an average of 40% in both 2011 and 2012; and

WHEREAS, state laws pertaining to the collective bargaining of contracts between municipalities and employee unions, particularly those pertaining to firefighters and police officers, do not allow local officials to reasonably control the costs such contracts impose on property taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, as a solution to New York's property tax crisis, the Governor of New York and the New York State Legislature will, in 2011, consider enactment of legislation imposing a cap on the annual growth in property taxes; and

WHEREAS, a property tax cap will only work if it is simultaneously accompanied by a repeal of current state mandates that require local governments to increase spending and property taxes; and

WHEREAS, a property tax cap without repeal of costly state mandates will, by definition, lead to drastic cuts in essential local services and dramatic layoffs of municipal employees;

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NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED by the Village of Stillwater, that the Governor of State of New York and the members of the New York State Senate and New York State Assembly must reform the cost drivers that lead to high property taxes in New York – including pension benefits, health insurance costs and the collective bargaining process – as the central element of any effort to provide overdue property tax relief to the residents and businesses of New York.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor, Senate Majority and Minority Leaders, Assembly Speaker and the New York State Conference of Mayors.

Trustee Baker - Aye
Trustee Vomacka - Aye
Mayor Martin – Aye

Trustee Basile – Aye
Trustee Collins – Absent

Motion approved December 9, 2010

MOTION to adjourn to executive session at 8pm to discuss matters related to easement negotiation made by Trustee Basile, seconded by Trustee Vomacka
Motion carried 3-0

MOTION to adjourn made by Trustee Baker, seconded by Trustee Vomacka
Motion carried 3-0

Meeting adjourned 8:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Ryan
Clerk-Treasurer