

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
FY 2007 Budget
June 15, 2006

Council President Mary McCarthy called the June 15, 2006 public hearing to order at 6:34 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall. The following members and staff were present: Mary McCarthy, Council President, Norman Pinder, Council Vice-President, Mary Roby, Council Member, Bob McGrory, Town Manager, Lori Peddicord, Finance Officer, Chief Pignataro, and Jane Saulsbury, Administrative Aide. Mrs. Patti Bohonowicz, finance/software consultant, was also present.

Mrs. Saulsbury read the Certificate of Publication and the advertisement of the FY 2007 Budget Hearing for the record. There were no legal matters relating to the jurisdiction of the Town Council of Centreville or any objections in regard to the notice of public hearing.

Mrs. McCarthy turned the hearing over to Mr. McGrory to explain the budget preparation procedures. Mr. McGrory reviewed the process of preparing the budget, noting that in the future, work will begin sooner. There has been a compressed time line this year because of the change in management. He noted that Council has met in two work sessions, reviewed line item details and proposed amendments to the budget. He summarized general fund revenues and proposed capitol expenditures. Council would like to review contract services as a means to trim the budget.

Council's permission was requested for Mrs. Bohonowicz to present a visual presentation regarding the proposed budget. Mrs. Bohonowicz projected graphs and defined three scenarios by which the Town could generate and accumulate reserves to pay for projects. She recommended that Council wait another year before making a decision on lowering the tax rate. Mrs. Roby asked if the tax rate adopted on June 8th could be changed as the budget hasn't been adopted. Mr. McGrory advised it can be so long as it is passed by June 30th. Mrs. McCarthy said she is not comfortable with making a change without the Town Attorney present.

Citizens Forum

Mr. Sveinn Storm asked again for information on the Public Works Department's maintenance schedule. He also requested to know if his tax bill will be less with the decrease in the tax rate. He alleged not because his assessment has gone up. He stated that the suggestion by Town government that adding development would decrease citizen's tax bills is a lie and said it is not fair.

Mr. Dan Worth wondered why it is so hard to find \$83,000 (the deficit created by lowering the tax rate) in a \$2,000,000 budget. He asked how many new employees will be hired in the next fiscal year. Mr. Pinder listed them as follows: 3 police officers, 1 Public Works Director, 2 maintenance employees, 1 water superintendent, 2 office personnel and 1 meter person.

Mr. Andrew Langer suggested the Town should consider contracting out more services as they can be negotiated. He agreed that a maintenance schedule for Town equipment is important. Mr. Worth added that a contractor can be cut when their service is not longer needed.

Mr. Storm questioned the need for ten police officers and asked for a description of the shifts. It was suggested that he meet with Chief Pignataro to get this information.

There being no further business to discuss, the public hearing adjourned at 7:21 p.m. by motion and second of Mr. Pinder and Mrs. Roby, respectively, and by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Saulsbury, Administrative Aide