

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Newark Valley was held Tuesday evening, **January 3, 2023**, at 6:30 PM in the Noble Room of the Municipal Building at 9 Park Street, Newark Valley for the purpose of a budget work session.

<b><u>PRESENT:</u></b>	Mayor	James Tornatore
	Deputy Mayor	Scott Kasmarcik
	Trustees	John Tomazin
		Joe Mooney
		Ted Hardenstine
	DPW Supervisor	Matt Seamans
	Clerk/Treasurer	Pam Benthin

Mayor explained how the work session will run.

Budget Committee Trustees – John Tomazin and Joe Mooney introduced themselves, then explained the rationale for the current proposed budget. In the current environment the tax increase easily could have been 10.48% – originally proposed – by line items being cut and rearranged brought it down to 7.9%. Current proposed increase 5.53%

Budgeting factors included - fuel, multi-year planning, insurances, eliminating 3<sup>rd</sup> office position, DPW maintenance items, Code enforcement, family plan for health insurance. We follow a conservative budgeting policy – which has proven to be beneficial. Losing approximately \$2,400 in tax revenue.

Deputy Mayor Kasmarcik reviewed the budget in detail. Asked a few questions regarding Building Cleaning, Fuel Lines, Sand & salt items. Would have been ok with a 7.9% vs. 5.53% increase, as long as the 3<sup>rd</sup> office person is removed.

Lengthy Discussion Regarding health insurance – Topics included HSA funding -Trustees Mooney, Tomazin & Hardenstine feel funding HSA is important to a high deductible plan. Kasmarcik is opposed. We need to look at all of our options for plans. Mayor stated that we are within the average of other municipalities. All agreed options need to be explored.

Guests – questions regarding budget, comment regarding building cleaning, insurances, exempt properties, grants.

Motion by Trustee Tomazin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kasmarcik to adjourn at 8:40 pm. Carried

Pam Benthin  
Clerk/Treasurer