

**TOWN OF DEERPARK
TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

November 9, 2023

Meeting was held at Town Hall, 420 Route 209, Huguenot, New York 12746

Invocation: Art Trovei

Pledge of Allegiance: David Dean

Call to Order: 3:02PM

Attendance:

Supervisor: Gary Spears

Councilmen: Art Trovei, Ken Smith, David Dean, Al Schock

Town Clerk: Flo Santini

Attorney: Glen Plotsky

Town Clerk Florence Santini reads Public Hearing Notice

Public Comments:

Dave Ofshevsky- What does the money in the unexpended balances for the General and Highway Fund represent?

Supervisor Spears- It is basically a refund to the town's taxpayers. In case we need to go higher with Town expenses, the unexpended balances are a buffer that we put back into the budget so that we can keep taxes low. What was saved previously we are now using to keep taxes at a good rate.

Dave- I noticed under revenues the sales tax went up \$200,000.

Supervisor Spears- This is actually from an accounting mistake from the year before.

Conversation continued, Supervisor Spears answered further questions from Dave and states that if he wants to come in and look through the budget further with Supervisor Spears, he is welcome to do that.

Grace Woodard asks about the necessity of funds towards the DARE Program and about the effectiveness of the DARE Program. She brings up an alternative program and goes into the details and hopes of the town's consideration of this program. She also asked what an outside prosecutor is as it is listed in the budget.

Supervisor Spears explains that an outside prosecutor is an attorney outside of the town attorney that the town hires under contract.

Grace talks about the plans for Harriet Space Park and expresses her thoughts on the plans to be done and ideas she has for it. She also says she would like a large-scale scanner to be added to the budget so that certain documentation can be made more available to the public that currently is not.

Supervisor Spears speaks to the DARE Program and states that there were 67 kids in the program and that only about \$3000 was spent on it and even with that it was a huge success. He also explains that DARE does fundraising to offset the program expenses.

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Supervisor Spears says to the Board that the final vote on the budget will be on Tuesday, November 14th, 2023.

Motion to Adjourn at 3:31 PM

Motion by Ken Smith 2nd by David Dean

VOTE: 5 AYES: David Dean, Art Trovei, Ken Smith, Gary Spears, Al Schock

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,