

10U All Star Team-Southern District & Eastern NY
Champions

Coaches: Coach Mark Viscusi, Coach Brian Olson, Coach Tony Mordecki, and Manager Michael Haines

- The Poughkeepsie Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth League 2011
11U All Star Team-Southern District Champions
Coaches: Coach Brian Sitler, Coach Rich Gagnon, Coach James Casey and Manager Rich Weatherwax

While Councilman Krakower read the names, Councilman Cifone and Supervisor Tancredi handed out the proclamations to the baseball players and their coaches. They then lead the applause for all the players and their coaches. Supervisor Tancredi again congratulated the teams with applause and wished them all good luck in this year's games. He also wanted to recognize Tom Meyering, Recreation Director of the Town of Poughkeepsie and who keep our fields in good playing order.

04:11-COW2 REPORT

Financial Report By James
Wojtowicz, Town Comptroller

Comptroller Wojtowicz presented a 2011 year in review for the funds in the 2011 Budget with the appropriations and the revenues with explanations on the actual expenditures and the corresponding budget. Copies of the Budget are available in the Town Clerk's Office.

Starting with the General Fund, This Fund represents all 42,000 residents of the Town and it goes into the Village of Wappingers. It starts with the Town Board, the Courts, Comptroller, and Supervisor and all the way down to the Recreation Department. Everyone in the Town of Poughkeepsie is represented. We had a very good year. The Legal Budget had an incredible turnaround. That number was over \$600,000 in 2009 and it is now \$463,000 this year. One of the trouble spots is the Tax Certioraris, Judgments and Claims. In 2011 we had a Budget of \$40,000 and the Tax Certs came in at over \$250,000. We did increase the Budget in 2012 up to \$200,000. We have paid out about \$45,000 so far this year. The Assessor estimates that it is going to be around \$200,000 to \$250,000. This is an area we have to continue to work on. In Engineering, a key employee retired and when an employee retires that has been here for a while, it is quite a package they receive at the end. They get paid for their sick days, vacation, personal and we don't budget for that, because we really don't know when people are retiring, so that comes out of the fund balance. So, an engineer retired and we had a retiree in the Highway Administration. These numbers can be anywhere between \$15,000 and \$30,000 depending on how many days they have on the books. The pool expenses were \$30,000 and on the revenue page, you will see we had \$34,000. In total general fund appropriations, unaudited at this point, 6.3 million dollars. Now, same Fund, Revenue section. We start off with the Courts with the Special Prosecutor and a guard on duty and it is working all fantastically. We sold some property. The tax receiver brings in \$248,000 on a Budget of \$210,000. He runs a very efficient ship down there. This is basically penalties and interest. There is a negative in the middle there, the Assessor's

Aide. This is something that we used to get Aid from New York State. Two years ago it was \$62,000 we budgeted \$25,000 and then half way through 2011, we were informed that the program no longer exists. So, we budgeted 0 in 2012.

Supervisor Tancredi: Jim, on this page, the one important point is, the negatives are actually positives in terms of the Town Budget, so the \$145,000 which shows a negative of \$145,000 is actually more revenue than we expected. So, that is actually a positive to our bottom line.

Jim Wojtowicz: That's right Todd, thank you. So, for example in Courts, we had budgeted \$686,000 and we received \$831,000 so that is plus \$145,000. I'll come back to these.

The next one is considered Part Town General Fund. This does not go into the Village of Wappingers. The Police stop right at the village line. This includes Police, Zoning, Building and Planning. We had a really good year with our property and liability insurance. We changed a couple of years ago and we are plus \$163,000 to our Budget. The Police had a very good year. There were three veteran police who retired and their total benefit package was \$165,000. That was down by \$218,000 from 2010 somehow. Workman's Compensation is a negative coming in a little bit higher and based on a new New York regulations. It used to be \$400 a week, an employee now gets \$710.00 a week for workman's compensation. A large number there is also the Retiree's Medical Insurance. This is offset partially by retiree's contribution, but the police retire at 100% medical. Budget Revenues for the part Town General. The sales tax is about \$90,000 there. That's a good news story. The next is Highway. This is the final piece of the tax levy for the residents. Highway we had a very tough year this year. Between all of the storms in the beginning of 2011 and then the hurricane and rain storm. So, snow removing, we spent \$571,000. Good news in 2012. Our Highway Department had the roughest year of all. In summarization, Our General Fund appropriations were higher by \$74,000. Our Part Time B Fund were Positive by \$470,000 and our Highway Fund Appropriations exceeded revenues by \$268,000 and so the net result on the tax levy, if these numbers hold, will be a positive of \$127,000 to go into the Fund Balance as of 11/12. Thanks to the B Fund and the A Fund was good except for the Tax Certs. So, we think we've got the Budget under control anyway. Our Water Fund is the strongest Fund in the Town. This is the contribution we make to the Joint Water Plant, \$1.4 million and that is our contribution for all 42,000 residents in the Town who receive water and comes from the Water Plant. We have \$5.3 million in expenses. Revenues are \$6.174 million and so we add an additional \$235,000 in the Fund Balance, after using \$1 million of our Fund Balance. So, the Water Fund is the Star in the Town. Next is our Sewer Department. This has turned around in the last couple of years. The appropriations for the 2011 Budget were down by \$740,000. United Water took over the plan on July 5, 2011 and we saw a savings there and a strategy change on the people in the field. Retiree medical insurance is higher because a lot of people retired. If a retiree has 30 years of service with the Town, the Town picks up 80% of the medical cost. Unemployment insurance for two people who left the Sewer Department. We took in \$3 million in property taxes and \$2.1 million in sewer rents and interests and penalties about \$28,000.

IBM pays us an additional pre-payment of \$145,000 for their sewer needs every year. So, our Sewer Fund is in very good shape. Every Sewer District went down and we project that to hopefully happen again this year. It was this fund basically that saved us the 2% tax cap.

The Board commented on the facts that over the past few years the Town is finally getting a hold on getting some of these areas down to an easier level to handle. Councilman Conte commented on the fact that “Don’t forget the employees also had a hand in helping with bringing it down also” and Councilman Eagleton stated that “The tough job isn’t over yet either, as the Police/Court Facility must be addressed yet and the Sewer facility has things that need to be addressed and paid for also.” So, there is still a little bit more struggle ahead yet to deal with.

Doreen Tignanelli: How often do the department heads get to report their budget? Is that a monthly thing?

Jim Wojtowicz: It’s not every month. We officially meet with the Supervisor on a quarterly basis.

Supervisor Tancredi: I meet with the Department heads monthly. It’s been like that since January. We just finished our first Quarter and Jim, at the Committee of the Whole Meeting in May, we are going to go over the First Quarter results and compare each quarter annually.

Councilman Krakower noted that Jim Wojtowicz compares from time to time and reports the results to the Supervisor and the Finance Committee periodically when anything may be “out of whack”. He makes sure they are aware of things before they become a problem.

Doreen Tignanelli stated that the Fire Department should have that kind of check and balance system to keep their Budget under control.

Rob Rubin: I’m impressed with these figures and it was a very nice report. I do have one question. Do these expense figures, do they include all the invoices that have been paid or are there invoices in the system that have not yet been paid for for various reasons, are all the invoices included, or just paid invoices?

Jim Wojtowicz: We pay, for example, January and February of 2012, we are paying the 2011 invoices. This is considered, as close as we can get, all 2011 expenses.

Councilman Eagleton: The funds that are spent on the retirees that we don’t budget because we can’t predict, is there an annual average that we could put into the budget?

Jim Wojtowicz: As a rule, we don’t budget for that because we always think good will happen with timing. For an example, a police officer retires and it costs us say

\$40,000.00. Hopefully they will hire a new police officer a couple months later at a much less salary and that would kind of off set it.

Councilman Eagleton: But, what I'm thinking of is if we know every year we spend say \$10,000 for sick days or leave that was never taken, there is probably an average. Why don't we put that into the budget?

Supervisor Tancredi: I think we could probably look back over the last three or four years and see what the average has been and maybe make some kind of educated guess. We want to be as accurate as possible and project as closely as we can, but what we don't want to do is take more money out of the resident's pockets than we have to and we are always conscious of that. So, we try to streamline it as tight as we can because we don't want to over budget, or again, take more money than we need to out of the residents.

Councilman Baisley: The Health Insurance is always an issue, also. We never knew what the numbers are going to be until the budget is done. The State market also, we never know what the State wants from us either. You have to get as close as you can and it's a hard number to grab hold of.

Councilman Krakower stated it is a guessing game also, because what is now fairly cheaper for materials, etc. could flourish into a lot more a couple of years from now and so you have to be aware of when to hit the market just right.

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Poughkeepsie does hereby adjourn to Executive Session to consider the following matters, to wit:

1. Confidential communication between attorney and his client/Town Board based on attorney/client privileges.

SO MOVED: Supervisor Tancredi/J. Conte

CARRIED: 7-0

TOWN BOARD MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:50 PM

TOWN BOARD ENTERED EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:53 PM

TOWN BOARD RETURNED TO MEETING AT 8:00 PM

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. FINANCE Councilman Krakower: NO REPORT
2. FIRE ADVISORY Councilman Conte: NO REPORT
3. GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS Councilwoman Shershin: NO REPORT
4. LAND USE & PLANNING Councilman Krakower: NO REPORT
5. PERSONNEL Councilman Cifone: NO REPORT
6. RECREATION Councilman Cifone: A fraternity from Marist College, 36 students, two weeks ago on Sunday at Fairview Park painted dugouts, picked up trash and weeded and remulched the memorials. They were a tremendous help. Councilman Baisley: Sponsorship for the Town parks, such as the Marist fraternity being sponsors, is a great thing for recreation in terms of manpower and expense and should be encouraged.
7. SENIOR CITIZENS Councilman Baisley: Stated that the Town was working on the Senior Center and would come to a conclusion in a few weeks.
8. TECHNOLOGY & EQUIPMENT Councilman Eagleton: NO REPORT
9. WATER, SEWER, HIGHWAY Councilman Eagleton: Concerning the infrastructure of the Police/Court Building and the consultant and Don Beer that did the report on that building in 2011 – Councilmen Eagleton and Krakower have asked for the report and are looking for Don Beer to check the integrity of the building now. They will get back to the Board and make recommendations on the Police/Court structure in several weeks.

Motion made to close the Meeting: Supervisor Tancredi/J. Baisley

CARRIED: 7-0

TOWN BOARD MEETING CLOSED AT 8:03 PM

SJM:lkM