

Minutes of Public Hearing for 2011 Budget for the Town of Germantown, held November 15, 2010 at the Germantown Town Hall, 50 Palatine Park Road, Germantown, NY.

Present: Supervisor Roy Brown  
Councilwoman Graceann Lamberta  
Councilwoman Joan Snyder  
Councilman Joel Craig  
Councilman Jeremy Smith

Recorded: Town Clerk Charlene Diehl

Supervisor Brown opened the meeting and the Clerk read the Notice.

Supervisor Brown said there would be zero net increase over last year. The board used the unexpended balance to keep it at that level.

There will not be raises for anyone, full time or part time, which is unfortunate in these economic times.

Supervisor Brown indicated that next year might lead to necessary budget cuts.

#### Public Comment

Kay Abraham asked about the sales tax. Supervisor Brown said the county as a whole will be over budget, which he attributes to new stores opened and opening in Hudson, which should generate more sales tax.

Mrs. Abraham confirmed with Supervisor Brown that this budget is based on last year's assessment. Mr. Brown said letters will be going out to residents to review their assessments and that those assessments would apply to next year's (2012) budget.

A male resident said he doesn't advocate holding the increase to zero percent for the town and asked about road maintenance and how it's scheduled.

Supervisor Brown said that health insurance and other costs have increased; the town was able to absorb the increases and still show no increase in taxes, due to the economy.

Mr. Brown responded that the Superintendent of Highways has a schedule to make sure the roads are kept up. He is an elected official and runs his own department; the only control the board has is monetary.

Councilman Smith said his big disappointment is the large amount of money coming from the reserve to keep the budget at zero percent increase, though he appreciates what the board did.

Supervisor Brown closed the public hearing.

Supervisor Brown opened the Special Budget 2011 Meeting.

Motion to approve the budget for 2011 made by Councilwoman Lamberta and seconded by Councilwoman Snyder.

Supervisor Brown: Aye

Councilman Craig: Aye

Councilman Smith: Aye

Supervisor Brown said the 2011 Budget has been adopted and that copies will be made and put on the town website.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilwoman Snyder, with all in favor and none opposed.

Respectfully submitted,