

**Georgia Selectboard Budget Meeting**  
**Chris Letourneau Meeting Room**  
**Monday, December 18, 2019**  
**6:00 pm**

**Approved:**      **Approved**

**Present:**      Selectboard: Matt Crawford, Steve Lamos, Tara Wright, Jason Burt, Scott St. Onge. Town Administrator/Treasurer: Amber Baker.

**Absent:**          All Present

**Public Present:** Todd Cadieux, Town Highway Foreman; Carl Rosenquist, Town Citizen; Jessica Fike, Town Citizen; Meg Smith, Town Citizen; Tanya Wells, Town Citizen; Gary Dezil, Library Trustee; Cindy Rutkowski, Library Trustee; Paula Ralston, Library Trustee

Matt Crawford reconvened the Selectboard budget meeting on December 18, 2019, for the Town of Georgia in the Chris Letourneau Meeting Room at 6:10 p.m. He then recognized the members of the public in attendance and asked if they would like to speak first.

Jessica Fike asked the board to add a recreation programming line number added to the budge to waive the nonresident fee of St. Albans so Georgia residents can pay resident fees. She stated that it is estimated that in 2020 Georgia residents will pay \$25k in St. Albans recreation fees of which \$7,500 would be the additional nonresidential fee. She then talked about several examples of the additional costs she has paid and the programs that St. Albans offers.

Jessica also informed the board she put out her idea on Facebook and in one week she received many letters of support for this and has seventeen letters also.

The board then discussed; that this was brought forward in the past and it was a budgeting issue, Georgia cannot support programs like St. Albans and it would be good for us to support this kind of program, how do we budget and appropriate funds for a program like this, How do other towns do this, Last years non-profit policy, petitions, 5% of voters required to sign ~200 names, Kelly Bean will be at the January 6, 2020 meeting to talk about this subject, the board cannot solicit for signatures as this is a conflict of interest.

Matt stated that we have two options; we could put in a petition, due in by January 27, 2020, this would become an article on the floor or we can go the non-profit policy method.

Board suggests that they work the petition to allow the voters to make the decision at town meeting day.

Carl Rosenquist then came forward to talk about the "Music on the Green" program of 2019. He was not sure what it cost us but he thought it was a great program and wants it to continue in 2020. He also thanked the board and staff for all their work on this and the board informed Carl that most of the work was Cheryl and Matt. They informed Carl that there was a \$1,200 appropriation but most of the funds for the program came from donations (\$1,850).

The board then asked Carl, who is also the Georgia State Rep, if he knew of any funds or issues that he

knows about that will be affecting Georgia. He said that the main thing being discussed was Act 64 and culverts. Discussion followed on where does the money the town pays the state in permit fees actually goes, state reviews of plans, clean water act. The future of the Perigo expansion plans which look good at this time.

At this time Carl Rosenquist, Jessica Fike, Meg Smith and Tanya Wells departed and the selectboard began covering the budget by line.

#### Fees, Licenses, Fines

Line 16 Vault Time: Make no changes.

Line 28 Park and Rec Revenues: Discussion on raising the fee and or raising the fee and drop the deposit fee, a resident and a nonresident fee.

Motion to raise the fee to \$200 and remove the deposit fee by Steve, seconded by Scott, all approve.

#### Other Revenue

Line 44 School Reimbursement: Continuation of talk on plowing. Todd stated that he has been talking with the school on what they believe it will cost them. Discussion followed on; what do other nearby towns do, Georgia is the only town that basically just provides the plowing and discussion on whether or not the town should place a bid when the school opens the bidding. The board will discuss this further.

Line 50: Plan is to ask for donation in 2020 for community events. There is also line 147 under Selectboard for community events which will be left in place at this time.

Line 54 Library Revenue: Discussion on allowing the library to use self-generated revenue to buy library items rather than having the revenue goes into the general fund as all other departments self-generated revenues do. Gay Dezil stated that the library would like the \$765.79 generated in 2019 returned, Amber stated that we could do this via petty cash. This will reduce the income to the town. Lots of discussion followed on; why would we do this, the cost to the town, what do we do in 2020, is this really revenue or not. This is revenue generated by the photocopier.

Motion to go ahead and return the \$765.79 generated by the library in 2019 by Scott, seconded by Jason, Matt approves, Steve and Tara disapprove. Motion passes 3 to 2.

#### Grants & Capital Revenue

Line 62 Restricted/Reserve Fund Revenue: Number is high due to upcoming purchases; Highway department a loader, the Kenworth, the 2020 Tandem payment and the final payment for the 2017 Truck, the carryover of the paving funds as paving was not completed this year and the fire truck loan payment. All of this money is from the reserve funds so there is no additional cost to the taxpayers. Line breakdown: Highway \$148,473; Paving \$140K; Fire truck loan \$68,250 6E1

Line 63 Impact Fee Fund Revenue: We are still waiting for the Fire Department, Library and Highway Department. Highway Department is looking at \$2,500 for a pusher but the Town administrator has not yet approved this. Gary stated that the library should remain at zero at this time.

We will return for revenue lines Line 20 Recording Fees and Line 44 School Reimbursement.

At 7:00 p.m. the selectboard budget meeting ended and will be reconvened January 6, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m.