

**TOWN OF FERRISBURGH  
BUDGET SELECTBOARD MINUTES  
November 10, 2015**

Members present: Steve Gutowski-Chair, Loretta Lawrence, Jim Benoit, Red Muir and Jim Warden

Others present: Pam Cousino, Garrit Smits, Monica Tupper

The meeting is called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Steve Gutowski reviewed a letter from the town Attorney, Jim Carroll regarding the Terry Oosterman planning issue. Red Muir moved to take no action on the Oosterman decision, seconded by Jim Benoit. VOTE: 4-yes (Muir, Lawrence, Benoit, Warden) 1-no (Gutowski)

Revenue other than property taxes was reviewed.

Mike Quinn stopped by and went over the differences between the platinum medical insurance plan and the new gold plan. The platinum plan has co-pays and the new gold plan requires the deductible to be used up before Blue Cross starts paying (except for some wellness drugs and procedures). Currently the employees on the plan assume some risk with the potential for them to need to use the second half of the deductible. The new gold plan is being presented with the HRA covering all of the deductible. If the town goes with the platinum plan the medical budget line item would be \$85,977 and if it goes with the new gold plan the medical budget line item would be \$73,932. The current year amount is \$94,600.

Jim Benoit would like a conversation with at least John Bull, the road foreman, or the entire road crew so that they understand that while they are assuming some risk this year, the new budget year would not have any risk for the employees, but that risk could change in future years.

All discussion is tabled until the next budget meeting on November 24<sup>th</sup> with the road foreman present.

Garrit Smits, town treasurer let the board know that we will be changing banks. He had been thinking about changing banks and then received a letter from Citizens Bank, our current bank, stating that we will be assessed a variety of banking fees starting December 1<sup>st</sup>. The proposal we have received from Merchants Bank would assess us a \$15.00 flat fee per month and an interest rate of .25% through June. We are currently getting .01%. This would be a much better deal than what we are currently getting.

The next budget meeting will be held on November 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting is adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Respectively submitted,  
Pam Cousino  
Assistant Town Clerk