

PUBLIC HEARING
DELAWARE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
NOVEMBER 26, 2013

The Delaware County Board of Supervisors held a Public Hearing concerning the proposed budget for 2014 in the Board of Supervisors' Room of the Senator Charles D. Cook County Office Building, 111 Main Street, Delhi, New York at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 26, 2013 Chairman James E. Eisel, Sr. presiding.

Chairman Eisel called the hearing to order.

The Clerk read the Notice of Hearing:

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
DELAWARE COUNTY TENTATIVE 2014 BUDGET

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Delaware County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, November 26, 2013 at 12:30 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Room at the County Office Building, 111 Main Street, Delhi, New York on the proposed budget for 2014.

Pursuant to Section 359 of the County Law, the maximum salaries that may be fixed and payable during said fiscal year to members of the Board of Supervisors and the Chairman thereof, respectively, are hereby specified as follows:

18 members of the Board of Supervisors (each)	\$11,149
1 Chairman of the Board of Supervisors	\$44,600

All citizens are invited to attend and provide the Board of Supervisors with oral or written comments and to ask questions concerning the proposed budget. Copies of the proposed budget are available in the office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, 111 Main Street, Delhi, New York during office hours.

Christa M. Schafer
Clerk of the Board
Delaware County Board of Supervisors

Dated: November 20, 2013

Chairman Eisel stated that a sign-in sheet is being passed around and asked that anyone wishing to speak to please stand and state their name and town they reside in.

Al Perkins, Town of Delhi and Town Councilman for the Town of Delhi stated that he understands and appreciates the hard work that has gone into developing the budget. He also

recognizes that it is very difficult to make needed changes and keep an increase under two percent. He thanked the Budget Committee and the Supervisors for taking into consideration how their decisions affect the bottom line. He felt more could be done to reduce the levy and suggested the Budget Committee take a closer look at the impact of federal and state mandates, the current county vehicle policy, the increased cost of providing mental health services and the cost associated with the separation of the Treasurer's Office and Fiscal Affairs. In addition, he stated that in the coming year he would like to see department heads work with their committees to analyze the needs of their department and develop a long range plan for doing business.

Amanda Heaney-Smith, Town of Sidney and former Town of Sidney Board Member thanked the Board for offering the opportunity to discuss the budget. She appreciates the hard work that went into preparing the budget but felt it should not be adopted and should go back to the Budget Committee for further work.

Mrs. Heaney-Smith stated that she feels a lack of cooperation among Board members is hindering its ability to function at its best. She asked the Budget Committee to consider the unusually high percentage of salary increase being given to the County Attorney and that Delaware County has a higher number of employees in the Department of Social Services Legal Department in comparison to similar sized counties.

Jim Thomson, Town of Delhi stated that he has mixed feelings about the 3.8 percentage of increase, noting that other counties are facing greater percentages. He appreciated the hard work that went into preparing this budget but felt more needed to be accomplished. This budget, he opined, only begins to touch upon the edges of cost cutting.

Kevin Wilson, Town of Harpersfield commented on the various needs brought to the Board of Supervisors by department heads and other county agencies. He prevailed upon the Board to consider the need to minimize spending while seeking ways to meet the essential needs of the residents of this county. He would like to see the budget reviewed for further reduction and if possible come in under the two percent tax cap.

Since no one else wished to speak, Chairman Eisel declared the hearing adjourned at 12:48 p.m.