

TOWN BOARD  
Special Meeting  
October 2, 2019

A special meeting of the Oneonta Town Board was held on October 2, 2019 with the following members present:

Supervisor: Robert T. Wood  
Councilman: Randal Mowers  
Councilman: Brett Holleran  
Councilwoman: Patricia Jacob  
Town Clerk: Sara Robinson

Absent: Councilwoman Patricia Riddell Kent

**2020 TENTATIVE BUDGET PRESENTATION**

A special meeting was called to order for the purpose of presenting the 2020 budget.

The following is Supervisor Wood's 2020 budget message;

This budget year the tax cap limit is 2%. The town has been able to stay under the cap since its inception for eight of the nine years it has been in effect. This budget is well under the cap for this year.

This year's budget includes funding for the new highway garage that we anticipated splitting between 2019 and 2020. Last year the increase was 14 cents/1000. This year is projected to be 13 cents/1000 thousand in the tentative budget.

General Fund

Bids for the highway garage will be opened on October 17, 2019 at that time we will have a better idea of where the project goes. This budget has a proposed 3% increase in wages for employees which we agreed to last year. We continue to provide our residents the services they need.

Highway Fund

The highway budget remains flat for this year. This budget includes the replacement of equipment that our highway department needs to maintain our roads and parks. While we have been able to keep up with road conditions, we must continue to fund road repairs adequately. The highway department continues to do more work in house saving town tax payer's money.

Water & Sewer

Our water and sewer districts are in good condition physically and fiscally. Budgets are basically flat this year. Maintenance of the system has proven to be beneficial. We continue to monitor infiltration to reduce our flows in the city system.

Oneonta Fire Protection District

Last year the town negotiated a five year contract with the city of Oneonta for fire protection. This contract is based on a formula that takes into account all of the costs involved with operation of the department. Costs are then reduced by any revenue that the City receives for services they provide. Net cost is then apportioned between the City and the Town. The contract amount for 2020, as determined by the formula is \$86,000 less than last year. We have passed those savings on to the residents of the district.

Capital Projects

The new highway garage we have authorized is again the biggest new capital project. Having completed the design, we will have a cost for the project before the final budget is passed. I have increased the estimate with funding coming from appropriated fun balance and bonding the remainder. Due to changes in other funds we are able to stay well under the tax cap. Southside water district continues on with construction likely to begin in 2019.

Motion was made by Wood, seconded by Holleran to adjourn the meeting (7:20PM).

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Robinson  
Town Clerk