

November 6, 2019

**A special meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Greenville was held for the purpose of first conducting a public hearing regarding the tax cap followed by a budget hearing regarding the proposed 2020 budget** on Wednesday, November 6, 2019, at 6:45 pm at Pioneer Hall. Appropriate notice of the tax cap override as well as of the budget hearing was published in an official newspaper, the Catskill Daily Mail, on 10/26/2019.

Present: Supervisor Paul Macko  
Councilman Richard Bear  
Councilman John Bensen  
Councilman Joel Rauf  
Councilman Travis Richards

Recording Secretary: Clerk-Collector Jackie Park

Department Heads Present: Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer Mark Overbaugh  
Maintenance Supervisor Renee Hamilton

Other: 1 guest ~ Ms. Anita Zibura

Absent: Tal Rappleyea

Supervisor Macko opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. **Mr. Rauf moved to open this hearing at 6:45 pm**, seconded by Mr. Bensen. Carried 5 ayes

**Supervisor Macko** reviewed the factors contributing to the need to consider an override of the 2020 imposed tax cap. Although the General Fund spending is down \$268,118 from last year's budget, several areas have increased. These include: the Highway Fund appropriations are up \$26,178, the Library Fund is up \$5,227, and the Ambulance District line is up \$106,082. The Town has not yet received word from the accountants as to whether or not the tax cap will be exceeded; the tax cap override is being instituted in case the budget is over the limits.

Mr. Macko opened the hearing for any public comments or questions at 6:46 pm: neither public nor Board comments received.

All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, Mr. Bear moved to close the public hearing at 6:47 pm, seconded by Mr. Bensen. Carried 5 ayes

**Mr. Bear moved to adopt Local Law #1 of 2019, to override the tax levy limit established in GML §3-c, seconded by Mr. Bensen.**

**Roll Call vote requested;**

<b>Supervisor Macko</b>	<b>aye</b>	
<b>Councilman Bear</b>	<b>aye</b>	
<b>Councilman Bensen</b>	<b>aye</b>	
<b>Councilman Rauf</b>	<b>aye</b>	
<b>Councilman Richards</b>	<b>aye</b>	<b>Carried 5 ayes</b>

Social conversation occurred while awaiting the next scheduled public hearing; no town business was discussed.

**The 2020 budget hearing followed;**

All previously in attendance remained so, joined by Highway Superintendent-Elect Mike Dudley, two additional interested parties *who arrived after this hearing began*, and Attorney Tal Rappleyea *who arrived at 7:14 pm*.

**Mr. Bear moved to open the 2020 budget hearing** at 7:00 pm, seconded by Mr. Bensen.

Supervisor Macko stated the amount to be raised by taxes for the general, highway and library funds equals \$1,730,463, which provides for a tax rate of \$6.69 per \$1,000 assessed value. The 2019 rate was \$7.36; the 2020 budget provides a decrease in 67 cents per thousand dollars, which is a 9.1% decrease. Although the above funds are decreased by 9.1%, the levy for the Greenville Rescue Squad (GRS) has increased by 38% as compared to 2019. In real dollars, the GRS and Greene EMS combined will cost less than 30 cents per day for an assessed value home of \$100,000.

Mr. Macko asked for any public comments or questions at 7:04 pm;

**Ms. Anita Zibura** questioned if the money for the GRS was part of the 1.7 million Mr. Macko previously mentioned? **Supervisor Macko** replied, “No”, that the GRS held its own budget line. Noted that by comparison, the Greenville Fire District costs approximately \$1.92 per \$1,000 assessed value, Freehold Fire costs \$1.19 per \$1,000, and the GRS, \$1.40 per \$1,000. Greene EMS is approximately 10 cents per \$1,000; the total bill for emergency medical care is \$1.50 per \$1,000. **Supervisor Macko** also addressed the fact that the town agreed to a multi-year contract with GRS, which will better help with long-term budgeting. The increase for 2021, for example, is only \$10,000. **Ms. Zibura** asked to clarify if the total budget costs for 2020 are about \$10.00 per \$1,000 assessed value? **Supervisor Macko** agreed, “Roughly”.

Mr. Macko asked if there were any other questions at 7:09 pm;

**Ms. Melanie Lekocevic** asked for a summary review, which Supervisor Macko provided.

Mr. Macko asked if there were any other questions at 7:12 pm; he reviewed that a \$100,000 home would see a \$67.00 decrease for their tax rate, excluding all of the special districts. Feels this is again a no-fluff budget, noted any over-time used was related to public safety and any spending was pre-approved by the CFO.

Mr. Macko again asked if there were any other questions at 7:13 pm; **Councilman Rauf** thanked Supervisor Macko for the amount of time and effort he’s put into this process. **Councilman Bensen** agreed.

All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, Mr. Rauf moved to close the public hearing at 7:14 pm, seconded by Mr. Bensen.

Carried 5 ayes

**Mr. Bensen moved to adopt the 2020 budget as presented, seconded by Mr. Bear.**  
Carried 5 ayes

*Attorney Tal Rappleyea arrived at 7:14 pm*

In other business, annually, any unpaid water or sewer rents are submitted back to Greene County to be re-levied onto the next property tax bill.

Mr. Bear moved, seconded by Mr. Bensen, to approve the attached 2020 TAX RELEVY & MISC. LEVY REPORT for water and sewer rents, in the amount of \$8,404.75.

Carried 5 ayes

Supervisor Macko explained he polled the Town Board members a few weeks ago regarding a Highway Department employee who “hasn’t done much” since December 2017. A quote has been received from Attorney Elayne Gold, of Roemer Wallens Gold & Mineaux LLP, as a retainer to pursue dismissal of this employee.

Mr. Bensen moved, seconded by Mr. Bear, to accept this retainer and proceed with legal proceedings as discussed.

Carried 5 ayes

Supervisor Macko noted Assessor Gordon Bennett will no longer hold office hours on Wednesdays; he will be in this office on Tuesdays and Thursdays between the hours of 9:00 am – 2:00 pm, effective November 7<sup>th</sup>.

Supervisor Macko asked the Board to review and sign a voucher to Lou’s Automotive for tires on one of the highway vehicles; this will be on the November abstract at next week’s meeting.

Maintenance Supervisor Hamilton provided estimates for insulation of the maintenance department’s storage building; feels the best value is the R-28, 4 inch Moreland bid for \$7,100, and that money is available with transfer of funds from the personal services line. CEO Overbaugh was asked was the Code was for this purpose; he replied, “R-38”.

Councilman Bensen moved to expend this money if it stays under \$10,000, motion not seconded as discussion continued. Then requested that firm numbers for what was needed be provided at the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mr. Rauf then moved, seconded by Mr. Bensen, to insulate the storage building at a cost not to exceed \$9,500 with Ms. Hamilton accepting the lowest bid of the bidders presented this evening, for 5 inches spray foam insulation for the maintenance shed.

Carried 5 ayes

There being no further business, Mr. Macko moved to adjourn at 7:23 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Park, Town Clerk-Collector

\_\_\_\_\_  
SUPERVISOR MACKO

\_\_\_\_\_  
MR. BEAR

\_\_\_\_\_  
MR. BENSEN

\_\_\_\_\_  
MR. RAUF

\_\_\_\_\_  
MR. RICHARDS