



Town Board

Preliminary Budget Hearing

October 30, 2018

The Town Board of the Town of Chester convened at the Town of Chester Municipal Center, 6307 State Route 9, Chestertown, New York, at 7:00 pm.

Roll Call: Supervisor Craig Leggett, Karen DuRose, Mike Packer and Larry Turcotte. Steve Durkish absent.

Public Hearing for the Preliminary Budget:

Supervisor Leggett opened the Public Hearing for the Preliminary Budget at 7:10 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Leggett started by explaining the Excel spreadsheets that he provided for the 2018 Budget. Stating that there is currently enough money in each fund to cover the budget as submitted and that would raise taxes by 3.7¢ over last year with an estimated tax rate Town wide of a \$1.547 which is a 2.44% increase.

Summary of PRELIMINARY Town Budget 2019 - OCTOBER 30, 2018

Code	Fund	Appropriations	Less Estimated Revenues	Less Unexpended Balance	Amount to be Raised by Taxes 2019	Assessed Value 2019	Estimated Tax Rate 2019	Tax Rate 2018	Difference 2019-2018
A	General	\$2,236,035	\$1,899,035	\$128,000	\$209,000.00	\$742,905,556.00	\$0.28	\$0.26	\$0.02
DA	Highway	\$2,011,420	\$999,120	\$72,300	\$940,000.00	\$742,905,556.00	\$1.27	\$1.25	\$0.02
CD	Cmnty Dev	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$0.00	\$742,905,556.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
L	Library	\$80,070	\$74,532	\$5,538	\$0.00	\$742,905,556.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
V	Debt Service				\$0.00	\$742,905,556.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Subtotal	\$4,330,525	\$2,972,687	\$208,838	\$1,149,000.00	\$742,905,556.00	\$1.55	\$1.51	\$0.04
									2.44%
CW	Chestertown Water	\$271,925	\$61,925	\$184,000	\$26,000.00	\$37,355,094.00	\$0.70	\$0.72	(\$0.02)
PW	Pottersville Water	\$74,135	\$31,930	\$19,205	\$23,000.00	\$11,520,045.00	\$2.00	\$2.01	(\$0.02)
SF	Riverside Fire	\$12,000			\$12,000.00	\$23,008,087.00	\$0.52	\$0.52	\$0.00
SF	North Creek Fire	\$30,000			\$30,000.00	\$45,412,131.00	\$0.66	\$0.66	\$0.00
SP	Loon Lake Park	\$123,100	\$41,700	\$12,400	\$69,000.00	\$240,297,208.00	\$0.29	\$0.28	\$0.00
SP		\$2,124	\$0	\$0	\$2,124.00	\$63,082,473.00	\$0.03	\$0.04	\$0.00
		\$513,284	\$135,555	\$215,605	\$162,124.00	\$420,675,042.00	\$4.20	\$4.23	(\$0.04)
	TOTALS	\$4,843,809	\$3,108,242	\$424,443	\$1,311,124.00		\$5.74	\$5.74	\$0.00
					\$1,280,842	Tax Cap 2018			
-	Chestertown Fire	\$437,710			\$430,175.00	\$531,444,202.00	\$0.81	\$0.83	(\$0.02)
-	Pottersville Fire	\$319,281			\$325,201.00	\$183,833,037.00	\$1.77	\$1.74	\$0.03
	Subtotal	\$756,991	\$0	\$0	\$755,376	\$715,277,239.00	\$3	\$2.57	\$715,277,236
	GRAND TOTALS	\$5,600,800	\$3,108,242	\$424,443	\$2,066,500.00		\$8	\$8.31	\$0

Mrs. DuRose asked about highway paving. Supervisor Leggett stated that Supervisor Monroe once told him, "you buy a truck one year and you pave the next". The last truck the highway purchased was in 2016 for \$196,000, a loader was purchased in 2017 for \$104,000, a mowing tractor and a pickup were purchased in 2018 and in 2019 the Town will buy a tandem dump truck with plow for \$220,000. Mr. Turcotte wanted to make sure there was an increase for repairs. Supervisor Leggett stated there was a \$20,000 increase.

Supervisor Leggett proposed charging the Town for the water used for snowmaking in the Chestertown Water District and came up with a new schedule for water rates that depends less on real estate taxes to pay for the water system and up the meter rates. Mr. Packer said that something needs to be done with the water by Rite Aid. Supervisor Leggett replied we can apply for grants and also roll over what we didn't use this year so there will be more for water mains in 2019.

Supervisor Leggett stated that John Nick asked for a decrease down to \$77,000 for invasive species after the spreadsheet was done.

Supervisor Leggett would like to adopt the budget this year with only using .1s, .2s, ect. to make it easier during the year.

Izzy Modert from the NWEMS, spoke about going to a fully paid staff which leads to a request for an \$83,000 increase over last year. In prior year the EMS has been using the fund balance to meet their budget. The EMS now has a contract with Schroon Lake for service. Elijah Harrison, NWEMS Board Member, spoke about importance of having a fully staffed paid EMS and the true cost to run an agency. Mrs. DuRose asked if the EMS would be requesting an additional \$83,000 every year. Mr. Harrison replied that the EMS will not be asking for such an increase next year. Mr. Packer asked about payroll. Mr. Modert described in detail the rates and job descriptions for the department.

Supervisor Leggett presented another set of spreadsheets and recommended that the Town go over the tax cap by about the increase of the EMS budget.

Summary of PRELIMINARY Town Budget 2019 v2.0 - OCTOBER 30, 2018									
Code	Fund	Appropriations	Less Estimated Revenues	Less Unexpended Balance	Amount to be Raised by Taxes 2019	Assessed Value 2019	Estimated Tax Rate 2019	Tax Rate 2018	Difference 2019-2018
A	General	\$2,324,300	\$1,899,035	\$150,000	\$275,265	\$742,905,556	\$0.37	\$0.26	\$0.11
DA	Highway	\$2,011,420	\$999,120	\$72,300	\$940,000	\$742,905,556	\$1.27	\$1.25	\$0.02
CD	Cmmty Dev	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$0	\$742,905,556	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
L	Library	\$80,070	\$74,532	\$5,538	\$0	\$742,905,556	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
V	Debt Service				\$0	\$742,905,556	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Subtotal	\$4,418,790	\$2,972,687	\$230,838	\$1,215,265	\$742,905,556	\$1.64	\$1.51	\$0.13
									8.34%
CW	Chester Water	\$271,925	\$61,925	\$184,000	\$26,000	\$37,355,094	\$0.70	\$0.72	(\$0.02)
PW	Pottersville Water	\$74,930	\$31,930	\$20,000	\$23,000	\$11,520,045	\$2.00	\$2.01	(\$0.02)
SF	Riverside Fire	\$12,000			\$12,000	\$23,008,087	\$0.52	\$0.52	\$0.00
SF	North Creek Fire	\$30,000			\$30,000	\$45,412,131	\$0.66	\$0.66	\$0.00
SP	Loon Lake Park	\$123,100	\$41,700	\$12,400	\$69,000	\$240,297,208	\$0.29	\$0.28	\$0.00
SP	Schroon Lake	\$2,124	\$0	\$0	\$2,124	\$63,082,473	\$0.03	\$0.04	\$0.00
		\$514,079	\$135,555	\$216,400	\$162,124	\$420,675,042	\$4.20	\$4.23	(\$0.04)

	TOTALS	\$4,932,869	\$3,108,242	\$447,238	\$1,377,389		\$5.83	\$5.74	\$0.09
					\$1,280,842	Tax Cap 2018			
-	Chestertown Fire	\$437,710			\$430,175	\$531,444,202	\$0.81	\$0.83	(\$0.02)
-	Pottersville Fire	\$319,281			\$325,201	\$183,833,037	\$1.77	\$1.74	\$0.03
	Subtotal	\$756,991	\$0	\$0	\$755,376	\$715,277,239	\$3	\$2.57	\$715,277,236
	GRAND TOTALS	\$5,689,860	\$3,108,242	\$447,238	\$2,132,765		\$8.41	\$8.31	\$0.10
					\$96,547	Difference 2019-2018 of tax levy			
				2.38%	\$30,456	Allowed increase of tax levy			
					\$66,091	Net Difference over tax cap			

A lengthy discussion ensued about employee pay rates and keeping people in our community.

Mrs. DuRose asked if the Town goes over the tax cap by \$73,000 how much per thousand it would be to tax payers. Supervisor Leggett replied that it would be approximately 13¢ per thousand. The Town has a \$190,000 median household value, which would be an increase of about \$25 more than last year for the Town portion of the tax bill. Mr. Packer would like to have another meeting to discuss the budget further.

On a motion by Supervisor Leggett, seconded by Mrs. DuRose, preliminary budget hearing **closed** at 10:05 pm.

RESOLUTION NO. 190 OF 2018: SET NOVEMBER 13, 2018 AT 7:00 PM AS DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED LOCAL LAW TO OVERRIDE TAX LEVY LIMIT

RESOLVED, the Town Board authorizes the Town Clerk to advertise November 13, 2018 at 7 pm for a public hearing for the proposed Local Law to Override Tax Levy Limit.

On a motion by Supervisor Leggett, seconded by Mrs. DuRose, Resolution No. 190 of 2018 was **ADOPTED**.

AYE 4 NO 0

RESOLUTION NO. 191 OF 2018: SET NOVEMBER 6, 2018 AT 7:00 PM AS DATE FOR BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING

RESOLVED, the Town Board authorizes the Town Clerk to advertise November 6, 2018 at 7 pm for a Budget Workshop Meeting.

On a motion by Supervisor Leggett, seconded by Mrs. DuRose, Resolution No. 191 of 2018 was **ADOPTED**.

AYE 4 NO 0

On a motion by Supervisor Leggett, seconded by Mrs. DuRose, preliminary budget hearing **closed** at 10:09 pm.

AYE 4 NO 0

Respectfully submitted,

Town Clerk