

PUBLIC HEARING

November 20, 2019

At 8:15 p.m. Supervisor Schiliro stated that Public Hearings would be held in accordance with the Public Notices that follow:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE Preliminary Budget of the Town of North Castle for the year 2020 has been completed and that the same has been filed in the office of the Town Clerk of said Town where the same is available for inspection by any person interested therein, and that a Public Hearing thereon will be held by and before the Town Board of said Town at Town Hall, 15 Bedford Road, Armonk, NY, on November 20, 2019 at 7:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as practical, at which time any person may be heard in favor of or against the Preliminary Budget as compiled, or for or against any item therein contained.

Supervisor	\$50,000
Four Town Council Members	\$72,544
Town Clerk	\$85,936

By Order of the Town Board
Town of North Castle, NY
Alison Simon, Town Clerk

Dated: November 8, 2019
Armonk, NY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Preliminary Budgets for the year 2020 have been completed for Sewer District Nos. 1, 1B, 2, 3, and 4; Water District Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7; Street Light District Nos. 1, 2 and 3; Parking District No. 1; Ambulance District Nos. 1 and 2; Fire Protection District No. 1; and Long Pond Park District; and that the same have been filed in the office of the Town Clerk of said Town, and

FURTHER NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of North Castle, NY, has been assessed the amount of estimated expenditures for Sewer District Nos. 1, 1B, 2, 3, and 4 for the year 2019 less the estimated revenues as set forth in proportion as nearly as may be to the benefits which each lot or parcel will derive therefrom, and has prepared an assessment roll describing the several properties, the names of the owners or reputed owners thereof and the aggregate amount of assessment levied there against, and filed the same with the Town Clerk of said Town where it may be examined by any person interested therein, and

FURTHER NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Town Board will meet and review such Preliminary Budgets and such assessment roll at a Public Hearing to be held by and before said Board on November 20, 2019 at 7:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as practical, at Town Hall, 15 Bedford Road, Armonk, NY, at which time any person may be heard in favor of or against the estimates and/or assessment roll as compiled or in favor of or against any item therein contained.

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The Public Notices were marked Exhibit "A" for the record.

The Affidavit of Posting calling the Public Hearings were marked Exhibit "B" for the record.

The Affidavits of Publication from The Journal News calling the Public Hearing were marked Exhibit "C" for the record.

The 2020 Preliminary Budgets were marked Exhibit "D" for the record.

The Town Clerk noted that no correspondence was received.

Supervisor Schiliro noted that the 2020 Preliminary Budget was received by the Town Board at the November 6, 2019 meeting. The Supervisor said there is a 1.39% increase in the 2020 tax rate.

Town Administrator Kevin Hay gave an overview of the 2020 Budget process which began in August 2019. Mr. Hay thanked the Department Heads for their hard work; and he acknowledged Director of Finance Abbas Sura for the extensive amount of time he spent working with him on the preparation of the Budget. Mr. Hay recognized the Department Heads present at the hearing. He also acknowledged the time spent on the process by Supervisor Schiliro, Deputy Supervisor D'Angelo, Councilmen DiGiacinto, Reiter, and Berra, which included their participation in a series of Budget Work Sessions.

Director of Finance Abbas Sura thanked the Supervisor, Town Board Members, Administrator Hay, and Department Heads for their support toward the preparation of the Budget. Mr. Sura noted that, as always, the focus has been on keeping expenditures as low as possible, while meeting contractual obligations in order to provide Town residents with the best possible service. Mr. Sura gave a presentation on the 2020 Budget, including the following points:

- The 2020 Budget is approximately \$35.6 million which represents about a 2.7% increase from 2019.
- The General Fund consists of the administrative, legislative, police, and recreation services that the Town provides, and forms the largest part of the Budget.
- The Highway Fund represents about 21% of the Budget; Sewer & Water Districts represent about 13%; and Library Fund represents about 6%. Other Funds, including Street Light Districts, Ambulance Districts, and Fire Protection District, represent about 3% of the Budget.
- With regard to Budget comparisons from 2018 to 2020, there have been increases in General Fund appropriations primarily due to capital projects within the Town. In 2018, there was an increase in the Highway Fund due to road infrastructure improvements. The other Funds are fairly on par with recent years or have a modest increase.
- The revenues for the Budget come primarily from property taxes. However, about 32% of the revenues come from other sources. Two primary sources are Non Property Tax Items, which include sales tax revenue and mortgage tax revenue; and Department Income, each at 11% of the revenues. The PILOTs in place with IBM and Engel Berman provide about \$750,000 of the revenues. About 4% of the revenues come from Fund Balance.
- As the Town is a service organization, a majority of the Town's expenses are salaries and benefits. Contractual expenses include legal, engineering, and information technology. Other expenses are incurred to run the Town's operations and include fuel, internet, phone, property maintenance, and supplies.
- The total tax levy for 2020 is \$24,279,163. The tax levy that is related to the General, Highway, and Library Funds is \$20,789,329, which is related to the 2020 tax rate of \$171.47 and the 1.39% increase in the rate. The tax levy related to the Special Districts is paid by residents in those districts which include the Water and Sewer Districts.
- The tax levy limit to stay under the New York State tax cap is \$25,366,003.
- Therefore, about \$1.1 million of tax levies will be deferred to future years.
- The tax impact to the median valued home in North Castle will be an increase of about \$80 in Town taxes.

The Supervisor and Town Board members thanked Director of Finance Abbas Sura, Town Administrator Kevin Hay, and the Department Heads for their work on the Budget.

Supervisor Schiliro said the Budget is responsible, with a modest increase in taxes. The Supervisor noted that the operating side of the budget is structurally balanced; and the overage in the Budget is being returned directly to the Budget. He added that the Town has a very strong Fund Balance at over \$10 million which provides the opportunity to do projects related to infrastructure, including road improvements; and noted the Town's Triple A rating was recently reaffirmed by Moody's. Mr. Schiliro noted that Abbas Sura is on the NYCLASS Board; and said that Mr. Sura astutely manages the Town's funds and the interest income that the Town earns has increased to \$550,000 in 2018.

Town Board Minutes
November 20, 2019

After all persons were heard who desired to be heard, Councilman D'Angelo moved, seconded by Councilman DiGiacinto at 8:42 p.m. that the Public Hearings be adjourned to the December 11, 2019 meeting.

The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen D'Angelo, DiGiacinto, Reiter, Berra, Supervisor Schiliro.

Noes: None.

Alison Simon, Town Clerk

Dated: December 5, 2019