

DATE: OCTOBER 27, 2020

KIND OF MEETING: TOWN BOARD

WHERE HELD: SCHODACK TOWN HALL

CLERK: DEBRA L. CURTIS
(Via Zoom Meetings)

PRESIDING OFFICER: DAVID B. HARRIS (Via Zoom Meetings)

MEMBERS PRESENT: JAMES E. BULT (Via Zoom Meetings)
MICHAEL KENNEY (Via Zoom Meetings)
SCOTT SWARTZ (Via Zoom Meetings)
TRACEY REX (Via Zoom Meetings)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ATTORNEY:

COMPTROLLER: PAUL HARTER (Via Zoom Meetings)

OTHERS PRESENT: DAWNE KELLY, ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERVISOR (Via Zoom Meetings)

Supervisor Harris called the October 27, 2020 meeting to order at 7:13 p.m. and dispensed with roll call. All present via zoom meetings. The Supervisor opted to forego the Pledge of Allegiance due to the virtual meeting.

The Supervisor explained that the purpose of this special meeting was to hold public hearings to set the 2021 rates and capital charges for the users of the town's water and sewer districts as well as a hearing for the 2021 preliminary budget. He said the hearings would begin at 7:10 p.m. for the water districts, 7:20 p.m. for the sewer districts and 7:30 p.m. for the 2021 preliminary budget. He noted the resolutions would be held until the November 12th meeting to allow for all members to vote in-person.

Public Hearings-Capital Assessment Rolls & Operation and Maintenance Rates for Water Districts

At 7:15 p.m., a motion was made by C. Swartz, seconded by C. Bult to open the public hearings for the water districts. The Town Clerk read the Affidavit of Publication regarding the public hearings for the capital assessment rolls for Water District No. 1 - Clearview; Water District 2a - Inglewood, Water District 3 - Maplecrest; Water District 8 - Schodack Center; Water District 9 – Route 20 area and Consolidated Water District 101. They were noticed in *The Record*, posted on the Town Clerk's signboard and on the town website on 10/13/2020. The Operation and Maintenance hearings were held at the same time for: Water District No. 1 - Clearview; Water District 3 – Maplecrest and Consolidated Water District 101 and were noticed as indicated above. As the notices for the water district public hearings were similar, the only notice read was for Water District No. 1.

Paul Harter, Comptroller, led the public hearings for the water districts. He explained that the town would continue to sell water for 2021 with the rates as follows:

- 1) Commercial Water Sales will remain at \$.01/gallon or \$10.00/1,000 gallon for 2021.
- 2) Sale of water from Clearview to Maplecrest (SW3) – the 2020 rate of \$3.00/1,000 gallons will increase to \$4.00/1,000 gallons for 2021.
- 3) Sale of water from Consolidated Water District 101, known as the Enterprise Water (EW) supply, will remain at \$2.00/1,000 gallons for 2021.

Clearview, Water District #1

Operation and Maintenance/Capital Roll – The O & M rate for this district will remain as \$50.00/quarterly for 2021 for the first 18,000 gallons with an overage charge of \$4.00 per 1,000 gallons in excess of the first 18,000 gallons. With respect to the Capital Roll, there are 240.00 capital units which is a decrease of 8.00 units from 2020. The capital rate will decrease by \$.22 or 0.16% for a unit rate (EDU) of \$136.22 for 2021. He noted the decrease was due to a decrease in the debt service for this district.

Public Comment – None

Maplecrest, Water District #3

Operation and Maintenance/Capital Roll - The O & M rate will remain at \$75.00/quarterly for 2021 for the first 18,000 gallons with an overage charge of \$4.00 per 1,000 gallons in excess of the first 18,000 gallons to match the Clearview Rate. In terms of the Capital Rate, the rate will decrease by \$6.47 for a total of \$546.54/EDU for 2021. This district remains constant at 44.5 units for 2021.

Public Comment - None

Consolidated Water District #101, et.al/Enterprise Town-Wide Water Supply

Operation & Maintenance – The current rate of \$45.00/quarterly for Consolidated Water District 101 (CSW101) for the first 18,000 gallons with an overage charge of \$3.00 per 1,000 gallons will remain the same for 2021. In terms of the Capital Roll, the rates will also remain the same at \$365.00/EDU for 2021. The total units for this district will increase from 944.75 for 2020 to 958.00 for 2021.

Out-of-District Users – The Comptroller explained the Town has a few Out-of-District users located behind Elite on Wheels of Albany. The 2020 rate of \$140.00/qtr. for the first 18,000 gallons with an overage charge of \$3.00 per 1,000 gallons will remain constant for 2021. He noted that this rate includes a component for both O & M (\$45.00) and Capital Costs (\$95.00).

Public Comment - None

Mr. Harter explained when water districts 2a, 8 and 9, which are part of the consolidated water district #101, were established, they incurred debt. This debt is added to the amount charged for consolidated water district #101, giving the total capital charge roll for each district. These three districts also are charged the CSW101 O & M rate for users of \$45.00/quarterly with an overage charge of \$3.00 per 1,000 gallons.

Inglewood, Water District 2a

Capital Roll/costs: Inglewood -Water District #2a – This district has 33.5 units,

which will remain the same for 2021. This individual district will see a slight rate increase of \$0.21 to \$308.84/EDU. When combined with the CSW101 rate of \$365.00, the capital charge for SW2A will see an increase of 0.03% to \$673.84/EDU for 2021.

Public Comment - None

Schodack Center, Water District 8

Capital Roll/Costs: Schodack Center - Water District 8: This district has 248.50 units which is a decrease of 12.75 units from 2020. This district will see a rate increase in their individual district of \$12.24 to \$242.88/EDU. When you combine the CSW101 rate of \$365.00, the total increase in the capital charge for the individual district for 2021 will be 2.05% or \$607.88/EDU.

Public Comment - None

Route 20, Water District 9

Capital Rolls/Costs: Route 20 - Water District 9: This district will encounter an increase of 14 units for a total of 211.75 for 2021. This district will see a rate decrease in their individual district of \$13.15 to \$190.52/EDU. When you combine the CSW101 rate of \$365.00, the total decrease in the capital charge for the individual district for 2021 will be 2.31% or \$555.52/EDU.

Public Comment - None

As there was no public comment, a motion was made by C. Bult, seconded by C. Rex to close the public hearing for water districts at 7:24 p.m.

Public Hearings - Capital Assessment Rolls & Operation and Maintenance Rates for Sewer Districts

At 7:24 p.m., a motion was made by C. Swartz, seconded by C. Kenney to open the public hearings for the sewer districts. The Town Clerk read the Affidavit of Publication to receive input on the Operation and Maintenance rents for Sewer District No. 1 – Castleton, Town Outside Village; Sewer District 2 - Castleridge, Sewer District 4 – Brickyard; Sewer District 5 – East Schodack; Sewer District 6 – Exit 10/Miller Rd., Sewer District 7 – Hamilton Printing and Sewer District 8 – Schodack Landing. The hearings to receive input on the capital rolls were held at the same time for Sewer District No. 5 – East Schodack and Sewer District 8 – Schodack Landing. The notices were published in *The Record*, posted on the Town Clerk's signboard and on the town website on 10/13/2020.

The Comptroller again led the public hearings for the sewer districts. He explained the town has four different sewer districts consisting of Sewer District #6 which purchases their service from the Town of East Greenbush; Consolidated Sewer District #1, which consists of former Sewer Districts 1, 2, 4 and 7, is served by the Village of Castleton, Sewer District 5 (East Schodack) and Sewer District 8 (Schodack Landing). He noted that Sewer District 5 and 8 were the only districts with their own treatment sites.

Exit 10 - Sewer District #6

Operation & Maintenance – This district, which is the only district billed quarterly, is serviced by the Town of East Greenbush and has 71 users. Their sewer rate is determined by water consumption. The current rate of \$7.50/1,000 gallons for 2020 will increase to \$7.75/1,000 gallons for 2021. This rate is evaluated annually to determine a need for future increases to address the six aging lift stations. He noted the district currently had a \$38,000.00 repair reserve within their fund balance.

Public Comment - None

East Schodack - Sewer District #5

Operation & Maintenance - The proposed semi-annual rate will remain at \$400.00 for 2021 for the 28 users.

Capital Rolls/Costs - This district has two areas referred to as the Old and the New. The old is the original debt and the new is the debt for the upgraded improvements. The New includes all of those people in the Old debt plus 2 additional parcels. The units in both portions remain at 30 and 32 respectively. Regardless of which section you reside, as the users are basically the same, the capital charge for 2021 will be \$483.90/EDU semi-annually, which represents a rate decrease of \$92.73 or 16.08%.

Public Comment – None

Schodack Landing – Sewer District #8

Operation & Maintenance – For this district, the total number of users will remain at 71 for 2021. The proposed semi-annual rate for 2021 will increase by \$10.00 to \$185.00/EDU.

Capital Rolls/costs – The total number of capital units for this district will remain the same at 77.0 for 2021 and the capital rate will increase by \$6.39 to \$456.51/EDU due to the debt schedule.

Public Comment - None

Mr. Harter explained that former sewer districts 1 (Castleton), 2 (Castleridge), 4 (Brickyard), and 7 (Hamilton Printing) were consolidated into consolidated Sewer District No. 1. He noted this district includes town residents and businesses that are located outside of but are serviced by the Village of Castleton sewer system.

Castleton Sewer District – Castleton Consolidated Sewer District #1

Operation & Maintenance – The number of users for this district is 194 with a proposed semi-annual rate increase of \$10.00 or \$220.00/EDU for 2021. Mr. Harter noted that, due to COVID-19, the usage for Schodack Central Schools had decreased.

Capital Rolls/cost – There is currently no debt service for this district.

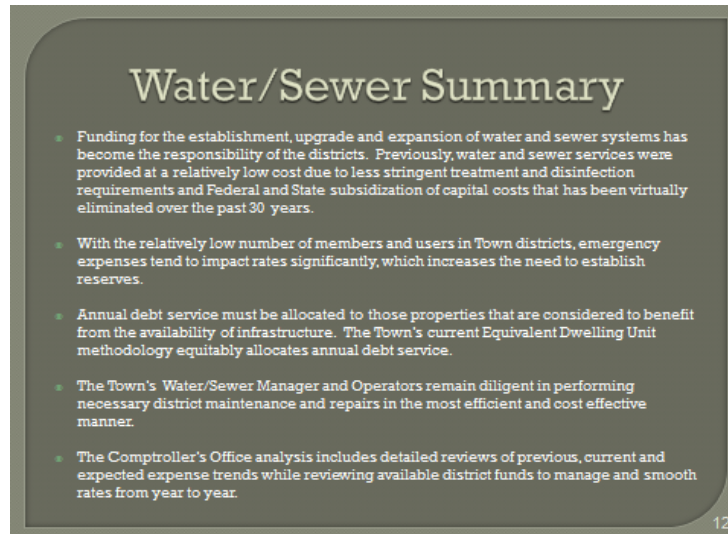
Public Comment – None.

As there was no public comment, a motion was made by C. Bult, seconded by C. Swartz to

close the public hearing for the sewer districts at 7:30 p.m.

Water/Sewer Summary

Mr. Harter gave a brief summary regarding the water and sewer rates (see slide below).



Public Hearing 2021 Preliminary Budget

At 7:31 p.m., a motion was made by C. Swartz, seconded by C. Rex to open the public hearing for the 2021 Preliminary Budget. The Town Clerk read the Affidavit of Publication regarding a public hearing to seek input on the Preliminary Budget of the Town of Schodack for the fiscal year 2021 which was duly published in the October 20, 2020 edition of *The Record*, posted on the Town website and posted on Town Clerk's signboard October 20, 2020.

Mr. Harter said, to ensure everyone had the opportunity to understand all figures presented that evening, he would post both the water/sewer and the 2021 preliminary budget presentations on the town website.

Mr. Harter gave an overview of the 2021 Preliminary Budget. He noted the Town had remained below the tax cap levy for the eleventh year in a row and gave a summary of revenues/expenditures that make up the major components of the budget. He explained that the revenue for the A fund was projected to decrease due to the effects of COVID-19 on the economy.

BUDGET SUMMARY

GENERAL FUND - TOWNWIDE (A)

	2020 Adopted Budget	2021 Preliminary Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Revenue (excl. PILOTs)	\$1,136,039	\$980,539	(\$155,500)	(13.69%)
PILOT Revenue	\$38,000	\$42,000	\$4,000	10.53%
Unexpended Balance	\$226,412	\$561,886	\$335,474	148.17%
Appropriations	\$5,390,663	\$5,561,139	\$170,476	3.16%
Amount to be raised by Taxes	\$3,990,212	\$3,976,714	(\$13,498)	(0.34%)

Note: Amounts are rounded to the nearest \$1,000

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2019 Preliminary Budget Presentation

The tax base for the A fund will increase by 1.37% from 2020; however, the actual tax rate will decrease by 1.72% to \$3.42 per \$1,000.00 for 2021(see slide below).

TAX RATE

GENERAL FUND - TOWNWIDE (A)

	2020 Budget 2019 Actual Tax Base	2021 Budget 2020 Tax Base	\$ Increase (Decrease)	% Increase (Decrease)
Tax Base	\$1,145,655,195	\$1,161,315,524	\$15,660,329	1.37%
Tax rate per \$1,000	\$3.48	\$3.42	(\$0.06)	(1.72%)

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2019 Preliminary Budget Presentation

The B Fund is called the Town Outside Village. It covers services for town residents who live outside the Village of Castleton, such as highway, planning, zoning and building departments. The main source of revenue for this fund is sales tax. He noted that the B fund is a financing mechanism for the DB fund (highway) and will be transferring \$1,000,00.00 to the DB fund (see slide below). This amount is a 9.10% decrease for 2021.

BUDGET SUMMARY				
GENERAL FUND – TOWN OUTSIDE VILLAGE (B)				
	2020 Adopted Budget	2021 Preliminary Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Revenue	\$1,555,016	\$1,379,000	(\$176,016)	(11.32%)
Unexpended Balance	\$283,329	\$364,528	\$81,199	28.66%
Appropriations	\$738,188	\$743,528	\$5,340	.72%
Transfer Out to Highway Fund	\$1,100,157	\$1,000,000	(\$100,157)	(9.10%)

Note : Amounts are rounded to the nearest \$1,000

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2019 Preliminary Budget Presentation

The result is the amount to be raised by taxes will increase by 0.51% or \$7,800.00 for 2021.

BUDGET SUMMARY				
HIGHWAY FUND – TOWN OUTSIDE VILLAGE (DB)				
	2020 Adopted Budget	2021 Preliminary Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Revenue (excl. PILOT)	\$280,126	\$244,000	(\$36,126)	(12.90%)
Transfer In from B	\$1,100,157	\$1,000,000	(\$100,157)	(9.10%)
PILOT Revenue	\$15,000	\$12,000	(\$3,000)	(20.00%)
Unexpended Balance	\$144,692	\$155,558	\$10,866	7.51%
Approp. Capital Reserve	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Appropriations	\$2,937,483	\$2,961,558	\$24,075	0.82%
Amount to be raised by Taxes	\$1,542,200	\$1,550,000	\$7,800	0.51%

Note : Amounts are rounded to the nearest \$1,000

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2019 Preliminary Budget Presentation

Sequentially, the tax rate for the DB fund will decrease by \$.01 to \$1.44 per \$1,000.00 for 2021.

TAX RATE

HIGHWAY FUND – TOWN OUTSIDE VILLAGE (DB)

	2020 Budget 2019 Actual Tax Base	2021 Budget 2019 Tax Base	\$ Increase (Decrease)	% Increase (Decrease)
Tax Base	\$1,058,978,440	\$1,075,748,608	\$16,70,168	1.58%
Tax rate per \$1,000	\$1.45	\$1.44	(\$0.01)	(1.03%)

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2020 Preliminary Budget Presentation

Finally, when you combine the A fund and DB fund the overall net effect, is a decrease of 1.47%. In the following example, if your house is assessed at \$200,000.00 your town tax will decrease by \$14.53 to \$973.04. (see below).

TAX RATE

TAXES PER \$200,000 OF ASSESSED VALUE

	2020 Actual	2021 Estimated	\$ Change	% Change
General Fund (A)	\$696.40	\$684.86	(\$11.53)	(1.66%)
Highway Fund (DB)	\$291.16	\$288.17	(\$2.99)	(1.03%)
Total Town Tax	\$987.56	\$973.04	(\$14.53)	(1.47%)

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2019 Preliminary Budget Presentation

Public Comment – None.

As there was no public comment, a motion was made by S. Harris, seconded by C. Bult to close the public hearing at 7:36 p.m.

Adjournment

As there was no further business before the Board, C. Kenney made a motion to adjourn the 10/27/20 Town Board meeting at 7:37 p.m., seconded by C. Bult. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra L. Curtis
Schodack Town Clerk

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