

At 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Johnson called to order a public hearing to hear all persons interested in the budget, in favor of or against the Preliminary Budget for 2019, or any item therein to include the compensation to be paid to all elected Town Officials, pursuant to the requirements of Section 108 of the Town Law.

Town Board Members present were Supervisor Kevin G. Johnson, Councilperson Robert Muesebeck, Councilperson Patricia Hayles, Councilperson Mary Rich, and Councilperson Lori Skoog. Also present were Finance Director Leisa Strabel, Superintendent of Highways Brian Ingraham and Town Clerk Karen Sweeting.

Visitors present were Joan Hamlin, Chris Hamlin, Susan Smith, Don Grentzinger, Wayne Zyra, Annie Crane, Kevin Johnson and Karen LoBracco.

Supervisor Johnson waived the reading of the legal notice published in the Town newspaper.

Supervisor Johnson began the 2019 Preliminary Budget presentation by pointing out the services provided to all Town residents and several services provided to those in the Village. He reviewed the change in budget lines from the previous year explaining that the significant increases are due to the proposed sidewalk project on Owens Road and the proposed road projects. Mr. Johnson asked that residents keep in mind that some are one-time increases (not paid each year – sidewalk project), some are permanent increases (salaries, etc.) and the road project involves temporary 10 year borrowing.

Supervisor Johnson detailed the Budget Summary. The tax rate for Village residents will be approximately \$2.54 (increasing by \$.13) and the tax rate for Town outside the Village will be approximately \$4.59 (decreasing by \$.14). Mr. Johnson shared the taxable assessed valuation summary, adding that 46.4% of true property value is tax exempt. Information also made available were special district tax rates, elected official salaries (no increase in Town Board salaries again this year), bonded indebtedness and the property tax cap formula. The 2019 levy is \$10,030 UNDER the cap.

Supervisor Johnson closed by stating that the tax levy was increased just over \$82,000 which includes funding for the Owens Road sidewalk project, proposed road projects, wage/salary increases, splash park operating costs, and an increase to the Seymour Library appropriation line. Mr. Johnson thanked Finance Director Leisa Strabel for her tremendous amount of work on a budget that truly serves the residents well.

Supervisor Johnson asked if anyone had any comments. No comments.

The public hearing was closed at 7:18 p.m.