

TOWN OF POMPEY TOWN BOARD MINUTES

The Town Board of the Town of Pompey held its Regular Monthly Meeting on November 4, 2020. It was held via video conferencing, as permitted by the NYS Open Meetings Law and Executive Order 202.1. This is based upon notices and health advisories issued by Federal, State, and Local officials related to the COVID-19 virus. Board members remotely attended the meeting by connecting to video conference from an electronic device. For the public's viewing, the video conferencing meeting was hosted via zoom and by livestreaming on the Town of Pompey Facebook page.

The following remotely attended: Supervisor Renee Rotondo, Councilors Judy McElhannon, Ann Christmas, Sheila Larkin, Carl Dennis; Town Clerk Nikki Reid; Highway Superintendent Tom Purcell; Accountant 1 Tom Chartrand; Attorney for Town Tim Frateschi; Codes Officer Bob Rodriguez, and Zoom Host Veronica Hotaling.

Supervisor Rotondo called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. She congratulated Ralph Cognetti for being reelected as Town Justice. Supervisor Rotondo took a few moments to acknowledge and recognize the recent passings of Gail Moreland, Anne Armstrong, and Frank Winters.

R-163-20 Motion by Dennis, seconded by Larkin to wave the reading of the Local Law No. 2020-2 for the Tax Cap Override. All in favor. Motion carried.

R-164-20 Motion by Christmas, seconded by McElhannon to open the Public Hearing on Local Law No. 2020-2 for the Tax Cap Override. All in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor Rotondo asked the public to weigh in on whether the town should override the state tax cap which is 1.56%.

Phil Dilmore asked if this is a one-year thing. Supervisor Rotondo explained that the tax cap changes from year to year and to pass this year's budget, an override would be necessary.

Samantha Shapess is wondering why the 2021 budget is going to be so large. Supervisor Rotondo remarked that the budget is not that large, but the issue is that the tax rate is so small and any increase in the budget is significant enough to push us past the tax limit. She also remarked that it is also because we are not going to continue to short the highway budget on the funds they need to maintain and replace the equipment needed in the largest town in the County.

Counselor Christmas remarked that this is not a new thing, and budgets have been overridden many times in the past. Town Attorney Tim Frateschi explained what will happen if we do not override the Tax Cap: The Town will be penalized by the State of New York for the amount of money that goes over the property tax cap.

Ron Joslyn asked how much overage are you predicting? Helen Bailey (Facebook comment) asked how much are you going to raise it? Bookkeeper Chartrand remarked that the total amount of overage is about \$35,000 on a tax that could be collected of \$1,700,000.00 so it's a very small amount to exceed the tax cap by. Seth (Facebook comment) wants to know if there is a public vote to pass the Tax Cap Override. Supervisor Rotondo stated this is a Town Board vote and Attorney Tim Frateschi explained that New York State does not allow a referendum.

Greg Herlihy (Facebook comment) asked the Board to sight a specific example of where increasing taxes will improve services that have not been satisfactory in the past. Supervisor Rotondo remarked that if we do not replace the 2006 snowplow, there is no guarantee the Highway Garage will continue to have the equipment it needs to do the job, especially in one of the snowiest towns in the County. For years, the Highway Department's budget has been reduced and they have not been able to cover the expenses for the necessary repairs and the replacement of equipment. In past years, the Town would take the money that would otherwise result in a tax increase to offset the taxes. The infrastructure in the Town is suffering dearly and is sorely neglected.

Seth (Facebook comment) said in a pandemic where everyone is hurting and strapped for cash, you want to raise taxes? Supervisor Rotondo remarked that she does not want to raise taxes but things need replacement and repairs. Regarding the increase, it is exceedingly small, \$0.19 per \$1,000. Highway Superintendent Purcell remarked that there are a lot of big equipment needs. He needs plow equipment to make our roads safer. Regarding infrastructure, the original part of the Highway Garage was built in 1973 and the roof is 47 years old and in dire need of replacement.

Richard Moseson (Facebook comment) asked if COVID's main impact on the town's expenses has been the increase in health insurance? Supervisor Rotondo said that is not accurate and health insurance has gone up 15% and that is partly because we are in deficit, we are self-insured and have a cooperative plan.

Daniel Palladino (Zoom comment) asked if the Tax Cap Override has been done during prior administration? Also, has that request for a snowplow been requested before and denied in the past? Supervisor Rotondo replied yes to both of those questions. Bookkeeper Thomas Chartrand remarked that the last Tax Cap Override was done in 2019 and the override was for \$350,000. Daniel Palladino commented "Wow, that's a lot more than \$35,000". Highway Superintendent Purcell remarked that getting highway machinery in the past has been exceedingly difficult. The spare plow truck is 32 years old and another truck is over 19 years. Two rollers are 37 years old and another 35 years old; a lot of the equipment is so outdated and significantly deteriorating.

Nancy Fedrick mentioned that some small towns in New York State partner with neighboring townships with shared services particularly highway departments; has this ever been considered or investigated? Highway Superintendent Purcell stated that they have been doing this for years. Paving projects are shared with Fabius, Otisco and Tully; they also share plowing with Manlius, Fabius, and County roads as well.

Supervisor Rotondo commented that the Board has worked so hard this year when related to the budget. Insurance, which has not been bid out in years, was bid out and is saving the Town over \$40,000.00. The previous administration had a contract for Enhanced Services, which cost the Town \$45,000, and this year the Sheriff's Department is used only when needed, which has saved over \$25,000. Last year the Town part-time employees had a salary; this year they are hourly and must submit timesheets. The previous Code Enforcement Officer was paid \$41,000 for 19 hours of work per week; this year Bob Rodriguez has not spent half of that amount for 15 hours of work per week.

Greg Herlihy (Facebook comment) remarked that in the past, equipment was purchased on a scheduled Basis without raising taxes, why can't this be done now? Supervisor Rotondo remarked, that there was a schedule, but it wasn't adhered to because money was always being taken from the Highway's budget. Highway Superintendent Purcell agreed with her statement and also said that with the prior board, he did have an equipment plan in place, but it went by the wayside. Greg Herlihy stated that the driving force of the budget increase isn't due to equipment costs, but rather the increase in employee insurance. He asked how much it costs the taxpayers for each family to have health insurance. Bookkeeper Chartrand remarked that it costs \$2,577 per month, per family. New hires as of 2017 have to pay 10% of this cost. Supervisor Rotondo stated that health insurance increased by 15% this year and the Board will be looking to get quotes for health benefits. She also explained that this deep dive into the budget has never been done before; and there has been a lot of wasted money spent on things that could have been put towards reserves where we would have money available when needed. It's fiscally irresponsible and negligent to have let this budget and the town's infrastructure get to where it's at. This has to be corrected and the only way to accomplish this is to start fixing the things that are broken.

- R-165-20 Motion by Dennis, seconded by McElhannon to close the Public Hearing on Local Law No. 2020-2 for the Tax Cap Override. All in favor. Motion carried.
- R-166-20 Motion by Dennis, seconded by Rotondo to adopt the Tax Cap Override for the 2021 Town and Highway Budgets. All in favor. Motion carried.
- R-167-20 Motion by Larkin, seconded by McElhannon to waive the reading of the 2021 Town and Highway Budgets. All in favor. Motion carried.
- R-168-20 Motion by Christmas, seconded by Larkin to open the Public Hearing on the 2021 Town, Highway, and Special Districts Budgets. All in favor. Motion carried.
- R-169-20 Motion by McElhannon, seconded by Dennis to close the Public Hearing on the 2021 Town, Highway, and Special Districts Budgets. All in favor. Motion carried.

Bookkeeper Chartrand addressed the changes he would recommend at this point. He originally budgeted an estimated increase of 10% in health insurance, which is actually 15%. So \$3,700.00 needs to be added to the General Fund, and \$9,500.00 needs to be added to the Highway Fund. Good news is that Retirement billing for February has been released, which will reduce the Highway budget by \$7,500.00. The Ambulance budget also increased by \$453.56.

This was an exceedingly difficult process and Supervisor Rotondo is beyond grateful to the other Board Members for working so hard finding places to reduce the budget. Highway Superintendent Tom Purcell and Town Clerk Nikki Reid have also made sacrifices to reduce their budgets. Highway Superintendent Tom Purcell thanked the Board for working tirelessly on the budget; it is greatly appreciated.

R-170-20 Motion by McElhannon, seconded by Dennis to Adopt the 2021 Preliminary Budget with the discussed changes to the Retirement Billing amounts, the Health Insurance amounts, and the Ambulance amounts.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor McElhannon	YES
Councilor Christmas	YES
Councilor Larkin	YES
Councilor Dennis	YES
Supervisor Rotondo	YES

All in favor. Motion carried.

Bookkeeper Chartrand gave a report on the November financials: He advised the Board of the percentage of year to date spending as of the end of October: General Fund: 62%; Highway 71%, Revenue for General Fund: at 93%; Revenue for Highway at 97%. Regarding the interest on NYCLASS, last month we were at .045 this month we're up to .095. We also received a large amount of money in the Highway Fund which was for reimbursement of the work done on the roads through the CHIPS program.

R-171-20 Motion by Larkin, seconded by Dennis to approve the following transfer:

GENERAL FUND

From: A8010.1	Zoning	Personal Services	\$3,000.00
A9040.8	Employee Benefits	Workers Compensation	<u>\$4,000.00</u>
		Total	\$7,000.00
To: A8010.4	Zoning	Contractual	\$3,000.00
A9050.8	Employee Benefits	Unemployment Insurance	<u>\$4,000.00</u>
		Total	\$7,000.00

SPECIAL DRAINAGE DISTRICT FUND

From: SD599	Appropriated Surplus Fund Balance		\$1,800.00
To: SD8121.4	Pompey Pines-Drainage	Contractual	\$1,300.00
SD8127.4	Arbutus Section 3-Drainage	Contractual	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
		Total	\$1,800.00

All in favor. Motion carried.

R-172-20 Motion by Christmas, seconded by McElhannon to approve the reconciliation of bank statements and the monthly reports for the Supervisor, Tax Collector and Town Clerk bank accounts for the month of October. All in favor. Motion carried.

R-173-20 Motion by Dennis, seconded by Rotondo to approve the payment of General Fund Abstract Nos 316-354, totaling \$37,548.72; Highway Fund Abstract Nos.173-189, totaling \$32,500.19; Special District Fund Nos.34-38, totaling \$6,102.09; Trust and Agency Abstract Nos. 13-14, totaling \$9,698.22. All in favor. Motion carried.

R-174-20 Motion by Dennis, seconded by Larkin to approve use of funds in the Equipment line for the purchase of a new computer for the Town Clerk's office. All in favor. Motion carried.

R-175-20 Motion by McElhannon, seconded by Dennis to approve the October 5, 2020 minutes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Highway Superintendent Tom Purcell gave an update on the Cupola repair. Councilor Dennis reached out to some contractors and got some quotes; the quote was awarded to Latocha Builders. Purcell had the chance to get up on the roof with them and see what needed to be repaired. The old cedar was rotten and was replaced with apex.

Supervisor Rotondo thanked Tom and the Highway crew for all their hard work getting the Town Hall ready for Election Day as it was a polling place. They set up a safe way for the public to exit out of the meeting room: they placed pavers that made the ground level for people to exit. This ensured a one-way flow of traffic to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

R-176-20 Motion by Christmas, seconded by McElhannon to add Upstate Electrical Inspection Agency as a third party electrical inspector on our list. All in favor. Motion carried.

R-177-20 Motion by Rotondo, seconded by Christmas to adopt the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION TO SET STANDARDS FOR ENERGY BENCHMARKING
FOR MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The following resolution was offered by Supervisor Rotondo, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilor Christmas, to with:

WHEREAS, buildings are the single largest user of energy in the State of New York. The poorest performing buildings typically use several times the energy of the highest performing buildings—for the exact same building use; and

WHEREAS, collecting, reporting, and sharing building energy data on a regular basis allows municipal officials and the public to understand the energy performance of municipal buildings relative to similar buildings nationwide, and equipped with this information the Town is able to make smarter, more cost-effective operational and capital investment decisions, reward efficiency, and drive widespread, continuous improvement; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board desires to use Building Energy Benchmarking - a process of measuring a building’s energy use, tracking that use over time, and comparing performance to similar buildings - to promote the public health, safety, and welfare by making available good, actionable information on municipal building energy use to help identify opportunities to cut costs and reduce pollution in the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board desires to establish procedure or guideline for Town staff to conduct such Building Energy Benchmarking; and

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND DETERMINED, that the following specific policies and procedures are hereby adopted;

**BUILDING ENERGY BENCHMARKING POLICY/PROCEDURES
§1. DEFINITIONS**

(A) “Benchmarking Information” shall mean information generated by Portfolio Manager, as herein defined including descriptive information about the physical building and its operational characteristics.

(B) “Building Energy Benchmarking” shall mean the process of measuring a building’s Energy use, tracking that use over time, and comparing performance to similar buildings.

(C) “Supervisor” shall mean the Town Supervisor.

(B) “Covered Municipal Building” shall mean a building or facility that is owned or occupied by the Town that is 1,000 square feet or larger in size.

(C) “Department” shall mean the Supervisor’s Office.

(D) “Energy” shall mean electricity, natural gas, steam, hot or chilled water, fuel oil, or other product for use in a building, or renewable on-site electricity generation, for purposes of providing heating, cooling, lighting, water heating, or for powering or fueling other end-uses in the building and related facilities, as reflected in Utility bills or other documentation of actual Energy use.

(E) “Energy Performance Score” shall mean the numeric rating generated by Portfolio Manager that compares the Energy usage of the building to that of similar buildings.

(F) “Energy Use Intensity (EUI)” shall mean the kBtUs (1,000 British Thermal Units) used per square foot of gross floor area.

(G) “Gross Floor Area” shall mean the total number of enclosed square feet measured between the exterior surfaces of the fixed walls within any structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy.

(H) “Portfolio Manager” shall mean ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager, the internet-based tool developed and maintained by the United States Environmental Protection Agency to track and assess the relative Energy performance of buildings

(I) “Utility” shall mean an entity that distributes and sells Energy to Covered Municipal Buildings.

(J) “Weather Normalized Site EUI” shall mean the amount of Energy that would have been used by a property under 30-year average temperatures, accounting for the difference between average temperatures and yearly fluctuations.

§2. APPLICABILITY

(A) This policy is applicable to all Covered Municipal Buildings as defined in Section 1 of this policy.

(B) The Supervisor may exempt a particular Covered Municipal Building from the benchmarking requirement if the Supervisor determines that it has characteristics that make benchmarking impractical.

§3. BENCHMARKING REQUIRED FOR COVERED MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

(A) No later than May 1 every year thereafter, the Supervisor or his or her designee from the Department shall enter into Portfolio Manager the total Energy consumed by each Covered Municipal Building, along with all other descriptive information required by Portfolio Manager for the previous calendar year.

(B) For new Covered Municipal Buildings that have not accumulated 12 months of Energy use data by the first applicable date following occupancy for inputting Energy use into Portfolio Manager, the Supervisor or his or her designee from the Department shall begin inputting data in the following year.

§4. DISCLOSURE AND PUBLICATION OF BENCHMARKING INFORMATION

(A) The Department shall make available to the public on the internet Benchmarking Information for the previous calendar year:

(1) no later than September 1 of each year thereafter for Covered Municipal Buildings; and

(B) The Department shall make available to the public on the internet and update at least annually, the following Benchmarking Information:

(1) Summary statistics on Energy consumption for Covered Municipal Buildings derived from aggregation of Benchmarking Information; and

(2) For each Covered Municipal Building individually:

- (i) The status of compliance with the requirements of this Policy; and
- (ii) The building address, primary use type, and gross floor area; and
- (iii) Annual summary statistics, including site EUI, Weather Normalized Source EUI, annual GHG emissions, and an Energy Performance Score where available; and
- (iv) A comparison of the annual summary statistics (as required by Section 5(2)(b)(iii) of this Policy) across calendar years for all years since annual reporting under this Policy has been required for said building.

§5. MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

The Department shall maintain records as necessary for carrying out the purposes of this Policy, including but not limited to Energy bills and other documents received from tenants and/or Utilities. Such records shall be preserved by the Department for a period of three (3) years.

§6. ENFORCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

(A) The Supervisor, or his or her designee from the Department shall be the Chief Enforcement Officer of this Policy.

(B) The Chief Enforcement Officer of this Policy may promulgate regulations necessary for the administration of the requirements of this Policy.

(C) Within thirty days after each anniversary date of the effective date of this Policy, the Chief Enforcement Officer shall submit a report to the Town Board including but not limited to summary statistics on Energy consumption for Covered Municipal Buildings derived from aggregation of Benchmarking Information, a list of all Covered Municipal Buildings identifying each Covered Municipal Building that the Supervisor determined to be exempt from the benchmarking requirement and the reason for the exemption, and the status of compliance with the requirements of this Policy.

§7. EFFECTIVE DATE

This policy shall be effective immediately upon passage.

§8. SEVERABILITY

The invalidity or unenforceability of any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, provision, or phrase of the aforementioned sections, as declared by the valid judgment of any court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional, shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, provision, or phrase, which shall remain in full force and effect.

The resolution was declared adopted.

Nikki Reid
Town Clerk

All in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor Rotondo gave an update on the different revenue sources that will be pursued. The County through the sewer consolidation lease with the town will make money available for green infrastructure projects; the town will submit proposals on what we'd like to use the money for, and the County approve and oversee the work. We are the first town to be interested in applying for this money.

R-178-20 Motion by Dennis, seconded by McElhannon to approve the 2019 Audits for the Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Justice Courts. 4 ayes (Larkin, Dennis, Rotondo, McElhannon) 1 abstain (Christmas). Motion carried.

Supervisor Rotondo gave an update on Dependable Disposal. She asked the Board Members for their advice on extending the contract through August of 2022. All Councilors are in favor and think it is a great service and Dependable Disposal has done a great job. The contract we have will cover us from the rate increase that OCRA is implementing on recycling.

Supervisor Rotondo also reminded the Town Officials to complete the mandatory Sexual Harassment Training by the end of 2020 and to supply her with proof of training.

Supervisor Rotondo brought forward a concern from resident Lilly Locke, who is Asian-American. She asked the Board to consider adopting a statement reinforcing that xenophobic and racism behavior/comments will not be tolerated in the town government. All Board Members agree; there will be zero tolerance for that type of behavior.

Supervisor Rotondo address resident concerns regarding Heritage Hill. Some of the neighbors formed a Concerned Citizens group and have brought their concerns to the Town Board asking them to intervene. An email was sent to the Board this past Friday regarding their concerns. Supervisor Rotondo reached out to Town Attorney Tim Frateschi who reviewed the Town Code and confirmed that there is no provision in the code that would have any control over the music levels at Heritage Hill or at any other place in the town. Regarding the concerns for commercial activities, Codes Officer Bob Rodriguez and Planning Board Chair Sue Smith will review Heritage Hill's site plan and address it next month. Supervisor Rotondo comments that a noise ordinance is not the answer here. Councilor Dennis agrees and stated that we are a farming community and a noise ordinance will not work in the town. Councilor Christmas and Councilor McElhannon agree.

Public comments:

Phil Dilmore is a concerned resident that lives near Heritage Hill. He attended a Town Board meeting a couple of years ago when Mr. Palladino wanted to extend his business hours. He stated that many residents were concerned about noise and that it would run late in the night. He states that Mr. Palladino promised to keep the noise under control, and he does not feel that has been done. Dilmore states that the noise at Heritage Hill is affecting our peace and quiet and our property values.

Dan McClurg is disappointed with the way the concerns are being played out. He mentioned the misconstrued posts on social media. Regarding the circulating petition, the request that was made was that the loud music that is regularly being played by Heritage Hill be contained. He stated that this has nothing to do with a noise ordinance or neighbor associations limiting freedom. This is about community and being good neighbors; it is about protecting people's rights to enjoy their property. It is about preserving our nature of our community. He states that no one has mentioned a noise ordinance other than Dan Palladino. Dan McClurg referenced the August 2018 Planning Board minutes and said the brewery application made no mention of music being played every weekend, or music being played in outdoor structures. He quoted that Dan Palladino replied "a single acoustic with one singer, no tickets". He said the situation is only getting worse and he just wants to address the concerns amicably. Supervisor Rotondo responded that she was the one who used the word 'noise ordinance' and not to blame Dan Palladino. Rotondo clarified that when she read the email from McClurg asking the town to regulate noise, that is pretty much asking the town for a noise ordinance.

Owner of Heritage Hill, Daniel Palladino commented that the meeting minutes that were mentioned by McClurg was regarding the café and farm store, not the brewery. He said that initially McClurg would call him about the noise. Palladino told McClurg to come up to the brewery at any point, even if Palladino was not present, and ask the musicians to turn the music down. Dan also explained that he did send out a letter to the neighbors stating what they have done this year and what they have gone through. He stated that a business during COVID has to throw their plan out the window just to survive. He had to keep thirty employees going, so did drive-in sunsets and had music playing; it was the only way he could survive when the Governor shut down indoor seating. Palladino states that he could have stayed open until 2 a.m., however he closed all year long at 9 p.m.; minus two events which were done by 10 p.m. He has zero interest in hosting concerts and staying open until 2 a.m. He states that he loves his neighbors and this community and everything he does is for the community. Palladino addresses Mr. McClurg and states that turning down the music wasn't enough for him and McClurg doesn't want music playing at all. Palladino states that he has the right to have music; he is an active farm, and this is agritourism. The brewery is considered agriculture by the State of New York and he is protected under that. He wants his neighbors to be customers and a part of the farm show, and he wants to be a part of this community. Palladino states that he will get passionate and emotional when he feels that his whole family history and all that they are doing is under attack. He said he will always be here to listen to neighbors' concerns. He has tried to make this as family-friendly as possible and as non-impactful as possible. He is more than happy to work with town planning.

R-179-20 Motion by Rotondo, seconded by McElhannon to adjourn at 8:33 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nikki Reid
Pompey Town Clerk

Zoom Comments:

Kevin Malone: I'm sorry you have no choice. As to what the Governor does, I disagree. You are my and many others first line of defense. The more you work the more you make. Put it forward until the Governor understands.

Facebook Comments:

Tim Chrysler

Just keep the noise down
Do it at HH

Andrea Kogut
What Road for the solar?

Greg Herlihy
Thank you all. Madam Supervisor I thought I clarified my request with you in our correspondence. I will clarify my request further and ask you to bring it before the entire board.

Jailer Joz
Well said Dan P!!

Helen Bailey
Good job town board

Jailer Joz
Informal poll of 4 neighbors on Pratts Sweet corner no problem at all

James Loomis
We earlier just asked how to get business to help with tax base we can't then make it harder for any businesses. Plus with covid they had to move more outside.

Helen Bailey
They are outside because of covid-19.

Jailer Joz
We are happy as well

Helen Bailey
I've been happy with trash service

Greg Herlihy
Speaking of audits will the audit information that is in the possession of County Comptrollers office ever be released to the residents, and or provided to the State of New York for review?

Lesley King Rodriguez
Wasted money??...codes enforcement office...\$41000/19 hrs a week??...and not even certified??...thats a HUGE waste right there...Bob's working twice as many hours for 1/2 the salary.

Greg Herlihy

Lesley could you as Bobs Clerk relay a message to him to call me at his convenience tomorrow. I have a permit question for him.
Thanks

Greg Herlihy
Lesley Bob is working 40 hours a week for the Town. I didn't realize he had gone to full time. I'm glad building is so busy in the Town. Hopefully that will ultimately lead to more overall value for the Town and lower taxes for us all.

Lesley King Rodriguez
It will be after 330 and he would like you to text your number to 315 409 6271.

Jailer Joz
Jlrjz is Ron Joslyn

Greg Herlihy
Thank you for entertaining my questions. I appreciate it.

Jailer Joz
Agreed

Chris Compeau
Agreed!!

Lesley King Rodriguez
And he's a certified codes officer...

Greg Herlihy
How has covid effected Pompey town government? I don't see how it's cost the town money?

Tim Chrysler
For next year. You missed the comment.

Shari Lang
What is the ratio of employees who receive benefits?

Greg Herlihy
Again. I ask could you show examples of wasted money?

Greg Herlihy
To say money has been taken I think what you really mean is that it was returned to the taxpayers in the form of lower taxes. The Highway Department has always preformed well at low cost to the taxpayer. They should be commended for that. The boards job is to balance the two!

Diandra Lynch Western
What is the employee contribution?

Tim Chrysler
Cap override forecast?
What's the forecast for next year?

Helen Bailey
Thank you for explaining the process that you have done.

Greg Herlihy
If I'm not mistaken the tax cap overrides in the past were to help with equipment purchases as well as other costs. There is no doubt upgrades are needed, but equipment costs are not what is driving the budget up so rapidly. Increasing employee insurance costs need to be addressed in any municipality or business. Please can you remind us the cost to the taxpayer of a family health insurance employee?

Jailer Joz
I agree Tom Purcell

Greg Herlihy
From what I can see nobody has even looked into changing the health plan for the sake of the taxpayers. Do the employees pay any premium like so many of us residents do?

Shari Lang
Well that didn't take long. Sounds so easy for you to just raise taxes. There must be some other fund you can take this from? If it's such a small amount.

Jailer Joz
This all sounds very reasonable

Greg Herlihy
How can Onondaga County produce a budget in a pandemic that cuts taxes and our Town can't. A tax increase at this time is hard on the folks, but thank you for your efforts.

Seth Seth
Thank you for the explanation.

Jailer Joz
Sounds good 🙌

Seth Seth
So in a pandemic when everyone is hurting and strapped for cash.... you want to raise taxes? When is the public vote?

Jailer Joz

Thanks for the explanation

How much overage are you predicting?

Helen Bailey

How much are you going to raise it?

Samantha Shapess

What are we planning to do with this money?

Why is the 2021 budget going to be so large?