

What is the town budget?

The town of Canandaigua is committed to providing quality services and programs to its residents, while maintaining fiscal responsibility and transparency. The town's budget is a reflection of its priorities and goals, as well as the available resources and revenues. The budget process is a collaborative effort that involves the town board, the town supervisor, the town staff, and the public. The budget affects the quality of life of the residents, the services they receive, and the taxes they pay. As chief fiscal officer, The town supervisor is responsible for making sure a balanced budget is prepared and presented to the town board for approval.

Main Steps

The town of Canandaigua follows a budget calendar that outlines the main steps and deadlines for the budget process. Here are the main steps:

- In July, the town supervisor issues a budget message to the town board and the town staff, outlining the budget guidelines and expectations for the next fiscal year.
- In August, the town staff prepares and submits their budget requests to the town supervisor, based on the guidelines and the projected needs and costs of their departments, and the town supervisor reviews the budget requests and prepares a tentative budget, which is filed with the town clerk and typically presented to the town board by Labor Day weekend.
- In October, the town board holds a public hearing, or hearings if needed, on the tentative budget, where the public can comment and ask questions. The town board may make changes to the tentative budget based on the public input and their own deliberations.
- In November, the town board adopts the final budget, which becomes effective on January 1 of the next fiscal year.

What are the main sources of revenue for the town?

The town gets most of its revenue from two sources: taxes and state aid. The main tax revenue comes from property taxes and sales tax. Property taxes are based on the assessed value of the properties in the town. Everyone in the town pays for general government operations, highway and fire protection. Things like water, sewer, drainage and lighting are only paid for by residents who benefit from those services. The town also receives a share of all sales tax collected in Ontario County. This money helps to fund things like general operations, parks and highway. It also helps to keep the property tax rate down. State aid is money that the town receives from the state government for various purposes, with the biggest one being highway maintenance. The town also gets some revenue from fees, fines, grants, and other sources.

What are the main expenses for the town?

The town spends most of its money on highway, general government, and parks and recreation. General government includes the salaries and benefits of the town staff and officials, the legal and auditing services, the insurance and debt payments, and the general administration of the town. Highway includes the maintenance and improvement of the roads, ditches and culverts, running the transfer station, and things like plowing in the winter and mowing in the summer. Parks and recreation includes our parks, trails, and other activities that we have throughout the town like Halloweek at Onanda and Movies and Music in The Parks.

How can I learn more about the town budget?

The town budget is a public document that is available on the town website. You can also attend the public hearings and workshops that the town board holds before adopting the budget. You can ask questions, share your opinions, and suggest changes to the budget. You can also contact your town board members or the town supervisor if you have any concerns or ideas about the budget. The town budget is your money and your voice matters.

Conclusion

The budget process is an opportunity for the town to communicate its vision and values, and to allocate its resources accordingly. The town encourages the residents to stay involved and informed throughout the budget process, by attending the public hearings, visiting the town's website, and contacting the town officials with any questions or concerns. It is also important to remember that the town of Canandaigua's budget is a guideline for the upcoming year, and is not set in stone. It is a living document, and as such, sometimes unforeseen changes come up along the way. Any adjustment to the budget is done by resolution with the support of a majority of town board members.

Budget overview from the last 3 years:

| 2024 Total expenditure of \$14,302,562. | 2023 Total expenditure of \$13,876,450. | 2022 Total expenditure of \$13,500,000 |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Revenue Sources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ State Aid/Grants: \$487,935 (3%) ○ Mortgage Tax: \$275,000 (2%) ○ Sales Tax: \$5,475,000 (38%) ○ Property Tax: \$4,584,418 (32%) ● Expenditure Breakdown: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ General Fund: \$5,143,203 (36%) ○ Highway Fund: \$4,756,125 (33%) ○ Fire District: \$1,755,000 (12%) ○ Water Districts: \$2,438,035 (17%) ○ Capital Projects: \$1,248,842 (9%) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Revenue Sources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ State Aid/Grants: \$475,000 (3%) ○ Mortgage Tax: \$300,000 (2%) ○ Sales Tax: \$5,250,000 (38%) ○ Property Tax: \$4,500,000 (32%) ● Expenditure Breakdown: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ General Fund: \$5,000,000 (36%) ○ Highway Fund: \$4,500,000 (32%) ○ Fire District: \$1,700,000 (12%) ○ Water Districts: \$2,300,000 (17%) ○ Capital Projects: \$1,200,000 (9%) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Revenue Sources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ State Aid/Grants: \$450,000 (3%) ○ Mortgage Tax: \$290,000 (2%) ○ Sales Tax: \$5,000,000 (37%) ○ Property Tax: \$4,400,000 (33%) ● Expenditure Breakdown: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ General Fund: \$4,900,000 (36%) ○ Highway Fund: \$4,300,000 (32%) ○ Fire District: \$1,650,000 (12%) ○ Water Districts: \$2,200,000 (16%) ○ Capital Projects: \$1,200,000 (9%) |