

Happy Fall. It's always amazing how the switch seems to flip and Fall is upon us. As we approach cooler weather and a little slower pace, I hope you can take some time to enjoy the beautiful attractions our area has to offer. While the beach is closed at Onanda, there are still beautiful days ahead for hikes through the trails in the crisp air. Maybe even some time to explore the Canandaigua Vista and catch some stunning views.

Fall also means budget time for the town. I encourage everyone to look at our 2025 preliminary town budget which is available on the town website. Our first budget workshop will be Monday October 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. Members of the public are invited to attend in person or via zoom.

The town must present a balanced budget each year. This process starts with budget meetings in July and continues through the adoption of the budget in October/November. We receive the biggest portion of our revenue from sales tax and property taxes. Other revenue comes from NYS aid, parks fees, development fees, monies from other governments for services, and a small number of PILOT agreements. The biggest expenses the town faces come from the general fund, the highway fund, water districts, and fire protection. Everyone pays for general, highway and fire protection. Only residents who live in one of our water districts pays towards those expenses.

The proposed tax rate for our general operations in 2025 is .87/1,000 which is one of the lowest tax rates for any town or city in Ontario County. Approximately 70% of the tax rate goes to fund the highway portion of the budget, and 30% goes to fund general operations. This year's proposed tax rate represents about a \$33 tax increase for a \$300,000 home.

There is much more detailed information about the budget available on the town's website, and more information will be posted in the coming days and weeks. If you have any questions at all, please feel free to contact me directly. I would be more than happy to discuss any part of the town budget with you.

Jared