

**NOVEMBER 9, 2016  
PUBLIC HEARING**

**2017 Annual Town Budget**

**7:10P.M.**

**Present:** Supervisor Post  
Deputy Supervisor Underhill  
Councilwoman White  
Councilwoman Michalak  
Councilman Zambito

**Others Present:** Town Clerk Morasco  
Mike Pettinella, The Batavian Reporter  
8 Constituents

Supervisor Post called the Public Hearing to order at 7:19 P.M. and opened the meeting for public comment on the 2017 Annual Town Budget as published in the Daily News.

Joe Jaszko-Questioned why we need so many engineers. Also, stated that there are too many employees.

Mitchel Strong- Questioned why the Town needs all these engineers and the City doesn't.

The Supervisor expressed that to provide a sustainability plan and vision to build the community it is more beneficial to the Town than contracting with engineering firms. Since the inception of this there has been a 40% increase in development in the Town. Twenty five years ago or so the City of Batavia had several engineers. That is when the City was booming, attracting industry and such to the community.

The Supervisor explained some of the full-time positions and informed the constituents that the Town has shared services agreements with other communities that pay a portion of some of these positions.

Mr. Strong questioned how much the budget increased from last year. The Supervisor stated that it is up about \$450,000, which includes the Highway budget.

There was a lengthy discussion on the costs, revenues, and unexpended fund balance. Last year to balance the budget we raised \$500,000 through taxes rather than the needed \$1,000,000. The costs over the last 10 years have more than doubled for trucks, tires, etc. and revenues have been reduced. The Town has subsided balancing the budget by using the unexpended fund balance. If we continue to do that we will deplete our unexpended fund balance. With this plan, the \$2.64/1,000 tax rate should remain at that through 2020 and maintain an unexpended fund balance of \$1.2 million. The Supervisor expressed that the budget is as flat they can make it. It may not be a perfect document, but we did the best that we could do.

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The Supervisor informed the constituents that the Town Board has meet every week over the last four months to produce this budget and no one from the community has attended to be a part of the process except for High School students.

Supervisor Post declared the Public Hearing closed at 8:28 P.M. on the 2017 Annual Town Budget as not one else spoke for or against the budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Teressa M. Morasco  
Town Clerk