

VILLAGE OF GENESEO
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April 6, 2015

PUBLIC HEARING to consider the Tentative Budget for fiscal year 2015-16

PRESENT:

Richard B. Hatheway, Mayor
Sandra F. Brennan., Deputy Mayor
Margaret E. Duff, Trustee
Benjamin Gajewski, Trustee
Robert Wilcox, Trustee

Marsha B. Merrick, Clerk/Treasurer

PUBLIC PRESENT:

None

1. HEARING OPENED:

Mayor Hatheway opened the public hearing at 5:30PM, stating that the appropriate notification had been published. The budget was presented to the Board of Trustees two weeks ago on March 23; a committee consisting of Budget Officer/Mayor Hatheway, Deputy Mayor Brennan, Clerk/Treasurer Merrick, Supt. Frazier, Supt. McTarnaghan, Police Chief Osganian and Fire Chief Manzo developed the budget.

In the General Fund, the amount to be raised by taxes (the tax levy) is \$1,633,000; that figure can be compared to the 2014-15 amount of \$1,603,060. The \$30,000 increase is within the Property Tax Cap limitations imposed by the State, thus the Village will not be overriding the cap.

The tax rate for the coming year is to be \$6.91/thousand, which, because of the reassessment of properties undertaken last year, represents a decrease from the current \$6.93/thousand.

The General Fund appropriations for 2015 are \$3,224,650, compared to the current year (modified budget) of \$3,128,389.

Increases in spending are due largely to negotiated personnel costs, the Main Street reconstruction project and the purchase of 24 state-of-the-art air packs for the Fire Department.

Increases in revenue are projected to be in Fines and Forfeitures, Sale of Equipment, and Consolidated Highway monies from the State.

Otherwise, Mayor Hatheway continued, the 2015-16 budget is quite similar to that of the preceding year. Department managers have done an outstanding job holding expenses essentially flat, while planning to continue to provide services residents have come to expect. Hopefully the snow control measures taken this winter represent an anomaly and that an equivalent amount will not be necessary in 2016.

In term of the Water Fund, rates are to remain the same, although a quarterly per meter fee of \$3 has been proposed, for replacing residential meters on a regular basis as they age. Plans for this next year include replacing water mains on Main Street, and continuing modification to the Treatment Plant.

For the Sewer Fund, the budget includes an increase in the quarterly service charge by \$5 to \$60/quarter, the first increase since 2010. Geneseo continues to have the lowest water and sewer rates, not only in the County, but also in the broader region. Sanitary sewer lines on Main Street are to be replaced, and a study to determine long range-plans for the Treatment Plant is in the works.

Trustee Gajewski clarified the reason for the reduction in reserve money budgeted for the Fire Department. The line was split to allow for the payment on the new air packs in the Installment Purchase Debt Service line item. Ben also asked a similar question about the Water Fund and the

response was that water line reserve money was used to fund the HR-19 (Main Street) project and thus skews the budget line for that year.

Mayor Hatheway also reported that Senator Patrick Gallivan held a conference call on April 1st for local officials to discuss funding approved in the State budget. Clerk Merrick participated in the conference call and reported that there will be money available for wastewater and water systems as well as funding for natural disaster relief. Funding for capital projects through the Dormitory Authority will now bypass the Governor's Office helping to streamline the process. Senator Gallivan invited local officials to call his office any time with questions and he anticipates another conference call outreach in the near future.

2. HEARING CLOSED:

Without further comments or questions, Trustee Gajewski moved and Deputy Mayor Brennan seconded the motion to close the public hearing. The vote was as follows: Deputy Mayor Brennan-Aye, Trustee Duff-Aye, Trustee Gajewski-Aye, Trustee Wilcox-Aye, and Mayor Hatheway-Aye. The motion passed and the hearing closed at 6:30PM.

Marsha B. Merrick, Village Clerk