

**Town of Ancram
Town Board
Public Hearing on 2017 Tentative Budget
September 15, 2016**

Present: Supervisor Arthur Bassin Councilman Hugh Clark
 Councilman Chris Thomas Councilwoman Madeline Israel
 Councilman David Boice Town Clerk Monica Cleveland
 Highway Superintendent James Miller

The public hearing on the 2017 tentative town budget was called to order at 6:45 pm by Supervisor Bassin.

Mr. Bassin handed out the 2017 tentative budget. He explained that he would like to see the taxes remain flat for 2017. He said that he expects no dramatic changes from the 2016 budget. The board needs to discuss salaries, health insurance and the retirement fund contribution as those numbers become available.

Mr. Bassin opened the floor up to public comments.

Mrs. Adriene Citrin addressed the board concerning the library line. Mr. Bassin reminded the board that the \$2500 increase for last year was a one year item and would have to be discussed again this year. Mrs. Citrin stated that she felt this line needed to be increased. She suggested between \$10,000 and \$15,000. She explained that with in the Pine Plains school district there are 40%+ children receiving free or reduced lunch and 50% in Taconic Hills. These families have no money for computers or internet, books or tapes. She felt that Ancram is not paying its fair share. She pointed out that if the town had passed the 214 referendum, then Ancram would be paying \$30,000 to the library.

At this time in the meeting Mr. Bassin asked for comments from the board regarding the budget. There were none at this time.

Mr. Bassin asked from comments from the Highway Department. There were none at this time. Mr. Bassin reminded the board that the town highway received an additional \$30,000 in CHIPS funding this year and this amount is suppose to continue for the next four years. Mr. Bassin and Mr. Miller are in negotiations on how to put this revenue in the budget. Mr. Bassin would like to use it to decrease the tax burden by at least \$15,000.

There being no more comments from the floor or the board, Mr. Bassin called the meeting closed at 7:50 pm. The next budget public hearing will be at 6:45 prior to the October 20 town board meeting.

Respectfully submitted by,
Monica R. Cleveland, Ancram Town Clerk