

**To: Ancram Town Board**  
**From: Art Bassin**  
**Date: 8/14/2016**  
**Subject: Supervisor's Report – July 2016**



## **Town Issues**

- 1. Financial Report** – July was another “normal” financial month. For the seven months ending July 2016, we have spent about \$150,000 less than through July 2015. The Highway Department accounted for the entire \$150,000 “savings”, caused by less spending for fuel, snow removal and repairs. Jim expects he will “catch up” over the next few months and will come in pretty close to the full year 2015 actual expense and 2016 budget by year end. We currently have about \$1.2 million of cash on hand.
- 2. Year-end Cash Projection** – No changes. We should end the year with about \$800,000 in cash. Over the next few months we will spend about \$470,000 on the Town’s infrastructure - \$170,000 on road repair work and \$300,000 on culvert repairs. NYS will reimburse us for about \$390,000 of the \$470,000. Our net cost will be about \$75,000, related to the culvert replacement grant. We have to spend the money for these projects before the State will reimburse us, so our cash position will drop to about \$400,000 over the next few months, before bouncing back to the \$800,000 level by year end.
- 3. Culvert Project** – Pats Rd. culvert replacement project begins August 15, and should take about 2 weeks. We are starting two weeks later than expected. Hall Hill will probably start after Labor Day.
- 4. Oil/Water Separator** – Still waiting for DEC approval.
- 7. Parcel adjacent to Town Garage** – This .54 acre parcel has been taken over by the County in a tax foreclosure. County has offered it to Ancram for \$2500, and the Tb approved this purchase last month. No new news on the timing of this transaction.
- 8. TH Wireless Smoke, Gas, Carbon Monoxide Detectors** – We have a \$6000 proposal for the Highway Garage and a \$1000 proposal for the Town Hall. Jim Miller and I should have a recommendation by the 9/15 TB meeting.
- 9. Camp/Pool** – We extended camp for a week to 8/19. Donations this year totaled \$25,000, about \$10,000 higher than expected and last year. Pool and Camp costs are expected to come in at about \$50,000 this year, about \$5,000 higher than the budget, but covered by our \$10,000 increase in donations.
- 10. 2017 Town Budget** – We will briefly review the draft 2017 Tentative Budget at the 8/18 TB meeting. We will hold a public hearing on the Tentative Budget prior to the September TB meeting. The draft Tentative Budget indicates a tax levy that is flat to 2016 with a \$15,000 increase in the contingent account. As we learn more about our “uncontrollable” costs (health, property and liability insurance and the state retirement fund), and work our way through a review of salaries, the numbers will move around a bit, but as in the past 6 years, I think we should be targeting a final tax levy that is a percent or so under 2016.
- 11. County Issues** – 2017 County budget process has started. 2017 target is for a tax increase that is under the .68% State budget cap.