

To: Ancram Town Board
From: Art Bassin
Date: March 16, 2019
Subject: Supervisor's Report



1. Financial Report – Normal month. We ended the month with about \$1.5 million in cash. Year-end cash projection is \$700,000 assuming we spend a total of \$300,000 on capital projects that were not in the budget and not taxed for in 2019. These projects are listed on the YE Cash Position report. Sales tax receipts are running about 3% better than 2018 which may result in a 2019 sales taxes coming in \$20,000 to \$30,000 over the budgeted \$300,000 amount. The major risk to the Town's 2019 financial situation is the financial condition of NY State, which may result in the State reducing or eliminating general and highway aid to towns.

2. FAC Audit – FAC has completed the 2018 Court, Building Department and Planning/ZBA audits. An audit of Town Supervisor records and the Town Clerk/Tax Collector records will be done over the next few weeks.

3. Comp Plan Review Process – The Town Board public hearing was held on March 9. Only two Town Board members attended, so we will have to do a second Town Board public hearing on the Updated Comp Plan prior to our April 18 Town Board meeting. We will declare ourselves the lead agency for SEQRA at the 3/21 Town Board meeting and will be in a position to consider the updated Comprehensive Plan for adoption following the 4/18 public hearing. The major issue that at both the two Comp Plan public hearings we have already held is how to handle short term rentals.

4. Cable Franchise Application - We have received an application from Berkshire Cable dba Consolidated Communications to offer cable services in Ancram under the terms offered by Spectrum Communications. We will hold a public hearing on this request immediately prior to the March 21 Town Board meeting and will then consider the application for approval. Vicky Gronquist from Consolidated will be attending our meeting on 3/21

5. Freeground Cemetery Fence – Bob Murphy has recommended that the Town complete the fencing around the Freeground Cemetery on CR 7 near Hall Hill Rd. Estimated cost is \$3,700, which will be paid for from the Heritage Resources Fund, which has over \$12,000 available for this kind of project. Recommend we approve this work, which will be done by the same firm that was the low bidder for the first phase of this project.

6. Summer 2019 Kids Programs – The Camp/Pool Board will meet on Saturday, 3/23 to begin planning for the summer camp and pool programs.

7. Town Hall Repairs – It is likely that we will have to replace the roof at Town Hall in the near future. George Wittlinger will update us on this at the 3/21 meeting and will get a preliminary estimate on costs. We will have to remove the solar panels, replace the roof and then replace the solar panels. In addition, we are looking into how to regrade the town parking lot to eliminate the standing water that turns to ice by the door from the parking lot. This winter Jim Miller and the highway crew did an excellent job of using salt to prevent the water from freezing around the entryway.

8. Highway shed – Ray Jurkowski from CPL engineering will join us on 3/21 to review specs for the proposed new highway garage.

9. Enhanced Driver's License – County Clerk Holly Tanner will be at Ancram Town Hall on April 9 at 10 am to talk about the new enhanced drivers licenses.