

To: Ancram Town Board
From: Art Bassin
Date: July 11, 2020
Subject: Supervisor's Report



1. June Financial Report – June numbers and the full year cash projection are consistent with expectations and the prior month data. Because of planned savings and the \$200,000 plow ruck loan, we expect to end 2020 with about \$900,000 in cash on hand, which is about \$200,000 higher than had been budgeted.

2. 2021 Budget – We will start the 2021 budget process in August. Attached are drafts of preliminary 2021 budget assumptions and the 2021-2025 Capital Plan, which envision keeping property taxes flat and continue to fund the \$130,000 contingent account for future capital spending. There are no new capital spending projects proposed for the next few years, but we will have about \$60,000 available as part of the NYSERDA grant to fund a new TH HVAC system in 2021 when we determine what we want to do with the HVAC system. We also will have the \$900,000 fund balance available if we need to make some unplanned capital investments.

3. CSCTF Initiatives

a) Geothermal HVAC system at Town Hall – No new news on this. As you may recall, the CPL analysis suggested a town hall geothermal system would cost about \$270,000 compared to the \$116,000 proposed by Aztech. Primary difference in costs is the CPL analysis assumed a need for a significantly larger system than Aztech. NYSERDA reviewed the two estimates, and indicated the Aztech proposal is more reasonable than the CPL estimate. Next step will be to issue a design-build RFP for a town hall geothermal system and see what we get by way of proposed configurations and costs from a wider variety of installers.

b) LED Street Lights – Central Hudson is planning to replace all streetlights with LEDs over the next few months. We are waiting for final documents to sign to get this done

4. TH Broadband – Consolidated installed 100 mbs broadband for Town Hall on July 2. We are still waiting on an installation date for the Town Garage. Rich Juliano, head of the County IT Department came down to review the broadband installation and has recommended we install an enhanced security system to protect town computers from viruses and hackers. The system Rich recommends is Sophos – which should cost under \$2000 to install with a three-year subscription.

5. Reopening Town Hall – Town Hall opened to the public by appointment on Monday, July 6. Traffic has been slow. We need to decide what we want to do about “opening” the playground at TH and the basketball court at Blass Field, and with what rules.

6. Communications/sensitivity training – Jami Erhing conducted an in-person communications & sensitivity training program on July 2. All but two Planning Board members attended, and the program was well received. I suggest we consider offering this program to a wider audience of town officials and volunteers in the fall.