

Town Of Kingston November 6th, 2024 Public Hearing #4

A motion was made to open the public hearing on the 2025 preliminary budget by Councilman Nelson and seconded by Councilman Queipo. All approved.

The hearing was opened at 7:26PM

Present were Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Nelson, Councilman Queipo, Highway Superintendent Sylvester, Budget Officer Polacco, Town Attorney Torre, Town Clerk Nelson and 10 members of the public.

The hearing was turned over to our budget officer, Ryan Polacco.

An addition of \$50,000.00 was made to A1990.4 for the ambulance service.

A question was asked about the contractual amounts listed on the budget, they are monies used for those departments for things other than salary, such as training, postage and other such things.

The Town Board salary was questioned since the per person amount did not add up to the 4-person salary on page 3, it was a glitch in the spreadsheet that will be fixed.

The ambulance amount was questioned because it was not what was initially mentioned as the amount needed, we are looking into multiple options for the ambulance service, including shared services, linking with another town and hopefully getting financial assistance from the county.

Another glitch was pointed out about the assessor's salary, the amount listed as \$16,922.00 is the correct amount.

A8160.41 which is the garbage pick-up went up about \$24,000.00 this year, it went out to bid.

A8160.43 is spring clean up and went down to \$6,049.00

A9710.7 is the Town Hall interest which is actually \$5,608.00

It was mentioned that we are going to look into having the town reassessed within the next year or two

Contractual in improvements was questioned, D5112.4 is for things like pavement

D9010.8 NYS retirement system actual cost dropped to \$16,800.00

**D9060.8 Employee Health – new employee with family so must carry
\$36,357.00**

D9060.81 Insurance Deductible needs to be changed to \$8,550.00

D9089.1 Employee longevity amount is \$300.00

D9089.11 Employee Health Ins. Buyout \$5,000.00

D9089.13 Employee Vacation Buyout \$2,401.00

Capital reserves project in highway was asked about, it is an equipment fund for new vehicles or equipment like the front-end loader

It was questioned whether the sales tax amount budgeted for 2025 is enough

A2610 Justice Fines were increased to \$140,000.00

We should be getting CHIPS money in the amount of \$30,000.00

General A1001 brought forward amount increased to \$100,000.00

Highway D1001 brought forward amount \$50,000.00

Tax of \$13.14 per \$1000.00 for 2025

Approximately 22% increase this year after changes are made

A motion was made to adjourn the public hearing by Councilman Nelson and seconded by Councilman Hoffman. All approved. Adjourned at 9:06PM

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Nelson, Town Clerk

