

November 9, 2023

The Town Board of the Town of Warwick held a Public Hearing for the 2024 Preliminary Budget. Said public hearing was held on Thursday, November 9, 2023 at the Town Hall, 132 Kings Highway, Town of Warwick. Supervisor Sweeton opened the public hearing at 7:10 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Supervisor Michael Sweeton
Councilman Floyd DeAngelo
Councilman Russell Kowal
Councilman James Gerstner
Councilman Kevin Shuback

Stephen Brown, Auditor
Attorney for the Town, Jay Myrow – Absent

LEGAL NOTICE: The Clerk read the legal notice, which was duly published in the Warwick Valley Dispatch on November 1, 2023. (Copy of this legal notice is printed at the end of these minutes.)

Supervisor Sweeton – The Town Board is presenting this budget and once again it is under the New York State mandatory tax cap. Village residents who pay a portion of the town taxes will see a rate of \$7.09 per thousand of assessed value or about \$8.33 total increase on their tax bill for the average assessed house in the town. Town residents pay the entire budget. They will see a rate of \$23.29 per-thousand of assessed value or about \$16.12 total increase in their tax bill for the average house in the Town of Warwick. I want to thank the Board for their hard work on this budget and I also want to thank the Town Employees who worked hard to achieve a fiscally responsible budget that deliver the essential services our residents expect while keeping the tax burden at a minimum. I also would like to thank our Budget Advisor Steve Brown for his assistance putting this all together as well. Tonight, I thought I would give you a little overview of the budget and get into different portions if you want. I thought it was helpful for residents to understand what are the budget funds and what it comprises of. In a town budget there are what's called A and B Funds. The A Fund is paid for by all residents and the B Fund is all of the other functions that the town funds that the villages are funding for themselves and we can not tax them for those. Then there's the highway budget that's composed of both the A and B component. On the A Fund general government, when you look on line or at the Clerks Office you will see Supervisors Office, Town Board, Justice Court, the Auditors, Tax Collector, Assessors Office, Town Clerk Office, the Attorneys, Central Communications, Central Data Processing etc. The Public Safety as it's listed is for our contract with the Animal Shelter for control of dogs, our traffic signs, striping of roads and contracted policing of the town portion of Greenwood Lake. The Transportation and Highway portion is for the administration of the Highway Department and our Dial-A-Bus System which is a robust system. Our Economic section of the budget it funds the SNAP home delivery of meals, Veterans heating assistance, the programs for the aging that we support for our Senior Clubs and our Economic efforts. Youth and Recreation funds our Parks Department and also the Towns Recreation Program, which is the program that we run in

Pine Island, the Community Center support that is held on Hamilton Avenue and our Town Historian. Our Home and Community section is for our contribution to the Wallkill Drainage District. We are one of the five towns along the Wallkill that fund work to prevent flooding in the district. We have the largest contribution because we have the largest portion of the river in our town. We also fund the Greenwood Lake Bi-State Commission and it also funds the Shade Tree's and Cemeteries that we are obligated to maintain by the State of New York.

The B Fund is those charges we cannot charge the villages for, things like our Planning and Zoning, our Planners, Engineers and things like that. Our Public Safety is for our Building Department and the functions of that making sure any homes being constructed or renovated are being done under the New York State Building Codes. We also fund Vital Statistics and our Street Lights. We have three lighting districts, but we have a General Street Light Fund as well and that's for all the street lights in various portions of the town that are not in one of the special districts. The Planning and Zoning Board's, Youth Programs with our villages because we do support each of our village programs through our contributions.

Then there's a sub-fund of the B Fund, we have the Police Fund. That is a sub-fund because of our relationship in providing police services to the Village of Warwick and then we have the DA Funds which are the Highway Funds. Just to give you a sense of our budget, our budget is \$24,322,892.00 and see the components of each of the funds that comprise that total. I will point out that the police is about 43% of our budget and if you add highway which is about 24% you end with about almost 70% of the budget funds those two departments. The A Fund if you look at the descriptions and components, I spoke about you can see the various percentages of the A Fund which is a 6.3-million-dollar fund. Notice fringe benefits which is what we struggle with every year because the 2% cap is eaten up mostly by fringe benefit increases, health and retirement primarily from the State of New York, which we don't control those, we don't dictate those and we have to try and shoehorn all of our other needs under the cap and it becomes more difficult every year, so it's simply 30% of the A fund for Fringe Benefits.

The next largest component would be the General Government Services, that's all of the operations of the town. We then go to the B Fund and you see it's about 1 million. Fringes are 23%, Building Department 28% and may I remind you they are the only department that makes money and it doesn't help them at budget time however.

The Police Fund is the largest component of our budget about 43% as I mentioned, but you'll see and notice in here the cost of policing is almost 90% personnel cost. We are the largest town in Orange County and the 4th largest in the State of New York. We run around the clock policing, patrolling 5 posts, contracted with the Village of Warwick, we are obligated to provided 1.5 officers at all times in the Village of Warwick. They do pay for the extra half of the officers because that's considered extra so they are paying for that as well. You can see it's personnel costs and policing is not inexpensive, but we live in a safe town and we work hard to make sure our residents are safe.

The Highway Fund is the DA Fund where we do all of our funding for repairs to bridges and drainage, machinery repairs, equipment purchases, fringe benefits there are 22%, debt service is for equipment that has a longer shelf life apparently like bigger machines that we would fund over a period of time.

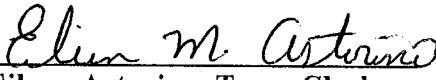
The DB Fund is a fund that village residents do not pay, which comprises general repairs is usually our road work is 27% of the budget, fringe benefits are about 28% of the budget and all the rest of it gets crammed into the budget.

This breaks it down a little different it shows payroll costs over the years and you can see in 2024 our payrolls costs are \$9.8 million, our fringe benefits cost \$8 million, so that's about \$17 million of the total amount of the budget. It does cost a little bit to fund the operations. What does this mean for you, as I started out it's about a \$.16 increase on the assessment and a \$.51 increase for town residents on the assessment. It works out to those numbers I gave you before, which was \$7 and \$16 and that's the end of the presentation.

Again, I want to thank the employees and I want to thank the Board for their hard work and helping us get there early on the process. It did not look like we could get there, but we did and I want to thank them for that. I want to thank the department heads for working hard on their budgets.

There were no public comments for or against this public hearing from the Town Board or the Public.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: Motion Councilman DeAngelo, seconded Councilman Gerstner that the public hearing be closed. Motion Carried (5 ayes, 0 nays) 7:23 p.m. 11-9-23 CP


Eileen Astorino, Town Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the preliminary budget of the Town of Warwick for fiscal year beginning January 1, 2024, will be completed and be on file on November 1, 2023, in the following locations where it will be available for inspection by any interested person at all reasonable hours:

- 1. Office of the Town Clerk, 132 Kings Highway, Town of Warwick,**
- 2. Town of Warwick Website, townofwarwick.org**
- 3. New York Florida Village Hall, 33 S. Main St., Village of Florida, New York**
- 4. Albert Wisner Public Library, One McFarland Dr., Village of Warwick, New York**
- 5. Greenwood Lake Public Library, Waterstone Road, Village of Greenwood Lake, New York**
- 6. Pine Island Post Office, 665 County Rt. 1, Pine Island, New York**

FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Warwick, will meet and review the preliminary budget and hold a public hearing thereon at the Town Hall, 132 Kings Highway, Warwick, New York, on Thursday, November 9, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard in favor or against the preliminary budget as compiled or for or against any item or items therein contained.

PURSUANT TO SECTION 112 of the Town Law, the proposed salaries of the following elected officers are hereby specified as follows:

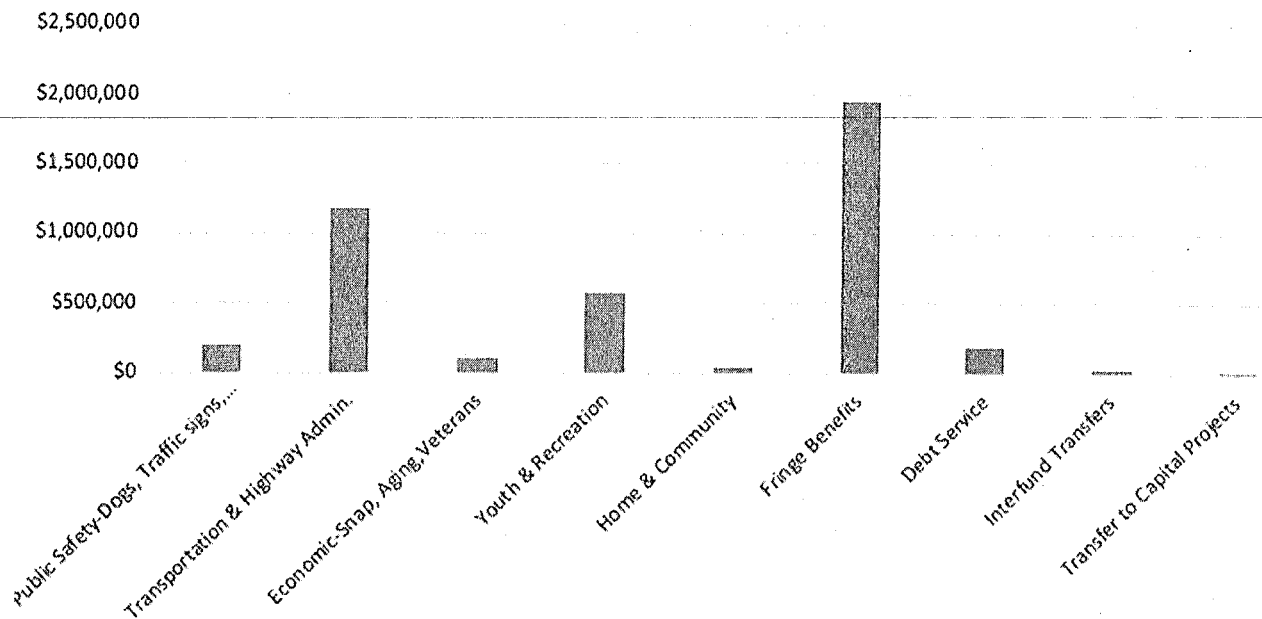
SUPERVISOR	\$70,000.00
TOWN CLERK	\$64,750.00
RECORDS MANAGEMENT OFFICER	\$4,000.00
COUNCILPERSONS (4)	\$12,250.00 Each
RECEIVER OF TAXES	\$45,082.00
JUSTICES (2)	\$30,000.00 Each

DATED: 11/01/23

**BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD OF
THE TOWN OF WARWICK
Eileen Astorino, Town Clerk**

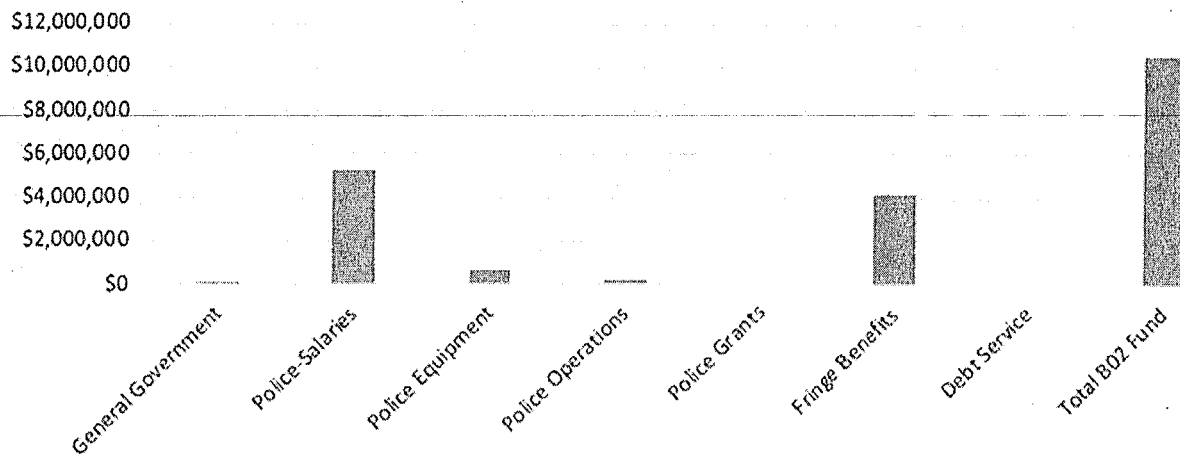
Fund Name	Total Expenditures	Percent of Budget
A Fund: Paid by every resident		
General Government-	\$2,102,284	33.19%
Public Safety-Dogs, Tr	\$204,325	3.23%
Transportation & High	\$1,178,674	18.61%
Economic-Snap, Aging	\$110,971	1.75%
Youth & Recreation	\$580,336	9.16%
Home & Community	\$37,650	0.59%
Fringe Benefits	\$1,948,969	30.77%
Debt Service	\$185,008	2.92%
Interfund Transfers	\$20,332	<u>0.32%</u>
Transfer to Capital Prc	\$5,000	<u>0.08%</u>
Total A Fund	\$6,333,421	100.00%

A Fund
Paid by all Residents



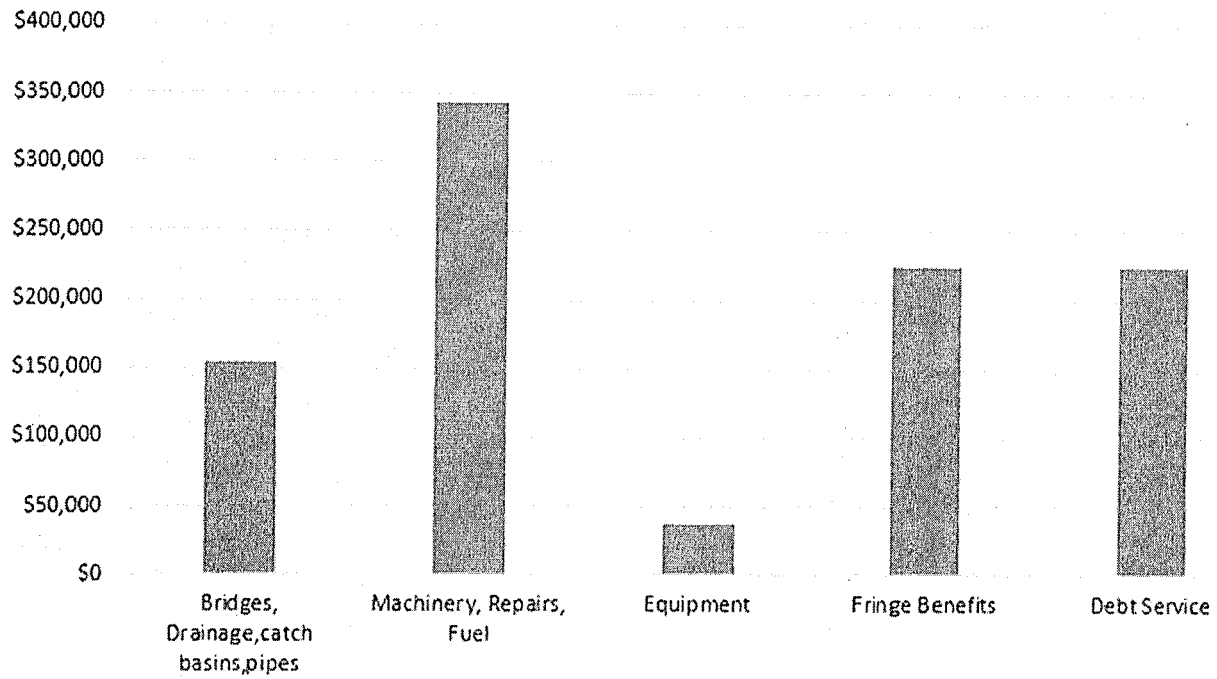
Fund Name	Total Expenditures	Percent of Budget
B02 Fund-Police:		
General Government	\$132,600	1.26%
Police-Salaries	\$5,230,879	49.69%
Police Equipment	\$640,100	6.08%
Police Operations	\$260,000	2.47%
Police Grants	\$0	0.00%
Fringe Benefits	\$4,220,578	40.09%
Debt Service	\$43,407	0.41%
Total B02 Fund	\$10,527,564	100.00%

Police
Town and Village share



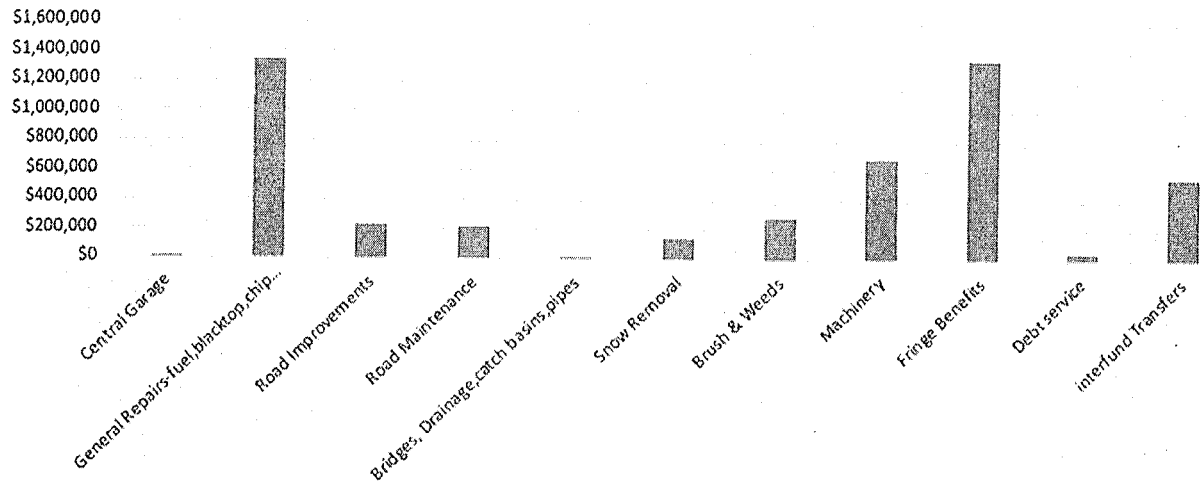
Fund Name	Total Expenditures	Percent of Budget
DA Fund:		
Bridges, Drainage, catch basi	\$155,000	15.71%
Machinery, Repairs, Fuel	\$343,500	34.82%
Equipment	\$37,500	3.80%
Fringe Benefits	\$225,207	22.83%
Debt Service	\$225,163	22.82%
Total DA Fund	\$986,570	100.00%

DA Fund



Fund Name	Total <u>Expenditures</u>	Percent of <u>Budget</u>
DB Fund:		
Central Garage	\$11,000	0.23%
General Repairs-fuel,blacktop,chip Stor	\$1,345,412	27.57%
Road Improvements	\$225,000	4.61%
Road Maintenance	\$220,000	4.51%
Bridges, Drainage,catch basins,pipes	\$18,000	0.37%
Snow Removal	\$139,000	2.85%
Brush & Weeds	\$282,900	5.80%
Machinery	\$680,300	13.94%
Fringe Benefits	\$1,358,351	27.84%
Debt service	\$43,610	0.89%
interfund Transfers	\$555,614	11.39%
Total DB Fund	\$4,879,188	100.00%

DB Fund



Operations by Type	Year Adopted 2018	Adpoted 2019	Adopted 2020	Adopted 2021	Adopted 2022	Adopted 2023	Preliminary 2024	Difference 2024 vs 2023
Payroll	\$8,038,616	\$8,251,465	\$9,115,083	\$8,812,510	\$9,041,557	\$9,341,740	\$9,815,061	\$473,321
Fringe Benefits	\$6,165,547	\$6,580,417	\$6,906,748	\$7,049,294	\$7,031,013	\$7,241,453	\$8,003,613	\$762,160
Contractual	\$4,082,898	\$4,360,600	\$3,676,735	\$4,419,887	\$4,747,294	\$4,552,385	\$4,366,705	-\$185,680
Debt Service	\$413,896	\$504,005	\$409,304	\$720,049	\$734,778	\$761,277	\$509,216	-\$252,061
Total All Funds	\$18,700,957	\$19,696,487	\$20,107,870	\$21,001,740	\$21,554,642	\$21,896,855	\$22,694,595	\$797,740

What does this mean for you?

Townwide Tax rate = \$7.09 vs \$6.93 in 2023

For the Typical Assessment = \$0.16 increase

Town Outside the villages Tax rate = \$23.29 vs \$22.78 in 2023

For the Typical assessment = \$0.51 increase