

**TOWN OF EASTCHESTER  
MINUTES OF THE TOWN BOARD  
December 4, 2018**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Eastchester held on December 4, 2018 at 7:10 p.m., at the Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. ROLL CALL**

Present: Supervisor Anthony Colavita  
Councilman Glenn Bellitto  
Councilman Joseph Dooley  
Councilwoman Theresa Nicholson  
Councilman Luigi Marcoccia

Present: Town Department Heads  
Town Clerk Linda Laird  
Comptroller Dawn Donovan  
Town Attorney Louis Reda

**IV. PUBLIC HEARING**

**A) PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF THE TOWN OF EASTCHESTER 2019 BUDGET**

Supervisor Colavita read the Legal Notice for the 2019 Budget Hearing:

Please take notice that the Town Board of the Town of Eastchester shall hold its annual budget hearing on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2018 to consider the adoption of the Town of Eastchester's 2019 calendar year budget. Said hearing on this Preliminary Budget shall be held at the Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, NY at 7:00pm.

The salaries of Elected Officials incorporated in said preliminary budget are as follows:

	Each	Total
Supervisor (1)	\$ 98,093.00	\$ 98,093.00
Council Members (4)	\$ 15,831.00	\$ 63,324.00
Judges (2)	\$ 42,545.00	\$ 85,090.00
Receiver Of Taxes (1)	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
Town Clerk (1)	\$ 87,605.00	\$ 87,605.00

All residents of the community may present written or oral comments at the above-described place, date and time.

An Affidavit of Publication of the Hearing Notice was received.

Supervisor Colavita and Town Comptroller Dawn Donovan provided an overview of the 2019 Budget:

The total budget for 2019 is \$35,554,236 which represents a \$28,809 decrease over the 2018 budget.

The total Townwide Tax levy for the 2019 budget is \$3,662,251. Property taxes count for 40% of the Townwide revenue budget, 13% or \$1,255,000 from fund balance with the remaining 47% mainly consisting of department revenue, and mortgage taxes. The 2019 Townwide budget will generate a 1.42% property tax rate increase, which amounts to an increase of \$0.504 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. What this means is that: an average house in the Village of Bronxville with an assessment of \$21,800 will pay \$10.99 more per year (\$0.92 per month); an average house in the Village of Tuckahoe with an assessment of \$7,300 will pay \$3.68 more per year (\$0.31 per month).

The total Town Outside Tax levy for the 2019 budget is \$16,388,376. Property taxes account for 57% of the Town Outside revenue budget, 9% or \$3,140,000 from fund balance and the remaining 34% mainly consisting of department revenue and sales taxes. The 2019 Town Outside budget will generate a 0.74% property tax rate increase, which amounts to an additional \$2.1895 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. What this means is that an average house in the Town Outside portion of Eastchester with an assessment of \$9,000 will pay an additional \$19.71 per year (\$1.64 per month).

The current and projected tax rates are as follows:

	TAX RATES	
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Entire Town	35.9606	35.4569
Town Outside	298.8533	296.7638
Sewer Charge	6.9793	5.7251
Garth Resident Parking District	47.2025	41.6917

One of the most significant obligations of the Town which has the greatest impact on this budget is our pension contribution. The 2019-20 pension contribution is estimated to be \$2,180,276, which is significantly higher than the rate of \$104,000 paid in 2003.

The Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) reviews the Town's fiscal stress on an annual basis. The Town of Eastchester continues to be in the top 3% "no designation" category and Moody's Investor Services has reaffirmed the Town's bond rating at Aaa, the highest rating category.

Councilman Bellitto offered a motion that was seconded by Councilman Marcoccia to Open the Public Hearing to receive comments regarding the 2019 Preliminary Budget.

**On the roll call, all voted "AYE." Motion carried.**

Peter DeFelice did not submit comment on the 2019 Budget rather expressed his opposition to the Lake Isle Catering Contract.

Robert Cartolano, President of the Eastchester Library Board, spoke on behalf of the Library Board in thanking the Town Comptroller Donovan and Councilman Dooley for providing a review of the budget and concluded the budget "looks good."

There being no additional public comment, Supervisor Colavita offered a motion that was seconded by Councilman Bellitto to Close the Public Hearing.

**On the roll call, all voted "AYE." Motion carried.**

Supervisor Colavita stated the Budget would be adopted at the December 18, 2018 Town Board Meeting.

**V. OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON AGENDA ITEMS - none**

**VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilman Marcoccia offered a motion that was seconded by Supervisor Colavita to approve the Minutes of the November 20, 2018 Town Board Meeting as prepared by Town Clerk Linda Laird.

**On the roll call, all voted "AYE." Motion carried.**

**VII. REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**A) LAW DEPARTMENT REPORT**

**1. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER AND THE TOWN OF EASTCHESTER FOR REMOTE ACCESS TO THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY CLERK'S LAND RECORDS AND LEGAL FILES**

Councilman Bellitto offered a motion that was seconded by Councilman Dooley to approve a **RESOLUTION** authorizing the Supervisor to execute and deliver a Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Westchester and the Town of Eastchester for remote access to the Westchester County Clerk's land records and legal files.

The Supervisor explained there are no costs related to obtaining remote access to the County Clerk's records. The service is a useful tool providing access to deeds and recordings to both the Assessor's Office and residents alike.

On the roll call, all voted "AYE." Motion carried.

**2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR AND THE TOWN BOARD, PURSUANT TO SEQRA, TO DELARE ITSELF LEAD AGENCY FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW OF THE PROPOSED ACTION TO TRANSFER A PORTION OF THE STREET KNOWN AS SIWANOV BOULEVARD BETWEEN RIDGE ST AND CRAWFORD ST TO THE TUCKAHOE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Supervisor Colavita offered a motion that was seconded by Councilman Marcoccia to approve a RESOLUTION;

WHEREAS, on November 20, 2018 the Town Board of Eastchester passed a resolution declaring its intent to serve as Lead Agency for the coordinated review of transferring a portion of the street known as Siwanoy Boulevard between Ridge Street and Crawford Street to the Tuckahoe Union Free School District in accordance with Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law and the Rules and Regulations promulgated thereunder at 6 NYCRR Part 617 (collectively "SEQRA"); and

WHEREAS, the Town Board referred its Notice of Intent to be Lead Agency to the Tuckahoe Union Free School District on November 26, 2018; and

WHEREAS, on November 27, 2018, the Attorneys for the Tuckahoe Union Free School District sent the Town of Eastchester an email stating that they had no objection to the Town Board's intent to serve as Lead Agency.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Town Board of Eastchester, that it does hereby establish itself as Lead Agency for the SEQRA review regarding the transfer of a portion of the street known as Siwanoy Boulevard between Ridge Street and Crawford Street to the Tuckahoe Union Free School District and finds that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impact and hereby adopts a negative declaration.

On the roll call, all voted "AYE." Motion carried.

**VIII. CORRESPONDENCE**

**A) MEMORANDUM FROM COMPTROLLER RE: BUDGET TRANSFERS/REVISIONS**

Supervisor Colavita offered a motion that was seconded by Councilman Dooley to approve the following Budget Transfers and Revisions:

**Transfers**

From:	Personal Services	R8160.100	\$ 7,000.00
To:	Overtime	R8160.103	\$ 7,000.00
From:	Salaries PT/Seasonal	A1110.102	\$ 1,224.00
	Overtime	A1110.103	\$ 2,176.00
To:	Stenographic Services	A1110.469	\$ 3,400.00

**Revisions**

Increase:	Winter Abrasive	D5110.438	\$ 30,000.00
Increase:	Overtime	D5110.103	\$ 25,000.00
Increase:	Street Opening Permits	DB 02560	\$ 55,000.00

On the roll call, all voted "AYE." Motion carried.

**B) MEMORANDUM FROM COMPTROLLER RE: PART TIME SEASONAL**

Supervisor Colavita offered a motion that was seconded by Councilman Bellitto to approve the Seasonal Appointment of Sal Esposito and Juliana Risi as Rec Attendants in the Recreation Department effective December 18, 2018 for the hourly rate of \$9.00 and \$10.00 respectively.

On the roll call, all voted "AYE." Motion carried.

**IX. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS - none**

**X. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS**

Councilman Marcoccia and Councilman Dooley reflected on the hard work and efforts of Department Heads and town employees in working more efficiently and reducing spending.

Councilman Bellitto announced the Chanukah Gelt Drop program will return, by popular demand, on Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 at Memorial Park and will include the Menorah lighting, music, hot lakes and donuts. All are invited to attend!

Councilwoman Nicholson announced the annual Eastchester Historical Society Annual Victorian Christmas celebration will be held on Sunday December 9<sup>th</sup>. In addition, the Eastchester Historical Society is sponsoring a program giving tribute to a score of Local Residents who contributed so much to the American Victory in World War One on Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the courtroom in Eastchester Town Hall,. The program is free and open to the public.

In closing Mrs. Nicholson invited the public to attend the Girl Scout Annual Craft Fair on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> from 11-2 in the Eastchester High School cafeteria.

Supervisor Colavita thanked Comptroller Donovan for shepherding the budget process and stated the Budget would be adopted at the December 20<sup>th</sup> Town Board Meeting.

In closing, the Supervisor reported on the large number of residents that attended the Santa Stop, the annual Gingerbread House Contest and the tree lighting ceremonies.

**XI. SECOND OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

Peter DeFelice reiterated his opposition to the Lake Isle Catering Contract, stating the Town Board should be "impeached" for approving the amended contract. Councilman Marcoccia and Supervisor Colavita discussed the success of changes that have occurred at Lake Isle and the fact that both the tennis and catering contacts had been revisited. The Supervisor stated that it is anticipated the pool will be 'bubbled' in the near future and will provide the club with further opportunity to generate additional revenue.

There being no further public comment the Town Board paused for a moment of silence for President George H. W. Bush. Supervisor Colavita announced the Town Board would move into Executive Session in the Supervisor's Conference Room for the purpose of interviewing a candidate for Police Officer. Supervisor Colavita announced the Town Board would not be taking any additional action and would adjourn the Meeting from the Executive Session upon the completion of the interview.

At 7:55 Supervisor Colavita offered a motion that was seconded by Councilman Marcoccia to move into Executive Session for purposes of interviewing one candidate for Police Officer.

**On the roll call, all voted "AYE." Motion carried.**

Police Chief Bonci joined the Town Board for the interview of one candidate for the position of Police Officer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Minutes prepared by;

Linda Laird  
Town Clerk