

BUDGET MESSAGE

April 06, 2020

To: Village Board of Trustees

Please find attached a copy of the **2020 – 2021 TENTATIVE BUDGET**. This budget has been compiled from appropriation requests submitted by Departments, Contract Agencies of the Village of Canton.

This proposed budget represents a \$0.03/\$1,000 decrease in the tax rate which is a decrease of 0.31% from last year. The increase in the tax levy is 1.73%. This places us just under the 1.78% tax cap.

The proposal is for no increase in the Village water / sewer rates at this time. We will continue to closely monitor expenses and revenues. We will continue to pay back the monies owed to the General Fund from the Main Street improvements.

Taxable assessments increased by \$3,354,184 or 2% over last year. Of the total assessed value of property, \$488,695,225, in the Village, \$320,879,926 or 65.66% is exempt. This is a slight decrease in the percentage of tax-exempt properties over last year.

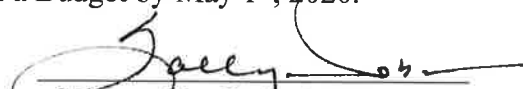
Costs associated with payroll are 34% and benefits 21% for a total of 55% of our total budget. With payroll and benefits consuming this large portion of the budget, controlling labor costs is a priority. All employees that are eligible for health insurance coverage are contributing (at varied levels) towards their premiums, which offsets this cost slightly. Our switch to a high deductible has the potential to save us benefit dollars.

The Capital Equipment requests are outlined in Section 9 of the budget in the amount of \$635,419. This budget includes funding of \$534,509 for those requests. The funding for last year's items was \$519,752. This is an increase of \$14,757. Paving projects scheduled for this year total \$93,024 down \$30,818 from last year's total of \$123,842. Most of this will be covered by CHIPS funding.

The Mayor and I have spoken at length on this subject. We are asking the Board to approve the purchase of the funded equipment contingent upon preapproval of every equipment purchase by both the Mayor and the Budget Officer.

The Preliminary Budget will be presented for a Public Hearing on Monday, April 27, 2020. The Village Board is required to adopt a Budget by May 1st, 2020.


Michael E. Dalton, Mayor


Sally Noble, Budget Officer