



**Town of Cortlandt  
Meets the  
New York State  
2% tax cap  
(on tax levy)  
for  
2012 Budget**

**Fact: We will be under the cap – at 1.5% not 2%**

**~Supervisor Linda D. Puglisi**



LINDA D. PUGLISI  
TOWN SUPERVISOR

# TOWN OF CORTLANDT

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TOWN BOARD  
RICHARD H. BECKER  
FRANCIS X. FARRELL  
ANN LINDAU  
JOHN E. SLOAN

## TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF CONTROLS ON TOWN TAXES AND SPENDING

### SUPERVISOR LINDA D. PUGLISI'S PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2012

It has been an honor and a privilege to be Cortlandt's Town Supervisor since 1992 and to serve our wonderful community and our residents. My priorities throughout the years have been to save money for our taxpayers and to be fiscally prudent, efficient and conservative and to have either zero (0%) or a very low town tax increase to benefit our taxpayers and their families each year. This record has resulted in a less than 1% increase for the entire twenty years and now for 2012, as well.

In the early years of the 1990's our nation was faced with a very difficult economy and now we are once again experiencing the challenges of a fluctuating national economy and a recession. As Supervisor with the assistance of our Town Comptroller, Glenn Cestaro, and with our team in the government we budgeted and planned accordingly in those early years, which has resulted in a solid savings for our government's treasury.

However, it is difficult to predict and rely on the same average amounts of revenue as we did in previous years, such as sales tax, mortgage tax and interest on accounts. To offset the loss of some of these revenues, this 2012 annual budget will continue to control spending and concentrate on our basic services, while we plan for necessary and future projects with less revenue sources.

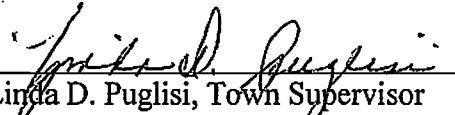
We are fortunate that during the height of the booming economy of the latter years in the 1990's decade and throughout these past twenty years that we maintained a strong, healthy fund balance, (a savings account for future years.) Also, we have had the experience over the years to envision that a "downswing" of the economy could occur and therefore we prepared and saved appropriately for those future years. We have

successfully had a balanced budget and a surplus every year during my administration (1992 – 2011) and we never had a deficit.

This preparation and savings over the previous years along with proper management of our finances allows us to once again propose a very low Town tax increase for 2012 (2.2%). Even in this most troubling national economy our taxpayers will benefit from our good fiscal management and will not have to pay high taxes as they do elsewhere nor have to add high increases into their banks' escrow accounts. This has resulted in a large savings for our taxpayers over the past twenty years and once again in 2012. I'm proud of Cortlandt's LOW TOWN TAX increase record! Less than 1% for now twenty-one years.

The Town of Cortlandt is able to have another very low tax increase in the 2012 budget, add some new projects for our residents, assist our employees, continue all of our services and always improve the quality of life for our community.

I thank our Town Comptroller, Glenn Cestaro, our Department Heads, all of our employees and my colleagues on the Town Board (Ann Lindau, John Sloan, Richard Becker, Frank Farrell) for their cooperation over the years and for supporting our policies and practices that allows us to continue Cortlandt's prosperity in spite of the National, State and Regional Economic difficulties.

  
Linda D. Puglisi, Town Supervisor  
October 25, 2011



LINDA D. PUGLISI  
TOWN SUPERVISOR

# TOWN OF CORTLANDT

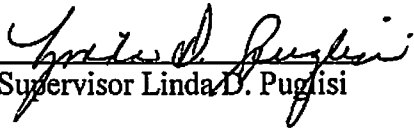
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## Town of Cortlandt Achievements For 2011:

1. Kept town taxes low, close to a zero increase, less than 1% for twenty years, never a deficit, always a surplus.
2. Tripled our saving account and completed 110 million dollars of large capital projects, with no layoffs.
3. Saved a Lake, an important natural waterfront parkland. (Furnace Dock Lake) from being drained and destroyed.
4. Began Veterans Park plans on town land by the Hudson River
5. Cortlandt Boulevard entrance signs, street lamps and plans for next phases.
6. MEP – Montrose Enhancement Plan – worked hard for improvements, short term and long-term and listened to our resident's ideas.
7. Monteverde – staying as a catering restaurant and not 200 townhouses as the previous owner wanted. A victory for our local economy.
8. Planning with the adjacent residents for the former Croton Egg Farm with the property owner and staff to protect part of the land and reduce over development.
9. Began the long awaited and necessary Lafayette Avenue/Rte. 202 road improvement paid for by the New York State D.O.T.
10. "Shop Cortlandt" and a Local Business TV Show – to support our local businesses, some have been in operation 30, 50, 100 years.
11. Hosted a Green Fair for sustainability, a town employees Green Team, testing for Green House Gas emissions in town government and a charter member of NWEAC (energy consortium).

12. I am the Vice-Chairperson of Historic Hudson River Towns – to continue our interest in our history.
13. Replaced the waterlines on Locust Avenue and area – a \$ 400,000. project.
14. Completed \$ 850,000. of paving throughout the Town
15. Survived Hurricane Irene with our Team and responded to our resident's issues during this storm.
16. Any many more...

  
Supervisor Linda D. Puglisi



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## 2010 Projects Completed or Planned EVEN in a RECESSION

1. A pressure surge relief water pit on Jerome Drive - \$ 10,000.
2. Bid out for cleaning and relining of water mains off Locust, Durrin, Adams Rush and Cortlandt Streets.
3. Replaced an existing water main on Adair Road - \$ 120,000.
4. Trolley Road water main replacement (Red Mill Road to South Hill Road.)-\$ 200,000.
5. Resurfacing (paving) of various Town Roads - \$ 500,000.
6. Cortlandt Boulevard Entranceway signs designed by the Town but no expense by the town. This is Phase I of the Cortlandt Boulevard plans for safety, identity and aesthetics.
7. Broadway Streetscape Plans in the hamlet of Verplanck. Phase II and III-\$ 4,000.YTD.
8. Route 6 Sidewalk near Jerome Drive a \$ 35,000. grant from New York State.
9. Montrose Station Road Bridge repairs – no costs to the Town, a Metro North project.
10. Red Mill Road emergency wall repair - \$ 40,000.
11. Oregon Road additional sidewalks survey completed and design begun.
12. Cortlandt Lake Dam Rehabilitation costs bonded and charged to residents in the Continental Village Park District.
13. Pops Road culvert replacement - \$ 10,000.

14. Quaker Hill Road Bridge repair no cost to the Town, paid for by Westchester County.
15. New Youth and Recreation Center necessary additional acoustical panels - \$ 17,000.
16. Energy efficient Town Hall lighting a grant from New York State.
17. Necessary replacement of the hot water heater at Town Hall - \$ 8,000.
18. Martin Property Boat Launch in Verplanck to be used by emergency service providers - \$ 80,000. a New York State grant.
19. A necessary roof replacement at our D.E.S. headquarters - \$ 100,000.
20. VFW Building wall replacement – wall replacement \$ 20,000. a FEMA reimbursement project.
21. MEP (Montrose Enhancement Plan). After meeting with residents of the hamlet of Montrose area the Town completed many small improvements and will be continuing efforts to enhance this area of Town. New decorative banners were ordered - \$ 2,000.

***“These are the highlights of our improvements made in 2010 for our residents and government even though we were in a very difficult economy. Many of these were necessary and some were emergencies. We will continue our pro-active plans for our community and will always be fiscally prudent to benefit our taxpayers.”***  
***~ Supervisor Linda D. Puglisi***