

A full audio/video recording of this meeting is available at  
www.townofcortlandt.com

A **Special Meeting** of the Town Board of the Town of Cortlandt was conducted on November 5, 2018 in the Vincent F. Nyberg Meeting Room of the Cortlandt Town Hall located at One Heady Street, Cortlandt Manor, NY (10567) with the following elected officials and appointed staff in attendance:

<b>LINDA D. PUGLISI</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>
<b>FRANCIS X. FARRELL</b>	<b>Councilmember</b>
<b>DEBRA COSTELLO</b>	<b>Councilmember</b>
<b>RICHARD BECKER</b>	<b>Councilmember</b>
<b>JAMES CREIGHTON</b>	<b>Councilmember</b>

Also present:

<b>TOM WOOD</b>	<b>Town Attorney</b>
<b>MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM</b>	<b>Assistant Town Attorney</b>
<b>LAROUÉ ROSE SHATZKIN</b>	<b>Town Clerk</b>
<b>PATRICIA ROBCKE</b>	<b>Comptroller</b>
<b>JEFFREY COLEMAN</b>	<b>Director, DES</b>
<b>MICHAEL PREZIOSI</b>	<b>Director, DOTS</b>
<b>CLAUDIA VAHEY</b>	<b>Human Resources Coordinator</b>

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**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Supervisor Puglisi called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**Supervisor Puglisi** explained that they will be just receiving and filing the budget tonight. She explained the next stages of the process including discussions at work sessions and then hold a public hearing in December to adopt the budget for 2019.

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**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

Supervisor Puglisi led all in attendance in a Pledge to the Flag

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**ROLL CALL**

On a roll call attendance taken by Town Clerk Shatzkin all Town Board members indicated their presence.

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Councilmember Farrell moved that the following be received and filed, seconded by Councilmember Costello.

**Receive and File**

- 1. Receive and File the 2019 Proposed Budget as amended**

**Discussion:** **Supervisor Puglisi** stated that this proposed budget had been presented last week and can be watched via computer or on Channel 78 to get the details. She then gave an overview of the budget. They are adding to the Town's excellent record and low Town tax increases on average by 1%. For unincorporated Cortlandt the increase will be .11% (\$1.80 for entire year).

Patty Robcke, Town Comptroller, added that the tax increase in the Village of Croton is 1.42% (\$3.30 per year) and Village of Buchanan, increase is .86% (1.65 per year). The villages receive services also from the Town.

The **Supervisor** commented that there was a realtor forum with department heads to give important information.

Patty Robcke explained the breakdown of the tax bill, the largest part being the school taxes, approximately 69% of the total tax bill. There also are Westchester County taxes, about 14% of the bill and special districts amount to about 5%, leaving approximately 12% for Town taxes.

**Supervisor Puglisi** noted some key points of the financial record:

- **28 years of tax cap.** This was explained by Patty Robcke as a tax levy limit mandated by New York State for local governments and school districts set at lower than 2% or the rate of inflation, the rate at which they are allowed to raise the tax levy.
- **28 years of a balanced budget.**
- **28 years of no deficits.**
- **28 years of increased savings account.** The amount now is close to 18 million dollars in various accounts. Patty Robcke explained the breakdown of where those funds are allocated. She stated that the Town has set policy for a tax stabilization fund for the future closure of Indian Point and the upcoming loss of revenue.
- **28 years of a surplus each year.** This can be rolled over to offset Town taxes for the upcoming year. The **Supervisor** stated that money is kept in reserved account for special projects and emergencies.
- **Low Town debt.** Patty Robcke explained that the Town’s long term debt balance is about 5 ½ million dollars, less than 1% of the constitutional allowance. The Town has a “pay as you go” policy and use low interest rates as a financing mechanism to get projects done.

The **Supervisor** added that they have completed over 150 million dollars in large capital projects. She thanked everyone for all their hard work.

All Voted **AYE**

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**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m. on a motion by Councilmember Becker, seconded by Councilmember Creighton

All voted **AYE**

Respectfully submitted,

**Laroue Rose Shatzkin  
Town Clerk**