

# Sands Point Report

## **Budget Report - Fiscal Year 2018**

**Public Hearing - Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at 8:00 PM at Village Hall**

### **Mayor**

Edward A. K. Adler

### **Trustees**

Katharine Ullman,  
*Deputy Mayor*  
Marc Silbert  
Lynn R. Najman  
Peter A. Forman

### **Village Clerk**

Liz Gaynor

### **Treasurer**

Kathleen Notaro

### **Police Chief**

Richard Lertora

### **Village Justice**

Alyson K. Adler

### **Associate Village Justice**

Daniel Scheyer

### **Advisor to Board of Trustees**

Daniel Scheyer

I am pleased to report that the Village's tax levy increase for the 2018 fiscal year beginning June 1<sup>st</sup> will remain below the NY State property tax "cap" for the sixth year in a row since adoption by the State Legislature. The projected tax levy increase will be just under this year's "cap" of 1.3%. It is important to note that the increase percentage applies to the total levy for the Village. The Village tax bill for your home may vary up or down by a different percentage, depending on changes in your home's assessed value and other factors.

## **Annual Overview of the Property Tax "Cap"**

Unlike some prior years, there are few significant swings anticipated in projected revenues and expenses from the current fiscal year's (2017) budget. However, as I have reported in past years, **our Village's continued success in staying under the "cap" is somewhat misleading.** A variety of fortuitous factors, most notably the payoff in 2015 of the Club's capital improvement/purchase bonds issued in the mid-'90s and the decision two years ago to use bond financing to repave and upgrade curbing and drainage for "D" and "F" graded Village roads, have made staying within the "cap" possible.

Our Village has a large labor force because of all the services we provide directly to our residents; villages with their own police and water departments are quite rare. **Salary levels and State pension/retirement costs for Village personnel, including police officers, usually rise at a higher annual percentage rate than the "cap".** For example, next year's NYS pension costs are projected to rise above this year's budget by about 12%, or about \$120,000; the "cap" limits our entire tax levy increase to about \$119,000, already short of covering the NYS pension increase alone! Generally, the only direct offset for rising labor costs is the lower starting compensation for new hires replacing retiring senior personnel, but of course retirement decisions are not within the control of the Village.

Further, **capital expenditures**, such as for maintaining and upgrading our extensive water department infrastructure and for purchasing vehicles,

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equipment, even accounting software, must be “expensed” in the year purchased, resulting in jolts to the budget, or financed by issuing municipal bonds. Using bond financing amortizes capital costs over a period of years under strict NYS guidelines, but it is not always possible or desirable. For example, our low debt levels help us maintain our “AA” credit rating and near perfect “municipal stress” score (3.3%/100% for FY2016) calculated each year by the NYS Comptroller.

**So the “one-size-fits-all” process by which the State determines each year’s “cap” strikes us as arbitrary and largely irrelevant for villages like ours with substantial labor and capital costs.**

What may appear to be State-imposed fiscal discipline may encourage villages to make imprudent decisions to defer maintenance and capital needs. Our Board well understands the political significance of continuing to stay under the “cap”, but to do so feels like walking a tightrope as we try to carefully balance our commitment to maintaining the quality of Village services and our tradition of sound fiscal planning.

## **Police Department**

The Police Department’s budget for FY 2018 and future years will be impacted by the negotiations now underway with the Sands Point PBA. The current contract is in the final year of a four-year term which ends this May. The FY 2018 budget adds a new budget category which provides for officer retirement multi-year payouts. The Village has no control over retirement decisions by individual officers, but a new program gives officers a tax incentive for setting a retirement date more than a year in advance; that’s very helpful for our long range planning. Under this program, the Village spreads the cost of retirement pay over a few years rather than in one lump sum upon actual retirement.

## **Road Department**

Please see the Road Report elsewhere in this newsletter. The budget continues to provide within the general contingency an amount that may be needed annually for repaving projects once the road bond funds are fully expended later this year. Until those budgeted contingency funds are actually needed, any unused contingency helps the Village to build a surplus in the general fund, which in turn helps the Village to maintain its fiscal score and its credit rating.

## **Water Department**

The annual Water Department Report will be going to press in the coming weeks and will contain important information and updates about the conservation initiatives outlined in December’s newsletter and various infrastructure projects underway or being planned. The first project, which may begin as soon as next month, will be the installation of new water meters for all residents. Usage can be monitored on-line as frequently as daily by residents and the Water Department, since each meter wirelessly transmits usage information to a central database. The project will take about six months to complete.

## The Village Club

The Club's budget no longer has direct impact on the Village's budget since bond financing costs for capital improvements are now included in the Club's budget and not the Village budget, but of course that requires continued success at meeting the Club's financial goals from membership revenue. After a very successful 2016 season financially with sports membership levels holding steady and a modest operating surplus at year end, significant budget challenges for 2017 result from a very disappointing increase in the annual attrition rate of golfers compared to the prior year. Since it is too early to determine the number of new members and former members as yet uncommitted who we hope will re-join this spring, the Board will delay review of a final Club budget for calendar year 2017 until April when the membership numbers become clearer. Club management is confident that budget goals for 2017 will be met regardless of the final golf membership number, but planned capital projects, such as the pool house renovation, require operating budget stability. If you are not yet a member for 2017, please support the Village's efforts by joining the Club, and if you qualify you may take advantage of the Club's planned incentive program.



**If you have any questions about the proposed budget, please attend the Public Hearing on Tuesday evening, March 28<sup>nd</sup> or contact me or Clerk Liz Gaynor. If you have any questions about how the new tax rate will affect your actual tax bill this spring, call Bonnie Davison or Colleen O'Neill at the Village Office and they will be happy to provide you with a tentative calculation.**

 Mayor

For the Board of Trustees

[edadler@sandspoint.org](mailto:edadler@sandspoint.org)

## GENERAL FUND REVENUE

ACCOUNT NO	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL 2016	BUDGET 2017	PRELIM 2018
A.0000.1001	REAL PROPERTY TAXES..	9,121,429	9,177,533	9,296,600
A.0000.1081	PYMTS IN LIEU OF TAXES..	20,420	20,420	20,420
A.0000.1090	INT/PENAL.-REAL PROP TAX..	60,958	70,000	72,500
TOTAL TAXES		9,202,808	9,267,953	9,389,520
A.0000.1130	UTILTY GROSS RECEIPT TAX..	81,825	99,500	100,000
A.0000.1170	FRANCHISE FEES..	81,475	85,500	86,000
TOTAL NON PROPER- TY		163,300	185,000	186,000
A.0000.1255	CLERK'S FEES..	5,390	6,500	6,000
A.0000.1560	BUILDING PERMIT FEES..	239,420	275,000	290,000
A.0000.1560.0001	BLDG PERMIT EXTENSION	98,175	115,000	125,000
A.0000.1560.0003	TREE PERMIT..	12,990	12,000	13,000
A.0000.2089.0001	SP HISTORY BOOK	20	100	100
A.0000.2110	BD.OF APPEALS FEES..	7,394	10,000	12,500
A.0000.2110.0001	BZA EXP.REIMBURSEMENT	65,310	73,800	99,600
A.0000.2115	PLANNING BOARD FEES..	6,000	6,500	2,000
A.0000.2115.0001	PLANNING BD EXP REIMBURSEMENT	62,056	44,000	46,500
A.0000.2130	PROPERTY CLEANUP FEES..	5,695	5,500	5,500
A.0000.2401	INTEREST AND EARNINGS..	15,349	10,000	30,000
A.0000.2410	GENERAL UTILITY ALARM RENTAL..	6,900	6,900	6,486
A.0000.2544	LIC. FEE-CINGULAR-TIBBITS..	71,230	73,367	75,568
A.0000.2545	LIC.FEE-CINGULAR-SOUTH ROAD	76,481	76,118	80,938
A.0000.2546	LICENSE FEE- SPRINT-TIBBITS	69,276	66,995	69,005
A.0000.2547	LICENSE FEE- T-MOBILE-TIBBITS/SOUTH RD	175,708	—	145,200
A.0000.2548	LIC FEE- VERIZON-TIBBITS	84,438	74,912	86,228
A.0000.2549	METRO PCS-TIBBITS	29,517	60,657	—
A.0000.2552	LIC FEE-VERIZON-SOUTH ROAD	—	—	54,000
A.0000.2590	ALARM PERMITS..	64,530	61,000	65,000
A.0000.2593.0001	CSTL.EXP.REIMBURSEMENT	18,450	5,000	3,000
A.0000.2594	PERMITS-OTHER..	2,150	3,000	3,000
A.0000.2594.0001	RD.OPEN REIMBURSEMENT	10,500	15,000	15,000
A.0000.2595	FILM PERMITS	142,400	165,000	155,000
A.0000.2597	LANDSCAPE PERMIT	45,650	42,500	45,000
A.0000.2610	JUSTICE COURT FINES..	24,499	30,000	30,000
A.0000.2611	FALSE ALARM PENALTY..	13,440	14,500	14,500
A.0000.2655	MINOR SALES..	40	100	100
A.0000.2665.0020	SALE OF VEHICLES-POLICE..	—	2,000	2,000
A.0000.2710	PREMIUM ON OBLIGATIONS	87,464	87,464	—
A.0000.2770	MISCELLANEOUS..	1,192	500	500
A.0000.2770.0001	BLUEPRINT REVENUE	4,002	5,000	5,000
A.0000.2770.0002	POLICE O/T FILMING	73,984	60,000	80,000
A.0000.2770.0003	FILM ADMIN FEE	13,828	—	20,000
TOTAL FEES		1,533,477	1,408,413	1,585,725
<b>TOTAL OTHER GOV'T</b>				
A.0000.3001	STATE AID..	19,384	20,000	17,000
A.0000.3005	MORTGAGE TAX..	188,742	210,000	190,000
A.0000.3060	DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE GRANT..	4,972	—	3,000
A.0000.3089	STATE AID/OTHER..	—	5,000	—
A.0000.3501	C.H.I.P.S. PROGRAM..	176,901	88,000	88,000
A.0000.5301	WK COMP REFUND..	4,737	5,000	5,000
TOTAL AID		394,736	328,000	303,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>		<b>11,294,320</b>	<b>11,189,466</b>	<b>11,464,245</b>

**GENERAL FUND EXPENSES**

<b>ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>ACTUAL 2016</b>	<b>ORIGINAL 2017</b>	<b>PRELIM 2018</b>
<b>TOTAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES</b>	35,708	51,500	46,500
<b>TOTAL COURT</b>	24,057	27,650	23,050
<b>TOTAL ACCT &amp; AUDITORING</b>	31,617	36,900	44,840
<b>TOTAL VILLAGE ADMINISTRATION</b>	384,149	544,611	464,965
<b>TOTAL VILLAGE ATTORNEY</b>	215,211	143,000	133,000
<b>TOTAL ELECTION</b>	2,465	2,050	2,300
<b>TOTAL VILLAGE HALL</b>	97,926	121,700	128,500
<b>TOTAL INSURANCE</b>	105,421	118,850	112,475
<b>TOTAL SPECIAL ITEMS</b>	56,916	49,529	38,850
<b>TOTAL CONTINGENT ACCOUNT</b>	—	550,000	434,000
<b>POLICE PERSONNEL</b>	4,229,756	3,681,000	3,989,236
<b>POLICE BENEFITS AND EXPENSES</b>	1,898,188	2,058,915	2,241,470
<b>TOTAL FIRE PROTECTION</b>	800,412	870,101	879,277
<b>TOTAL BUILDING DEPARTMENT</b>	112,833	115,337	97,500
<b>TOTAL ROADS</b>	642,595	590,000	607,500
<b>TOTAL COMM SERV / HISTORIAN</b>	1,043	1,200	1,000
<b>TOTAL BOARD OF APPEALS</b>	89,083	73,800	99,600
<b>TOTAL PLANNING BOARD</b>	44,784	44,000	46,500
<b>TOTAL REFUSE AND GARBAGE</b>	545,450	557,716	568,831
<b>TOTAL TREES</b>	85,213	80,000	65,000
<b>TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>	311,525	303,350	332,272
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS</b>	587,144	697,245	701,038
<b>TOTAL DEBT SERVICE</b>	—	471,512	406,541
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSE</b>	<b>10,301,496</b>	<b>11,189,966</b>	<b>11,464,245</b>

<b>WATER REVENUE</b>				
<b>ACCOUNT NO</b>	<b>ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>ACTUAL 2016</b>	<b>ORIGINAL 2017</b>	<b>PRELIM 2018</b>
F.0000.2140	METERED WATER SALES..	1,720,345	1,550,000	1,675,000
F.0000.2148	PENALTIES..	34,362	10,000	30,000
F.0000.2401	INTEREST INCOME..	4,890	3,200	3,200
F.0000.2590	PERMITS..	12,750	4,500	7,500
F.0000.2770	UNCLASSIFIED REVENUE..	17,100	—	—
F.0000.2801	INTERFUND REVENUES..	587,144	723,481	701,038
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>		<b>2,376,590</b>	<b>2,291,181</b>	<b>2,416,738</b>
<b>WATER EXPENSES</b>				
<b>PERSONNEL SERVICES</b>				
F.8310.0100	PERSONNEL SERV /SALARIES..	556,749	566,621	581,520
F.8310.0110	PERSONNEL/OFFICE SALARIES..	129,336	138,942	142,040
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL SERVICES</b>		<b>686,086</b>	<b>705,563</b>	<b>723,560</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE</b>				
F.1910.0400	ADMIN/INSURANCE..	55,977	70,200	65,000
F.1990.0400	CAP ADD/CONTINGENCY..	5,000	5,000	10,000
F.8310.0210	PURCH OF EQUIPMT...	2,509	25,000	25,000
F.8310.0400	ADMIN/AUDITOR..	4,050	6,500	6,825
F.8310.0401	ACCOUNTING FEES..	11,896	12,300	12,920
F.8310.0410	ADMIN/CONSULTANT..	22,241	25,000	25,000
F.8310.0414	UNIFORMS..	1,756	3,000	3,000
F.8310.0415	EQUIPMENT RENTAL/LEASE..	—	1,000	2,000
F.8310.0420	ADMIN/TELEPHONE..	10,399	14,000	14,000
F.8310.0426	ADMIN/AUTO REPAIR..	13,737	10,000	12,000
F.8310.0440	ADMIN/COMPUTER EXPENSE..	14,300	22,748	24,000
F.8310.0460	ADMIN/SUPPLIES..	5,940	7,000	7,000
F.8310.0461	PLANT/SUPPLIES..	5,341	10,000	10,000
F.8310.0463	ADMIN/POSTAGE..	4,000	6,000	6,000
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE</b>		<b>157,145</b>	<b>217,748</b>	<b>222,745</b>
<b>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS</b>				
F.8320.0200	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS..	-3,409	20,000	25,000
<b>DISTRIBUTION</b>				
F.8320.0400	LIGHT & HEAT..	162,680	185,000	185,000
F.8320.0410	ENGINEER FEES..	2,292	25,000	25,000
F.8320.0411	LAB FEES..	33,756	30,000	30,000
F.8320.0414	MAINTENANCE ALARMS/SITES..	14,498	16,000	18,000
F.8320.0424	REPAIR TO EQUIP/DISTRIB...	56,242	80,000	80,000
F.8320.0444	DISTRIB/MISCELLANEOUS..	6,210	7,000	8,000
F.8320.0450	CHEMICALS-OTHER..	16,170	22,000	22,000
F.8320.0460	DISTRIB/CAUSTIC..	48,134	58,000	55,000
F.8320.0464	TRAINING,ASSOC DUES,TRAV...	2,332	2,500	3,000
F.8320.0480	WATER PURCHASE..	44,935	—	50,000
<b>TOTAL DISTRIBUTION</b>		<b>387,249</b>	<b>425,500</b>	<b>476,000</b>
<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>				
F.9010.0800	BENEFITS/NYS RETIREMENT..	58,533	58,000	67,100
F.9030.0800	BENEFITS/SOCIAL SECURITY..	49,232	49,500	49,975
F.9035.0802	NYS EMPLOYER -MCTMT	2,617	2,700	2,700
F.9040.0800	WORKERS COMP..	29,450	28,500	36,542
F.9055.0800	SHORT TERM DISABILITY..	616	1,000	875
F.9060.0800	BENEFITS/HEALTH INSURANCE..	111,804	135,000	150,000
<b>TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>		<b>252,252</b>	<b>274,700</b>	<b>307,192</b>
<b>NON OPERATING EXPENSES</b>				
F.9710.0700	BONDS..INTEREST	167,144	207,950	176,376
F.9710.0710	BONDS..PRINCIPAL	—	489,296	524,662
<b>TOTAL NON OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		<b>167,144</b>	<b>697,246</b>	<b>701,038</b>
<b>TOTAL WATER FUND EXPENSES</b>		<b>1,646,466</b>	<b>2,340,757</b>	<b>2,455,535</b>

## **Report by Deputy Mayor and Road Commissioner Katharine M. Ullman**

### **Update on Village of Sands Point Road Improvements**

On April 13, 2015, the Board of Trustees of the Village approved and thereafter successfully completed the issuance of a \$5 million Road Improvement Bond, the proceeds of which were designated for improvements to roads identified by the Village's engineering firm as those most in need of repairs and improvements.

Pursuant to those commitments, the following roads were resurfaced in 2015:

- Fox Hollow
- Orama Drive
- Mimosa
- Elm Court
- Tibbits Lane (in part)

The following roads benefited from resurfacing, drainage improvements and stone block curbing in 2016:

- Middle Road
- South Road (from number 110 to the end)
- Southeast Road
- Wood Road
- 

Resurfacing (and drainage improvements and stone block curbing as needed,) is scheduled on the roads, and in the order listed below, to commence in the Spring of 2017 with completion by the end of the year:

- Sloanes Beach Road
- Sloanes Court
- March Lane
- Sousa Drive
- Sands Point Road
- Round Hill Lane
- Sands Lane
- Barkers Point Road (from Cedar Lane to Plum Beach Point Road)

Residents will be notified on a timely basis prior to commencement of any road work in their area. The Village apologizes in advance for any inconvenience that may occur.

In addition to the above – described use of Bond proceeds, the Village has received approval from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for certain drainage improvements to Plum Beach Point Road and to the cul-de-sac at the end of Harbor Acres Road.

As always, repair of potholes, storm drains, and curbs are made throughout the year as needed; sweeping is contracted four or five times a year. Such maintenance and repairs is included within the regular budget.



WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
WWW.SANDSPOINT.ORG

## SANDS POINT 2018 BUDGET REPORT

26 Tibbits Lane  
P.O. Box 188  
Port Washington, NY 11050  
Phone: 516-883-3044

**CURRENT RESIDENT OR:**



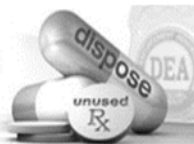
**NorthShoreAlert.org is a mass notification system designed to keep residents and businesses of the Port Washington, NY peninsula, north of Northern Blvd, informed of emergencies and certain community events.**

By registering with NorthShoreAlert.org, time sensitive voice messages from the Village of Sands Point, Town of North Hempstead and the PW/Manhasset OEM may be sent to your home, cell or business phone. Text messages may also be sent to cell phones, email accounts and hearing impaired receiving devices. Village Newsletters are also distributed by the NorthShoreAlert.org system before paper copies are printed and mailed.

The NorthShoreAlert service will be used to supplement current communication plans and augment public safety/first responder services.

So if you haven't done so already - **SIGN UP**— go to [NorthShoreAlert.org](http://NorthShoreAlert.org)

**Got Drugs?**



**Sands Point Police Department to participate in  
National Prescription Take-Back Day.  
Saturday, April 29, 2017 at Village Hall From 10am to 2pm**