



Town of Salina  
OFFICE OF THE TOWN SUPERVISOR

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**Salina Supervisor Colleen Gunnip Releases the 2020 Town Budget  
Tax Rate Decrease and Budget Highlights**

September 23, 2019 Salina, NY – Salina Town Supervisor Colleen Gunnip today submitted her Tentative 2020 for the General Fund, Part-Town Fund, Highway and Special Districts, which is under the 2% State Property Tax Cap. Under the 2020 tentative budget, a homeowner living outside the Village of Liverpool with a home assessed at \$100,000 will see a decrease of \$35.24 for their Town taxes in 2020. A homeowner in the Village with a \$100,000 valued home will pay an additional \$6.35 for the year 2020.

Even with the decrease in the Town tax rate, the proposed budget for 2020 maintains and improves the services that contribute to the quality of life enjoyed by Salina residents. The budget reinforces the Town's commitment to building stronger neighborhoods, continuous improvement in Town services and infrastructure; and supporting seniors and recreational programs. The budget builds upon a longstanding fiscal record that protects taxpayers and reaffirms the Town's commitment to responsible budgetary practices.

Supervisor Gunnip acknowledged the team approach taken in developing the budget. "This being my first budget, I am deeply indebted to my Budget Officer and Town Department Heads for their hard work in planning and providing me with the 2019 accomplishments, 2020 goals, data and analysis that have come together in the proposed budget for 2020," Gunnip said. "With their knowledge and skill, and with the continuing support of our community, Salina continues to pave the way toward improving services and infrastructure for our taxpayers."

This being Gunnip's first budget since becoming Supervisor in January 2019, the proposed General Fund Appropriation are \$5,722,812 which is an increase of 2.162% from the current budget of \$5,601,698. The estimated non-property tax revenue is \$1,782,485, or a 2.6145% decrease. The funds needed from property taxes are \$3,440,327, or an increase of 5.2%. The estimated property tax rate needed to support this budget, based on the entire town assessed value of \$1,691,6137,736, or \$31,255,208 million more than last year, is \$2.03. This is an increase in the tax rate of .06 cents, or 3%.

**Key elements of the proposed General Fund budget are highlighted below:**

- Appropriates \$500,000 from Fund Balance for the Town Hall & Highway Phase 2 & 3 Improvements and \$10,000 to transfer to the Brewerton Road Street Scape Community Development Grant in the amount of \$45,000.
- Reduction of three (3) full-time positions: Receiver of Taxes, Custodial Worker 1, and Dog Warden.
- Accommodates the increase in personnel costs imposed by the Collective Bargaining Units.
- Decreased revenue from Fines and Forfeitures and increased revenue for Interest Earned due to investing in NYCLASS.
- Software and Hardware Technology Improvements, including updating the Town Website.

The Part-Town Fund appropriations are \$1,334,052 which is an increase of 5.8977% from the current budget of \$1,259,756. The estimated non-property tax revenue is \$132,029, or an increase of .25%. Using \$300,000 of fund balance the funds needed from property taxes are \$902,023, or a decrease of 22.2857%. The estimated property tax rate for the Part-Town Fund, based on the assessed value of \$1,561,084,490 or \$27,783,198 million more than last year, is \$.58. This is a decrease in the tax rate of .18 cents or .24%.

**Key elements of the proposed Part-Town budget are highlighted below:**

- Increased revenue from Building Permit Fees and Interest and Earning due to investing in NYCLASS.
- Appropriates \$300,000 from Fund Balance to reduce the amount to be raised by taxes.
- Includes full funding for Street Lighting pending the installation of LED Lighting and Smart Technology.
- Accommodates the increase in personnel costs imposed by the Collective Bargaining Units.
- Includes partial funding for the Sun Harbor Pond Drainage due to the creation of the new Special District Aquatics District.

The Highway Fund budget appropriations are \$5,290,489, which is a decrease of 4.3774% from the current budget of \$5,532,677. The estimated non-property tax revenue is \$499,744 or an increase of 7.6492%. The funds needed from property taxes are \$4,790,745, or a decrease of 5.4790%. The estimated property tax rate for the Highway Fund, outside of the Village of Liverpool, based on the assessed value of \$1,561,084,490 or \$27,783,198 million more than last year, is \$3.06. This is a decrease in the tax rate of .24 cents or 7.2%.

**Key elements of the proposed Highway budget are highlighted below:**

- Appropriates \$600,000 to continue resurfacing of approximately six (6) miles of town roads
- Appropriates \$400,000 in Contingent Fund to continue removal of concrete valley gutter and installation of street drainage.
- Appropriates \$158,000 for the purchase of a Crew Cab Dump Truck and Forklift.
- Appropriates \$34,320 increase in the price of Road Salt and \$10,000 increase in Diesel Fuel.
- Accommodates the increase in personnel costs imposed by the Collective Bargaining Units.

The Special District budget includes a new rate for the Refuse, Rubbish and Trash contract from \$165 per unit to \$171 in 2020. The budget includes the new Sunharbor Aquatic District, as well as minimal increases and decreases in the Fire, Water Supply, and Sewer Districts.

A public hearing will be held on Monday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:31pm at Salina Town Hall.