

TOWN OF GHENT
PUBLIC HEARING
November 2, 2016

A Public Hearing was held on the Preliminary Budget for the fiscal year 2017 on Thursday, November 3, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Ghent Town Hall, Route 66, Ghent, New York, 12075. Pursuant to Section 108 of the Town Law that the following salaries of elected officials are proposed for the Year 2017. Supervisor \$12,000.00, Town Clerk \$32886.00, Councilperson (4) \$3985.00, Justices (2) \$12310.00 and Highway Superintendent \$57,715.00.

Supervisor Benvenuto opened the Public Hearing at 7:00pm. Michael Bucci from accounting firm of Pattison, Koskey, Howe and Bucci was introduced and gave a brief presentation of the 2017 budget. The budget includes a 1.77% increase from 2016, keeping under the 2% tax cap. The General A fund was reduced \$23,232.00. The DB was increased \$27,093.00 for the new bond program being used to plan ahead for the highway departments equipment needs.

Sheldon Evans- Where is the fund balance?

Mr. Bucci- In cash in the bank collecting interest.

Sheldon Evans- Are other towns using a bond program.

Mr. Bucci- Yes, it a good time now with the interests rates low.

Sheldon Evans- Is the Town current on pension payments?

Mr. Bucci- Yes

Sheldon Evans- Thanked the Board for a good budget.

Toby/ Philmont Library- Thanked the Board for the increase in funds to help support the library.

Supervisor Benvenuto- Health insurance costs are down and benefits are better. Thanked Michael Bucci for coming and his help with the budget process.

Supervisor Benvenuto closed the Public Hearing at 7:30 pm.