

**Minutes for a 2026 Town of Ticonderoga Budget Workshop and Any Other Law Business
held on October 16, 2025 commencing at 1:00 p.m.**

Present: Mark A. Wright, Supervisor
Dave Woods, Councilman
Joyce Cooper, Councilwoman
Tom Thatcher, Councilman
Heath Towne, Councilman
Tonya M. Thompson, Town Clerk

Others: Rebecca Norton and Amy Beeman from the Finance Department

Workshop #7: 10/16/2025 1300-1500 Workshop #8: 10/24/2025 0800-1000
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Budget Workshop #7 (10/16/2025)

- **Working Preliminary Budget**
 - Due before the public hearing on 10/23 at our finance meeting.
 - Reminder: We will adjourn the public hearings on 10/23 until 11/13 regular board meeting.
- **Updates Since Last**
 - Worker's Compensation: participant contribution rose again for 2026 (see table).
 - We had the highest participant contributions for 2026 of all 18 towns.
 - Town must get these claims under control to save taxpayers money.
 - Keeping on top of issues reduces the chances of claims.
 - This issue alone eats up the 2% tax cap margin (which for us is approx. \$116K).

Workers Compensation – Total Claims over 7 Years

2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
\$44,020.25	\$15,419.77	\$133,468.16	\$28,033.83	\$122,073.94	\$99,142.35	\$125,918.42

- Increased C&D Tipping fees (latest contract).
- Waiting for Labor Relations benefits to be factored into the budget.
 - Don't expect final resolution on issues before Preliminary budget is due.
- **Revisions to Tentative Budget (RESOLUTIONS)**

Resolution #434-2025 brought by Heath Towne, seconded by Dave Woods to Increase C&D Tipping Fees – Increase A8160.427 from \$51,500 to \$85,500. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Heath Towne – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #435-2025 brought by Heath Towne, seconded by Joyce Cooper to Increase DA5142.830 (SSN benefits) from \$30,121 to \$30,212. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Heath Towne – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #436-2025 brought by Heath Towne, seconded by Tom Thatcher to Increase A3120.469 (PD equipment replacement) from \$5,550 to \$9,000 (contract negotiation). **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Heath Towne – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

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Resolution #437-2025 brought by Heath Towne, seconded by Joyce Cooper to Increase A3005 (mortgage tax revenue) from \$80,000 to \$97,000 (estimate updated by county). **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Heath Towne – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

○ **Amount over the tax cap: \$495,878 (allowable growth: \$116,000).**

- \$397,140: emergency medical services
- \$167,155: wage increases (before union settlement)
- \$125,918: workers compensation
- \$ 68,983: additional debt (Portage litigation)
- \$ 66,000: health benefit increases
- \$ 44,000: sewer increases
- \$ 34,500: C&D increases

● **Miscellaneous**

- 102 Race Track Road Project
 - We have the first pay app but it is incomplete (missing pages 3,4; no signature line for owner).
 - There are possibly TWO change orders. Nothing official submitted to date for approval.
 - CAUTION: These have potential to eliminate any capital reserve for IT, phone, and security tasks.
- SRT Program: Board stated it would remain in effect for at least one year
 - Finance and PD directed to manually track # of OT per officer.
 - Review again in 2026 to decide whether to continue or cancel participation.

Other Business

Resolution #438-2025 brought by Tom Thatcher, seconded by Heath Towne to submit NYS DOT Sponsor Application for Payment (FIN 190-1) certificate #4 for NYS reimbursement on the Airport Apron Expansion Project (design). **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Heath Towne – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #439-2025 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Joyce Cooper authorizing the Supervisor to execute the annual Federal Financial Report package for federal reimbursement on the Airport Improvement Plan (AIP) projects. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Heath Towne – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #440-2025 brought by Heath Towne, seconded by Tom Thatcher to execute application and certification for payment (application No. SOV, dated 9/30/2025) in the amount of \$160,006.60 for the 102 Racetrack Road Police Officer Conversion (Gallo project #25170). **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Heath Towne – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #441-2025 brought by Tom Thatcher, seconded by Joyce Cooper to enter executive session at 1:37 p.m. to discuss impending contractual issues. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Heath Towne – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

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Resolution #442-2025 brought by Tom Thatcher, seconded by Dave Woods to exit out of Executive Session at 2:33 p.m. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Heath Towne – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Workshop closed at 2:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Tonya M. Thompson, Town Clerk