



# Special Notice

November 3, 2022

Supervisor's Proposed 2023  
Budget

## ***SUPERVISOR'S PROPOSED 2023 BUDGET - NO TAX INCREASE***

***Public Hearing is 11/9/22***

Town Supervisor Bill Smith's proposed 2023 budget holds the **Town tax rate flat, with no increase**. It preserves the cut in the Town tax rate of more than 9% we've achieved since 2018. Under the Supervisors proposed budget for 2023, **for every dollar you pay in property tax, just eight cents (\$0.08) is Town of Pittsford tax**. The proposed budget continues all current Town services, with improvements. **Below you can read Supervisor Smith's memo on his 2023 Town Budget proposal.**

The budget documents, including [Supervisor Smith's budget presentation](#), are available to view on the Town website at <https://www.townofpittsford.org/budgets>. These can also be found by using the "Budgets & Financials" link under the "Government" tab on the Town website home page.

**A public hearing on the Proposed 2023 Town Budget will be held in the Town Hall meeting room on Wednesday, November 9 at 6:00pm (please note the new date)** during the Town Board meeting. This is an important opportunity for Pittsford residents to advise the Town Board and comment on the proposed budget. Residents are encouraged to attend.

As always, comments for the Town Board meeting may be submitted in advance (prior to 2:30pm on the day of the meeting) or made during the meeting both in person and by email. Emailed comments may be sent to [comments@townofpittsford.org](mailto:comments@townofpittsford.org). The meeting will also be live streamed; see the agenda packet for viewing access and comment submission details. The meeting agenda is posted at least two days prior to the meeting on the Town website here: [www.townofpittsford.org/minutes](http://www.townofpittsford.org/minutes). ASL interpretation is provided.

### **2023 Budget Memo by Supervisor Smith**

Submitted herewith is my proposed Town Budget for 2023.

The proposed budget holds the Town tax rate flat, with no increase. The rate therefore remains, following last year's tax cut, at \$3.13 per thousand dollars of



assessed value. This budget holds Pittsford's tax levy below the State tax cap.

Since 2018 we have cut the Town tax rate by more than 9%.

Town tax remains proportionally low. For a number of years Town taxes comprised just nine cents (\$0.09) of every dollar in property tax paid by Pittsford residents. For 2022 that dropped to eight cents. Once again, under this proposed budget for 2023, for every dollar each taxpayer pays in property tax, just eight cents (\$0.08) is Town of Pittsford tax.

We have entered a new era of high inflation. The CPI relevant to Pittsford was 8.2% over the past 12 months. For the Town, our cost of gasoline diesel fuel has increased by 40%. Notwithstanding these conditions, the proposed budget for 2023 maintains all municipal services without cuts.

It maintains our stepped up program of repaving residential neighborhood streets. It fully funds Pittsford Youth Services' budget request for next year. Cumulatively, the Town has increased its funding of Pittsford Youth Services by 83% since 2017 – and that does not count the \$39,400 in ARPA funds we provided PYS earlier this year. The proposed budget holds flat the Town's funding for Pittsford Volunteer Ambulance, following a cumulative increase for PVA of 114% since 2018, as of the budget for 2022.

Again the State has raised the minimum wage. Again it has a cascading effect throughout our wage scales. Hourly employees subject to the wage scale receive an increase equal to the higher of their next step in the wage scale or 4%. All other non-elected employees receive an increase of the higher of merit raise awards or a 4% cost-of-living adjustment. Elected officials receive no increase in compensation.

The proposed budget maintains full funding for senior citizens' programs and services, including lunch and nutrition programs. It funds our full schedule of recreation programs, including youth programs; also our schedule of Town events, which we've expanded from pre-pandemic days.

Taxpayers continue to save money because the Town maintains its credit rating. The Town of Pittsford has the highest credit rating possible – Triple-A. This is more than a report card on municipal fiscal management. It protects taxpayers by keeping down the rate of interest we pay on Town bonds, for such things as the Greenprint, the renovations to our Spiegel Community Center, the Library and our improvements to Athletic Fields and parks.

Pittsford remains the only Town of its size in the United States to hold this perfect credit rating. We're the only Town in New York north of Westchester and Putnam counties to have it. Consequently, Pittsford residents continue to pay less for bond financing of municipal improvements than residents of any other place in upstate New York – and any other place of our size in the country.

Pittsford has the 7th lowest town tax rate among the 18 towns in Monroe County, as it had last year. If you exclude from the comparison those towns that receive revenue from landfills, and those with commercial areas much more extensive and intensive than Pittsford's, we're the 5th lowest. This despite Pittsford's full schedule of

municipal services that none of the lower-taxed towns offer, such as weekly leaf pick up, yard debris pick up, a recreation program and a Town-financed library.

This budget supports my Town administration's commitment to responsiveness to residents, building stronger neighborhoods, continual improvement and to services of importance to youth and seniors. We continue to build on Pittsford's solid legacy of decades of enlightened and responsible budgetary practices that protect taxpayers.

Pittsford taxpayers continue to benefit from the forward-thinking of the Town administration and its predecessors. The Finger-Lakes Municipal Healthcare Trust – a statewide model for shared services, initiated by the Town of Pittsford – continues to save the Town substantial additional expense every year. As a result, the increase in medical costs is confined to 7.5% for next year, rather than a multiple of that. Costs for employee dental benefits, which are 100% funded by the Town, are up by 2%.

Thanks to Finance Director Brian Luke and our Town Department Heads for their work and recommendations in preparing this budget. In doing so our methodology remains straightforward:

- What have residents suggested throughout the year?
- What will it cost to maintain Town services for our residents in the year ahead?
- What will it cost to make the improvements we seek?
- Through the lens of brutal realism and on a principled basis for analysis, what are our projections for Town revenues for the year?
- How do we reconcile this data to maintain and improve services and amenities while best protecting taxpayers?

This is how we continue Pittsford's long tradition of improving services, amenities, infrastructure and protecting taxpayers. The result is the budget for 2023, now proposed for your approval.

---

If you have been forwarded this eNews issue and wish to subscribe, visit [www.townofpittsford.org/enews](http://www.townofpittsford.org/enews)

**Current Subscribers:**

To update your email address use the "Update Profile" link (bottom of this email).

---

**TV-12 PITTSFORD CABLE CHANNEL 1303** is on seven days a week.  
Find the [current schedule here](#).

---

[Photo Gallery](#)

[eNews Archives](#)

---

**Town of Pittsford**  
11 S. Main St  
Pittsford, NY 14534  
Info and archived copies at  
[www.townofpittsford.org/enews](http://www.townofpittsford.org/enews)





Contact Us

