

**HORICON TOWN BOARD
MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING**

**NOVEMBER 6, 2024
6:00 PM**

Present at meeting:	Michael Geraci	Supervisor
	Kayla Carlozzi Hodgson	Councilmember
	John Francisco	Councilmember
	Teri Schuerlein	Councilmember
	Ed Sim	Councilmember
	Krista Wood	Town Clerk

Also: Budget Officer Anna Whitman, Deputy Supervisor Becky Ross, Barb French, Assessor Christine Hayes, Scott Hayes, Matt Wood, and NWEMS representative Rob Smith.

Supervisor Geraci opened the meeting at 6:00pm.

Old Business:

RESOLUTION #144-2024

Councilmember Schuerlein and Councilmember Francisco introduced Res. No. 144 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO HANK'S QUALITY FLOORING

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize a 50% deposit be paid to Hank's Quality Flooring Inc. in the amount of \$1,683.00 for the new carpet in the Assessor's office.

Ayes: 5 (Schuerlein, Francisco, Hodgson, Sim, Geraci) Nays: 0

Supervisor Geraci took a motion from Councilmember Hodgson, seconded by Councilmember Schuerlein, to open the public hearing for the Preliminary 2025 Budget.

Supervisor Geraci gave a presentation outlining the Preliminary 2025 Budget (*see presentation attached*).

Supervisor Geraci asked if anyone had any questions or comments.

Councilmembers Sim, Hodgson, and Schuerlein said they are fine with the budget.

Councilmember Francisco said, as he expressed before, he is not in agreement with the 14% increase for the NWEMS Ambulance District. He questioned Rob Smith, Horicon representative to the NWEMS, on the increase. Rob explained that when the Ambulance District was created the Squad presented a budget amount to the Towns of Horicon and Chester, but the amount they requested was cut back which put them behind. He said the amount requested for 2025 will bring them up to where they need to be. Rob said this is the amount the Squad needs to have staff 24/7, and to cover expenses for equipment, insurance, building repairs, etc. He also pointed out that they are competing with other squads for members and must offer competitive salaries and benefits. He said the only other sources of revenue they have are donations and some revenue recovery. Councilmember Francisco said he just wanted to know if the increase is 14% this year, then what is it going to be next year. Rob, again, pointed out that the Squad was behind after being cut last year, but this increase will bring them up to where they need to be; he expects that going forward the requests will be more in line with the other Town services.

Supervisor Geraci pointed out that public safety is expensive, and the Town has looked at the various EMS options over the years. He said a Town does not have to have EMS services; however, the County, the Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages, etc. have been advocating to the State legislature to change that because it will help the Town acquire additional funding for services.

There being no further comment from the public, Councilmember Schuerlein made a Motion, seconded by Councilmember Francisco, to close the Public Hearing. The Public Hearing was closed at 6:30 pm.

RESOLUTION #145-2024

Councilmember Sim and Councilmember Schuerlein introduced Res. No. 145 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2025 HORICON BUDGET

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on November 6, 2024 at 6:00 PM at the Horicon Community Center on the Preliminary Budget for the year 2025, AND

WHEREAS, comments were invited from the public either for or against said budget, NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Preliminary Budget will be the adopted Budget for 2025, with the General Fund Appropriations of \$1,602,952.22 less anticipated revenues of \$1,586,184.00 and an unexpended balance of \$16,768.22 leaving an amount to be raised by taxes of \$0.00. Total Highway Fund Appropriations of \$1,959,896.83 less anticipated revenues of \$1,392,594.00 and an unexpended balance of \$217,900.83 leaving an amount to be raised by taxes of \$349,402.00 and a total budget of \$3,562,849.05, AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the amount to be raised by taxes for the Horicon Ambulance District is \$235,996.00, the amount to be raised by taxes for the Horicon Fire District is \$344,306.00, and the amount to be raised by taxes for the Schroon Lake Park District is \$5,636.00.

Ayes: 5 (Sim, Schuerlein, Hodgson, Francisco, Geraci) Nays: 0

Privilege of the floor...

Rob Smith thanked the Town Board for their support of the NWEMS.

Adjourn...

There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM by MOTION of Councilmember Francisco, and Councilmember Schuerlein, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Town Clerk

Town of Horicon 2025 Budget Public Hearing

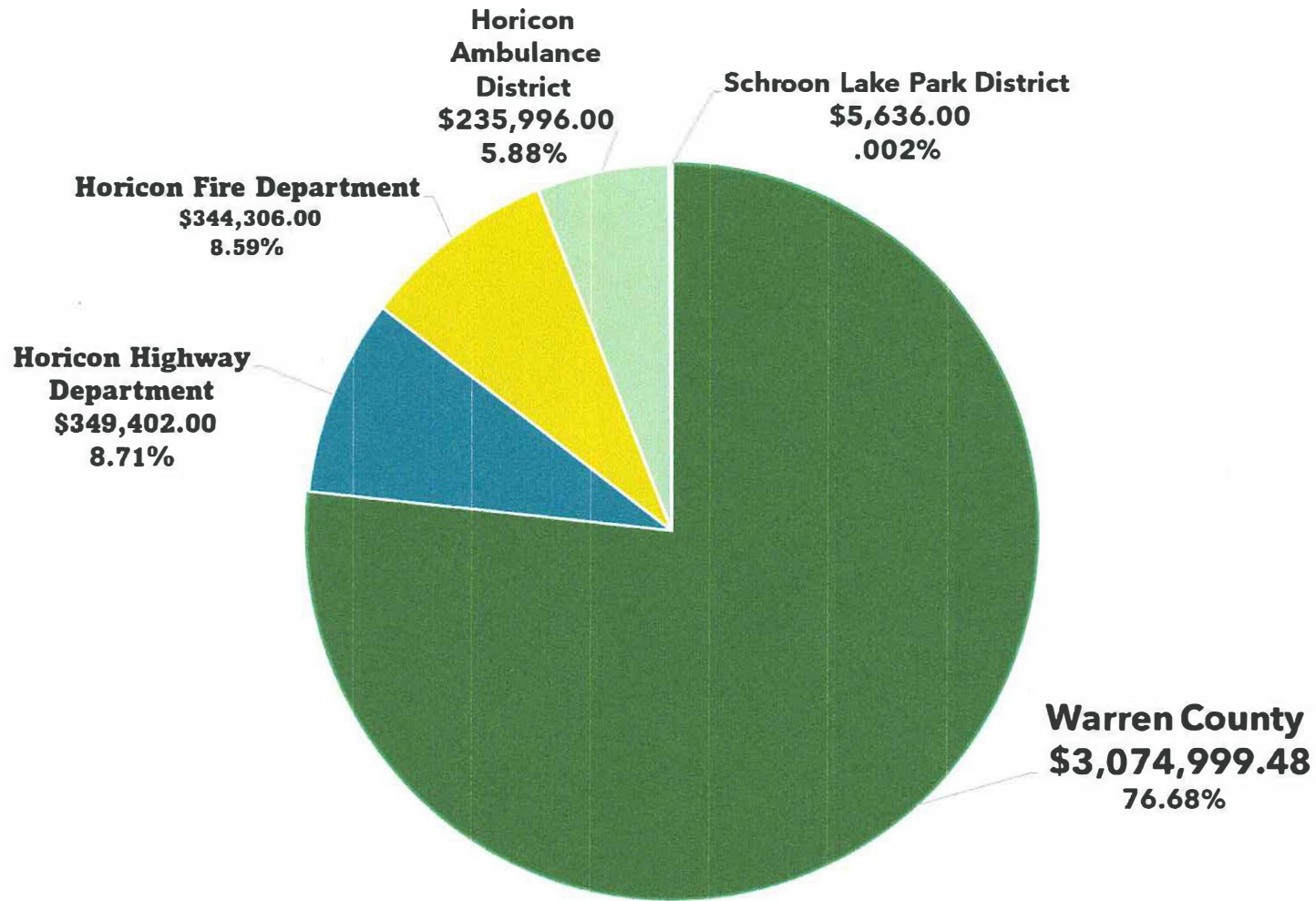
November 6, 2024

6:00pm



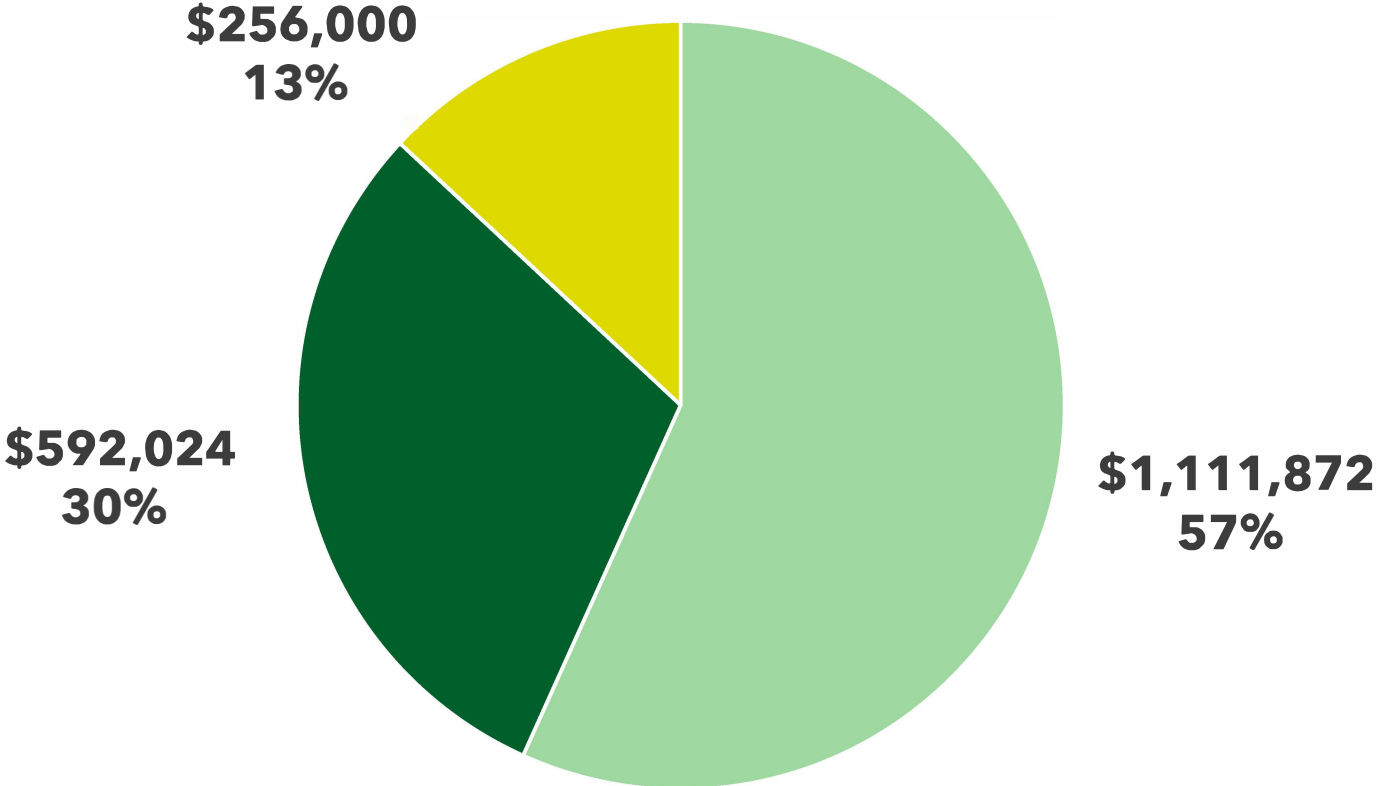
Property Tax Distribution 2025

Total Tax Warrant: \$4,010,339.48



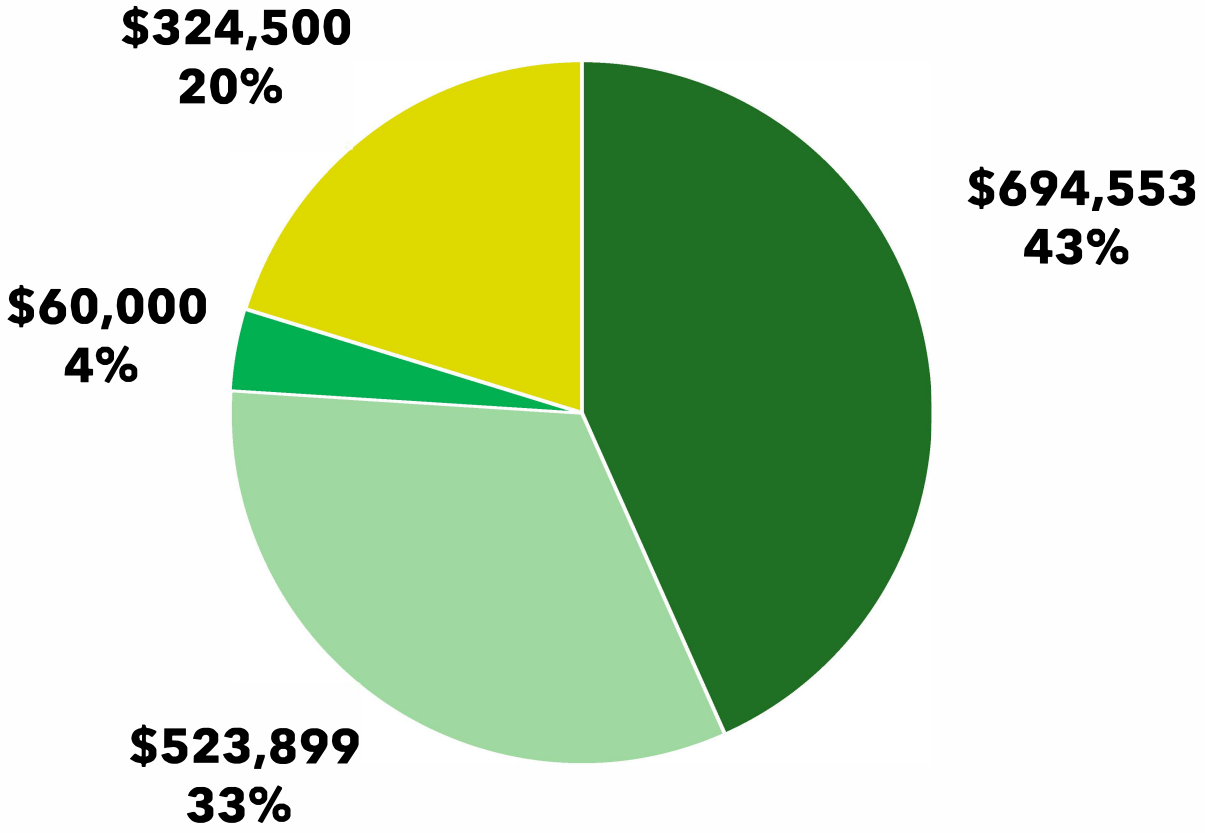
2025 Budget Appropriations Highway Fund - \$1,959,896

■ Operations ■ Salaries ■ Health Benefits



2025 Budget Appropriations General Fund - \$1,602,952

■ Salaries ■ Operations ■ Property Insurance ■ Health Benefits



Budget Summary by Year



Salaries & Wages Increase

- **4% across the board for General and Highway employees**
 - **Except Town Board and Supervisor salaries**

2025 Tax Levy to Fund Operations and Service Award Program for the Horicon Fire Department

\$313,450.00 Budget Request

\$ 30,856.00 Service Award Program

\$344,306.00 Total

Total of Town Taxable Value \$830,483,588.00

Calculation used to determine tax levy per \$1,000 of assessed value:

$$\text{\$344,306.00} / \text{\$830,483,588.00} = .41$$

Tax Levy per 1,000 Property Assessed Value Total tax for FD

.41	\$100,000.00	\$41.00
.41	\$200,000.00	\$82.00
.41	\$300,000.00	\$123.00
.41	\$400,000.00	\$164.00
.41	\$500,000.00	\$205.00
.41	\$600,000.00	\$246.00
.41	\$700,000.00	\$287.00
.41	\$800,000.00	\$328.00
.41	\$900,000.00	\$369.00
.41	\$1,000,000.00	\$410.00

**2025 Tax Levy to Fund Operations for
 North Warren Emergency Services (NWES)
 \$235,996.00 NWES Budget Request
 Total of Town Taxable Value \$830,483,588.00**

**Calculation used to determine tax levy per \$1,000 of assessed value:
 \$235,996.00 / \$830,483,588.00 = .28**

Tax Levy per 1,000 Property Assessed Value Total tax for NWES

.28	\$100,000.00	\$28.00
.28	\$200,000.00	\$56.00
.28	\$300,000.00	\$84.00
.28	\$400,000.00	\$112.00
.28	\$500,000.00	\$140.00
.28	\$600,000.00	\$168.00
.28	\$700,000.00	\$196.00
.28	\$800,000.00	\$224.00
.28	\$900,000.00	\$252.00
.28	\$1,000,000.00	\$280.00

**2025 Tax Levy to Fund Operations for
Schroon Lake Park District (Starbuckville Dam)**

\$5,636.00 Budget Request for Horicon's Portion

Total of Town Taxable Value \$830,483,588.00

Calculation used to determine tax levy per \$1,000 of assessed value:

$$\text{\$5,636.00} / \text{\$830,483,588.00} = .07$$

Tax Levy per 1,000	Property Assessed Value	Total tax for SLPD
.07	\$100,000.00	\$7.00
.07	\$200,000.00	\$14.00
.07	\$300,000.00	\$21.00
.07	\$400,000.00	\$28.00
.07	\$500,000.00	\$35.00
.07	\$600,000.00	\$42.00
.07	\$700,000.00	\$49.00
.07	\$800,000.00	\$56.00
.07	\$900,000.00	\$63.00
.07	\$1,000,000.00	\$70.00

2025 Tax Levy to Fund a Portion of Highway Operations

\$349,402.00 Budget Request

Total of Town Taxable Value \$830,483,588.00

Calculation used to determine tax levy per \$1,000 of assessed value:

$$\text{\$349,402.00} / \text{\$830,483,588.00} = .42$$

Tax Levy per 1,000	Property Assessed Value	Total tax for TOH
.42	\$100,000.00	\$42.00
.42	\$200,000.00	\$84.00
.42	\$300,000.00	\$126.00
.42	\$400,000.00	\$168.00
.42	\$500,000.00	\$210.00
.42	\$600,000.00	\$252.00
.42	\$700,000.00	\$294.00
.42	\$800,000.00	\$336.00
.42	\$900,000.00	\$378.00
.42	\$1,000,000.00	\$420.00

Town of Horicon Summary of Fiscal Budget by Fund For 2025

	<u>Appropriations</u>	<u>Estimated Revenue</u>	<u>Fund Balance</u>	<u>Raised by Tax</u>
General Fund	\$1,602,952.22	\$1,586,184.00	\$16,768.22	0.00
Highway Fund	\$1,959,896.83	\$1,392,594.00	\$217,900.83	\$349,402.00
NWES Ambulance	\$ 235,996.00			\$235,996.00
Fire Protection	\$ 344,306.00			\$344,306.00
SLPD	\$ 5,636.00			\$5,636.00
GRAND TOTAL	<u>\$4,148,787.05</u>	<u>\$2,978,778.00</u>	<u>\$234,669.05</u>	<u>\$935,340.00</u>

****2025 Budget, as presented, allows the town to remain at 2% tax cap levy****

2025 Significant Projects for Consideration

- **Financial Review or Audit**
- **Maintain Sound Investment Strategies**

Capital Projects

- **Adirondack Museum**
- **Heintzelman Library**
- **Town Hall Roof**
- **Boat wash unit storage**
- **Former church adjacent to Town Hall**

- **Short Term Rental Policy**
- **Social Media Policy**
- **Employee Assistance Program**
- **Reduction of Speed Limits on East Shore Drive and Valentine Pond Road**
- **Supervisors Wall Memorial Plaque**