

Recreation for the Mind:  discover, connect, grow.

SAUGERTIES PUBLIC LIBRARY

2019 Proposed Budget

INCOME	2018	2019 Proposed
Real Property Taxes	\$544,343	\$580,144
Fines, Fees, Printing, FAX	\$25,000	\$23,000
Interest	\$1,500	\$1,500
Gifts & Donations	\$3,000	\$10,000
New York State Aid	\$4,500	\$4,500
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$80,659	\$20,000
TOTAL INCOME	\$659,002	\$639,144

IMPORTANT DATES	
Trustee Candidate Petitions Due	Wednesday, August 8 by 5pm.
Budget Public Hearing	Tuesday, August 14, 6pm at regular board meeting
Trustee Election & Budget Vote	Thursday, September 6, 10am -- 8pm at the Library

EXPENSE	2018	2019 PROPOSED	
Salaries	\$339,823	\$338,675	Includes four full-time and 16 part-time staff
Employee Benefits	\$98,296	\$104,490	Retirement, Social Security, Workers Comp., Disability, Health Insurance (for 3 full-time staff, library pays 70%). Employees pay their own retirement.
Library Materials	\$63,375	\$53,750	In 2017 we added 5,557 new books, DVDs, ebooks etc. and plan to purchase the same number in 2018 and 2019.
Programs, Local History, Art & Exhibits	\$8,200	\$11,850	Includes summer reading, museum passes, local history, and grant funded programs such as Tai Chi for Arthritis.
Operation of Building	\$91,700	\$86,634	Utilities, Insurance, Maintenance, Lawn & Grounds, Snow Removal, Geothermal, Equipment, Custodial Services.
Equipment Maintenance & Supplies	\$15,800	\$13,170	Copier, Office Supplies, Postage, Public Printing Supplies
Automation & Library System Fees	\$17,583	\$17,500	Mandatory Fees to the Mid-Hudson Library System
Professional Services	\$23,675	\$12,575	Accounting, Legal, IT Consulting, Staff Development
Budget Vote & Elections	\$550	\$500	
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$659,002	\$639,144	

TAX LEVY/TAX RATE	2018	2019
Total Taxable Assessed Value	\$1,774,339,317	\$1,841,734,499
Tax Levy	\$544,343	\$580,144
Tax Rate per Thousand \$ of Assessed Value	\$.306780	\$.3150
Total Increase for 2019	\$.0082	= less than one penny per \$1000 assessed value

2019 Proposed Budget Frequently Asked Questions

- **What is the Library's Proposed Budget for 2019?**

The total proposed budget is \$639,144. The portion of the budget raised from taxes is \$580,144. The rest comes from an appropriated fund balance, late fees, photocopy and computer printing fees, FAX fees, gifts and donations, and New York State Library Aid.

- **What is the impact on tax rates and individual taxpayers?**

The Saugerties Public Library District is comprised of the Town and Village of Saugerties. The tax rate is increasing by .0086 cents per thousand dollars of assessed value from .3067 to .3150. (Less than 1 penny). **A property with a market value of \$200,000 would see an increase of around \$1.65 per year from \$61.36 per year to \$63.00 per year.** (Saugerties has the second lowest per capita library tax in Ulster county.)

- **Will the library's budget exceed the Tax-Cap?**

Yes. The Library budget is subject to the tax cap legislation that sets a limit on property tax increases to around 2%. This is the first time since the tax cap law was enacted in 2012 that the library will exceed the tax cap. The library has used an appropriated fund balance to avoid tax increases to the community over the past six years. The library invested in capital improvements in 2017-2019, purchasing two adjacent properties and creating an outdoor programming space for the public. The fund balance is near depletion and the tax levy must cover a larger percentage of the library's budget. The 2019 budget proposal calls for a 6.58% tax levy increase, which comes to less than 1¢ per \$1000 assessed property value.

- **Does the community use the Library?**

Yes! The Saugerties Public Library currently has the highest circulation activity in Ulster County. Active card-carrying patrons now total 9,101 (47% of all Saugerties residents). Library cards continue to be issued at an average of 49 per month. Our records also show 100,586 people came through our doors in 2017, our website was visited of 47,124 times, and over 11,811 people of all ages attended 857 programs offered in 2017. In 2017, 16,573 adults used the Library computers, and the Library's Wi-Fi had 101,634 wireless sessions!

- **How many trustees are being elected this year?**

Three total. Two five-year terms are up for election, and one three-year term. The person who comes in third will take on the three year-term.

- **When is the Library Budget Vote and where is it held?**

The Annual Library Budget Vote will be held at the library on Thursday, September 6, 2018 as prescribed in our legislated charter. Polls are open between 10am and 8pm. Registered voters, both renters and property owners, living in the Saugerties Public Library District are eligible to vote. Absentee ballots will be available at the Library beginning August 21.

- **How do I get more information?**

The proposed 2019 budget is available at the Library and on our website. You may also attend the public budget hearing at the Library on Tuesday, August 14, 2018 at 6pm or contact Katie Scott-Childress, Library Director, at 845-246-4317 ext 300.

