

**To: Ancram Town Board**  
**From: Art Bassin**  
**Date: 10/11/2015**  
**Subject: Supervisor's Report – October 2015**



### **Town Issues**

**1. Financial Report** – We ended September with \$957,000 in the bank. Revenues and spending through the end of August were as expected, with operating spending down about \$50,000 this year to date compared to the same period in 2014. This excludes “financial transactions” like the \$280,000 loan repayment made in August 2014 and the \$396,000 truck loan taken out last month. Assuming no extraordinary financial events, we are on track to come in pretty much on budget for 2015, with a year-end cash balance of about \$750,000.

**2. 2016 Budget** – We will finalize our 2016 Budget after public hearings at the 10/15 and 11/19 Town Board meetings. It still appears we will be able to reduce town taxes by about 1% (\$8,000) in 2016 while maintaining a “contingent account reserve” of about \$30,000. The annual truck loan payment of \$76,000 a year is being funded by a reduction of the contingent account of about \$50,000 and decreases in the maintenance and fuel accounts in the highway budget. We do not yet have final numbers on property, liability or health insurance.

**3. Culvert grant** - Colleen Lutz has established a culvert committee, and we are in the process of interviewing engineers in anticipation of developing and issuing a RFP for an engineer to assist with this project.

**4. Election 2015** – Meet the candidates events are set for Sunday 10/25 and Sunday 11/1 at 1 pm at Town Hall.

### **County Issues**

**1. Pine Haven** – Still waiting for NYS Health Department approval. Could take 6-12 months.

**2. CEDC** – We are close to approving a new contract with CEDC. The new CEDC leadership is making good progress and agrees that developing a joint economic development plan with the County is priority #1.

**3. County Management** – The idea that the County is too complex to be managed well by 23 part time supervisors and a part time chairman without a full time elected Executive or appointed manager is continues to be a topic of discussion among supervisors. If County leadership does not embrace this idea it may become an issue in the election to determine the next BOS chair, which happens in January. Stimulating this dialogue is a survey recently sent to all supervisors asking for opinions and comments on how well the County is managed. Results will probably be published before the November elections.