

**To: Ancram Town Board**  
**From: Art Bassin**  
**Date: 1/17/2016**  
**Subject: Supervisor's Report**



## **Town Issues**

**1. Financial Report** – We ended December with \$811,000 in the bank and about \$60,000 in sales tax receivables due from the County. 2015 revenues came in about \$55,000 better than budget, and costs were about \$127,000 under budget. Stronger than expected sales tax revenues and sale of equipment were the major elements of the better than expected revenue, while half the expense underrun resulted from not using \$65,000 of the budgeted contingency money, along with small underruns of \$1000 to \$4000 in a dozen or so other accounts. Operating spending in the General and Highway funds were about the same as 2014, excluding “financial transactions” like the \$240,000 loan prepayment made in August 2014 and the \$396,000 truck loan taken out in September, 2015.

**2. Engineering support** – Colleen Lutz and the Culvert Committee will be recommending an engineering firm to support us with the culvert grant at the 1/21 TB meeting. Hugh Clark will be recommending an engineer to assist the subdivision regulations revision committee review and revise highway construction standards.

**3. Central Hudson LED Program** – We will have a public hearing on the proposed LED street light program at 6:30, prior to the 1/21 TB meeting. Gerry Fultz and the LED committee will give us an overview of the situation. We also should have a representative of Central Hudson at the public hearing.

**4. Climate Smart Community** – Jane Meigs of CAC will brief us on this program. CAC recommends we sign up. Will circulate some background material on this Dec program.

**5. Right to farm law** – Suggest we schedule a public hearing on this prior to the 2/18 TB meeting.

**6. Purchase of Development Rights** – CLC will be requesting that the TB approve letters of support for two development rights deals – one for Kestral Farms and one for Thompson Finch Farm.

## **County Issues**

### **A quiet month.**

- 1. Ken Flood to Retire** - The major recent news is the announcement by Ken Flood, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, that he plans to retire mid-year.
- 2. Ginsberg Grant** – NYS has denied the previously approved \$516,000 grant to support the Ginsberg expansion project. Reason given by the State is Ginsberg started work prematurely.