

Glenville Files Efficiency Plan, Certifies Savings of Nearly \$1 Million Over Three Years

Yesterday (May 26th), the Town of Glenville filed its Local Government Efficiency Plan with the New York State Division of Budget as required by law. The plan was due June 1, 2015 and was filed four business days early. The plan needed to meet a target savings of \$85,247 annually for the next three years. Supervisor Chris Koetzle certified \$309,200 in annual savings that resulted from town projects that were either an efficiency or shared service initiative. That's a savings to taxpayers of over \$927,000 by 2017; almost \$672,000 more than required by law.

Where did Glenville save the money?

The savings was achieved from a variety cost-cutting methods which include:

- Re-organization of the Tax Receiver's Office that produced \$46,415 in annual savings,
- Re-organization of the Supervisor's Office that produced \$19,874 in annual savings,
- Re-organization of two Maintenance Helper positions that produced \$37,519 in annual savings,
- Re-organization of the Dog Control Officer position that produced \$55,883 in annual savings, and;
- Participating in the unified dispatch shared-services agreement with the County that produced \$149,509 (according to the County's estimates.)

What does this mean for the town taxpayer?

As long as the Town remains under the tax cap for each of the next three years – and the Town has remained under the tax cap every year since it was implemented - the Town resident will receive the Town's portion of any levy increase in each respective year. As an example, the Town's levy increase last year was 2.87% and the average resident's levy increase was \$18.00. Under this efficiency plan, the resident would receive a check for that \$18.00 from the state of New York, effectively "freezing" the levy increase for that year.

What's next?

Residents should know that this Board remains dedicated to staying under the State's Property Tax Cap and will remain vigilant in finding new ways to save the taxpayer money. Although local governments continue to face upward pressure on its cost structures – particularly in the health insurance and retirement budget lines – the Board will continue to offset those increases with new efficiency initiatives and shared services projects into the future.