

**Budget Presentation Highway, Transfer Station, Dams, Warrant articles**

**Library Board of Trustee Appointment:** Ron St. Jean wrote: Please appoint trustee alternate Traci Bisson to the Board of Trustees to replace Althea Sheaff, who is moving out of town. Traci has served as an alternate for a year and a half, is thoroughly familiar with the board's operations, and participates fully in all of the board's endeavors. The term of office will be until the March, 2017 elections. ***Does the Board wish to make that appointment?***

**INFORMATION**

**Tax Rate has been set:** The new rate is \$26.04, an increase 82 cents from \$25.22. This is a seven cent decrease for each of the town services portion and county services portion. It represents a 7 cent increase for the state education tax and 89 cent increase for the local education tax rate. This is a lower impact that was projected for both the town and school portion of the tax rate. No fund balance was used to offset the town portion of the tax rate.

**Budget Answers:** The intent in the statement in my presentation on contracts was to explain why the average for this line was lower for years 2013, 2014 and 2015, which was because of where CAI was placed. It was in the 2016 budget that CAI was moved into this line. At the end of 2015 the revaluation line was over by \$18,351, which included CAI. The Admin contract line was budgeted at \$31,222. The proposed 2016 budget in November 2015 was \$30,000 and did not include CAI. At some point at the end of 2015 or beginning 2016 it was placed in Admin contracts. By January 17, 2016 the proposed budget for 2016 had increased \$10,250 over the 2015 budget by including CAI in Financial Administration contracts.

**Veteran's Credits to reduce taxes:** There are two different issues on veterans. The additional \$50 to bring it from \$450 to \$500 is relatively minor & easy to calculate on tax impact (around \$23,000). It applies to all veterans who served in a qualifying war/conflict. The second issue is a recent change in the law that passed this year that would greatly expand who qualified for the exemption to adding everyone who ever served in peace time. This alone would increase the amount to be raised by taxes around \$100,000 in additional tax impact at the current rate. If both were done, the total impact would add about \$134,000 for a total amount to be raised by taxes of \$332,900 or \$.37/\$1,000. Either would require a warrant article. A decision does not need to be made until January.