

Town of Savoy Supplemental Information to FY2025 Budget

All town employee pay rates were reviewed. Comps were reviewed with area towns. For the non-elected personnel an effort was made to make the job rate competitive with the Market and a living wage.

The Select Board was unable to secure any bids for the painting of the office building but continues to pursue avenues to get this done. In addition, they have requested additional funding in the Town Office Building account with the intent to fix the foundation and seal it.

The accountant has been asked to hold over the Town Office Building and Town Audit balances.

It was the intention to have an audit this year, however because the amount of \$9,000 was to be raised over two years and the accountant was not informed to hold the balance over – it went to free cash, therefore it is on the appropriations again this year.

Software upgrades are needed for the Assessor's and the Accountant. An IT services contract has been added to provide the support and security as required by the insurance company and good sense.

In addition to the wage adjustments in the DPW (Formerly Highway department) funding has been increased for the Repair & Supply accounts as well as the Road Maintenance. Both accounts have been held flat for several years and the cost of materials have gone up significantly. The road maintenance budget is still just a drop in the bucket compared to the actual needs. FRCOG is a new line, but not a new expense. This is the Franklin Regional Council of Governments which is where DPW does group buying through. The training budget was increased in anticipation of hiring another full-time employee and possibly sending them to CDL school.

The Freightliner payment has been added as a line on the DPW section. Last year's payment came out of the Chapter 90 funds. There is this payment due in Aug of 2024 and another in Aug of 2025, then it is paid off.

The Transfer Station expenses have been adjusted per contract. An additional concrete pad needs to be put in place and the finalization of the Cap Closure will be wrapped up with this budget.

The Board of Health Agent is a new contract with the Berkshire Public Health Alliance. This will provide us with certified professional inspectors. The fee schedule is set to adjust upon adoption of the budget. The Windsor model is being implemented, which will likely break even or come out slightly ahead of the contract amount.

Insurance increases generally run approximately 5%, but a significant increase is a new valuation done on the school. The Town is required to insure at replacement value.

Due to not having free cash certified at this time the Finance committee cannot recommend an amount to adjust the tax rate. This also means the Stabilization fund will have to be set at a special town meeting after free cash has been certified.