**TOWN BOARD**

**Town of Oyster Bay**

REGULAR MEETING

October 20, 2026

7:00 p.m.

***

Hearing to consider the Preliminary Budget for the Town of Oyster Bay for the year 2027

***

**JOSEPH SALADINO**

SUPERVISOR

**

**RICHARD LaMARCA**

TOWN CLERK

TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, STENOGRAPHER

A P P E A R A N C E S

P R E S E N T:

| | |
|---|---|
| SUPERVISOR | JOSEPH S. SALADINO |
| COUNCILMAN | LOUIS B. IMBROTO |
| COUNCILMAN | STEVE L. LABRIOLA |
| COUNCILWOMAN | LAURA L. MAIER |
| COUNCILWOMAN | VICKI WALSH |
| COUNCILMAN | ANDREW MONTELEONE |

A L S O P R E S E N T:

| | |
|---|---|
| RICHARD LaMARCA | TOWN CLERK |
| JEFFREY P. PRAVATO | RECEIVER OF TAXES |
| FRANK SCALERA, ESQ. | TOWN ATTORNEY |
| ROBERT DARIENZO | FINANCE DIRECTOR |

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for attending our evening session of the Oyster Bay Town Board. As we continue our public hearing on the budget, it's only appropriate that we all rise for a moment.

God grant us the wisdom to conduct business in this town. God, we pray for the good health and prosperity of all those in our town. Thank you for creating a family environment where we are respectful of one another, and we pull together for the betterment of all in our great town. And to this we say, Amen.

(Whereupon, all, "Amen".)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Rich LaMarca, would you please lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance is said.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Welcome back to our meeting of the Oyster Bay Town Board for October 20th, 2026. At this

time, for those joining us this evening, you have an opportunity to be heard on the proposed operating town budget, not the capital budget. This is for the operating budget which is being proposed for 2027.

As always, this meeting, which now continues from our morning session, is being live streamed on the Town's website, which is oysterbaytown.com. These proceedings are recorded and later transcribed and your voices are important to us. Statement, comments and input from the public relative to our meeting, which means, in this case, relative to the proposed operating budget for 2027, are welcomed and respected as part of the record.

So with that, we will need a motion to reopen our hearing.

May I have a motion, please?

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: Motion to reopen the hearing.

COUNCILMAN HAND: Second.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All in favor, please signify by saying aye.

(Whereupon, all members respond in favor.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Opposed, any?

(Whereupon, no response.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: They ayes have it.

Mr. LaMarca, would you call the hearing at hand?

TOWN CLERK: Tonight's hearing is to consider the Preliminary Budget for the Town of Oyster Bay for the year 2027.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Mr. Darienzo, would you please come up and present?

MR. DARIENZO: Good evening, Supervisor and Town Board members. I don't have a new presentation ready to go for this evening. This morning we had a brief presentation that detailed the budget process and let the listening audience know that the 2027 Preliminary Budget is has a $370 million spending program, and we project increases in 2027

for healthcare, debt service payments, and our state mandated unfunded pension bill. Those are the three main drivers of the increase on the expense side of our budget.

The budget is, in fact, balanced.

I'm here to answer any questions that you may have.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Do you have a sense of how much healthcare costs go up for 2027 by percentage?

MR. DARIENZO: By percentage, we're projecting 10 to 12%. It's a $5 million increase year over year.

SUPERVISOR SALDINO: And that's the largest of those three drivers that you spoke to?

MR. DARIENZO: It's neck and neck with our debt service payments. But our debt service payments have an ebb and flow depending on how much we choose to pay back. And we have chosen an aggressive payback schedule in order to save future interest costs to help our

residents out. But we have no control over what we're going to charge for our healthcare. And quite frankly, the increases each year are staggering and they're hard to keep up with.

SUPERVISOR SALDINO: They way outpaced inflation.

MR. DARIENZO: Absolutely. Not even close.

SUPERVISOR SALDINO: In terms of the largest component of the budget, which is salaries, give us some history, what it was in 2025, what it looks like it will be for 2026 and what it's proposed for 2027.

MR. DARIENZO: Yeah. In terms of salaries, again, the total budget is 370 million proposed for 2027. Of that, $104 million and change is proposed for salaries. That means full time, part time, seasonal, and overtime. That is similar to 2026, which also is 104 million and change. And the actual figure in 2025 was $104 million and change.

SUPERVISOR SALDINO: So the town has kept that relatively flat year to year, even through inflation and all the other factors.

MR. DARIENZO: Absolutely.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Thank you.

At this time, I ask if anyone who would like to be heard at this hearing tonight as it relates to the proposed 2027 operating budget.

(Whereupon, no response.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Please let the record reflect that no one has indicated they would like to be heard.

Mr. Town Clerk, is there any correspondence?

TOWN CLERK: I have no correspondence, Supervisor.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: Okay. I have notes that I can speak to about the budget and some of the facts and figures that we have repeated over and over, but so many people have heard this and quite frankly, I don't see any members of the

public here this evening, which speaks to me that says that people are very happy with the Town, happy with the proposals, and happy with the services we've been providing.

So that completes our mandates in terms of holding these hearings both morning and evening. So at this time, may I have a motion?

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: I move that the budget hearing be closed.

COUNCILMAN HAND: Second.

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All in favor, please signify by saying aye.

(Whereupon, all members respond in favor.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All opposed, nay.

(Whereupon, no response.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: The ayes have it.

May I have a motion to close the Town Board meeting?

COUNCILMAN IMBROTO: I move that the

Town Board meeting be closed.

COUNCILMAN HAND: Second.

SUPERVISOR SALDINO: All in favor, please signify by saying aye.

(Whereupon, all members respond in favor.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: All opposed, nay.

(Whereupon, no response.)

SUPERVISOR SALADINO: The ayes have it.

Thank you very much. We'd like to thank staff specifically for all the hard work in preparing the budget, going through the meetings that take months to prepare as you speak to the department heads, determine all the costs, try to project out things that are very difficult to ascertain as to what the increases will be. And quite frankly, a fine job you've done. We're very proud to have held the line many years in the town of Oyster Bay and eight years in a row after a major tax cut.

And we're very proud to have provided services that have garnered many accolades, including U.S. News and World Report, naming the Town of Oyster Bay one of the best places -- the best place to live in New York State, and among the best places to live in the country. So we're very proud and appreciative of staff from our Director of operations to our Town's Comptroller, to our legal department. The list goes on and on. We thank you very much, and we appreciate everyone's cooperation and participation.

Have a very good evening.

(Whereupon, above matter concludes.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK )
: SS.:
COUNTY OF NASSAU )

I, KAREN LORENZO, a Notary Public for and within the State of New York, do hereby certify:

That the above is a correct transcription of my stenographic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of October 2026.

Karen Lorenzo
KAREN LORENZO

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