

## From the Supervisor

### Town Budget and Fiscal Report

#### No Tax Increase

State law entrusts every Town Supervisor with the duty to prepare and propose the town budget for the coming year. It's a requirement of the job and one of the unique responsibilities of the office. On November 6, I presented to our Town Board my proposed Town Budget for 2025. It's a budget that keeps the Town tax rate flat, with no increase. The rate therefore remains, for the fourth consecutive year following the tax cut for 2022, at \$3.13 per thousand dollars of assessed value. Cumulatively since 2018, the budgets I've presented to the Town Board for approval have cut the Town tax rate by more than 9% and have held the tax rate flat since 2022.

Notwithstanding the pinch of inflation, the proposed budget for 2025 maintains all municipal services and events without cuts. It provides as well for improvements to allow us to be even more responsive to resident requests. The Town Board approved the 2025 Budget at its meeting on November 19.

Town tax remains proportionally low. The owner of a home of average value in Pittsford – \$302,100 – will pay \$946 in Town tax in 2025. Still less than a thousand dollars for the year. Town tax still represents just 8 cents (\$0.08) of every dollar you pay in property tax.

You'll find the 2025 Budget on the Town website at [www.townofpittsford.org/budgets](http://www.townofpittsford.org/budgets), together with my budget presentation. You can review a printed copy of the 2025 Town Budget at Town Hall.

#### Perfect Credit Rating

Pittsford remains one of the most fiscally healthy municipalities in America. Moody's Investors Service recently reaffirmed Pittsford's Triple-A credit rating. This is the highest rating possible; a perfect score. Pittsford is still the only town in upstate New York to have the Triple-A rating. We are the only town of our size *in the country* to have it. Higher than the credit rating of the State of New York. Higher than the credit rating of the United States of America.

Our credit rating saves money for Pittsford taxpayers. It keeps down the rate of interest we pay on Town bonds for such things as the Greenprint, the renovations to our Spiegel Community Center, the Library and our improvements to athletic fields and parks. Triple-A means getting the most favorable interest rates.

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Bill Smith  
Town Supervisor

#### Inside:

- No Tax Increase for 2025
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- Perfect Fiscal Stress Score
- Property Tax Exemptions
- Winter Parking Info

### Emergency Closings



In case of severe weather or other emergencies, you'll find information about Town facility closings and program cancellations on the Town's website [www.townofpittsford.org](http://www.townofpittsford.org), on the Town of Pittsford's Facebook page [pittsfordtown1789](https://www.facebook.com/pittsfordtown1789) and on its X (formerly Twitter) feed [@pittsfordtown](https://twitter.com/pittsfordtown). We also send emergency closure updates to local media – you can check for updates on local television and radio stations as well.



### eNews Signup

Stay up to date on Town meetings, projects, programs, services and events  
– sign up for our weekly eNews. [townofpittsford.org/enews](http://townofpittsford.org/enews)



### From the Supervisor

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### Perfect Fiscal Stress Score

The Town recently received another of its fiscal report cards. The State Comptroller annually evaluates every town in the State for fiscal stress, on a scale from 1 to 10. The greater the stress, the higher the number. It's like a golf score: the lower the number, the better you've done.

On the Comptroller's scale of 1 to 10, Pittsford's number? **Zero**. On a fiscal stress scale of 1 to 10, we're not on the scale at all. No fiscal stress whatsoever. Another perfect score.

These results are not accidental. My Town Administration's approach to budgeting and to policy is built on commitment to responsiveness to residents, to building stronger neighborhoods, to continual improvement and to services of importance to youth, seniors and all residents. In particular, we continue to carry on and build upon Pittsford's solid legacy of decades of enlightened and responsible budgetary practices that protect taxpayers. These are the successful – uniquely successful – practices and policies that sustain our fiscal health at a level to which other municipalities still aspire.

My commitment to you remains as vigorous as ever: to continue the approach to Town budgeting – and to Town policies – that wins us report cards like these.

As ever, I need to hear from you, our residents, about any problem you may be having where we can help or about your suggestions for improvements in Pittsford. I maintain an open-door policy in the office, answer my own phone unless I'm in a meeting or on another line, and have a monthly Saturday open house for residents at the Library's Fisher Meeting Room. You can reach me at **(585) 248-6220** or by email at **wsmith@townofpittsford.org**.

## Breakfasts for Pittsford Military Veterans

### Tuesday mornings at Rayson-Miller Post 899

The members of Pittsford's American Legion Rayson-Miller Post 899 invite all area military veterans to visit the Post for breakfast any Tuesday morning from 8:00am to 9:00am. Meet other vets and learn about the Post and what it does to support veterans and youth in the community. The Post is located in the lower level of Village Hall, 21 North Main Street, and is handicapped accessible. There's parking available behind the building or at the nearby bank building lot. The breakfast is **free** of charge to veterans, **no reservation required – just stop by!** Learn more about the Pittsford's Rayson-Miller American Legion Post at **www.raysonmillerpost899.org**.



**PITTSFORD AREA**  
**ALL MILITARY VETERANS**

Join Other Veterans - Any Tuesday 8-10am  
COMPLIMENTARY BREAKFAST - NO RSVP REQUIRED  
POST MEMBERSHIP NOT REQUIRED  
VETERANS - ANY AGE, ANY LENGTH OF SERVICE

Share some camaraderie with fellow veterans and learn about our activities, events and programs.



21 North Main St.  
Lower Level Village Hall  
Pittsford, NY 14534  
585-789-1038

**RAYSON-MILLER POST 899**  
**INVITES YOU**

Parking Behind Building or in lot at corner of Main St. and Monroe Ave.

## Seasonal Parking Rules in Effect Through April 1

To permit snow plowing, on-street parking on public roads, including State highways, is prohibited from November 15 through April 1. These parking rules apply **throughout the Town, outside of the Village**.

**Within the Village**, parking is prohibited on any street, including State roads, between the hours of 2:00am and 6:00am from November 1 to April 15. Violators in both jurisdictions, Town and Village, can be towed, ticketed or both.

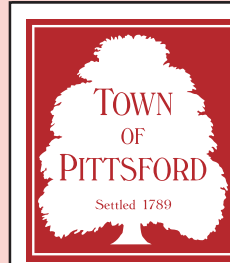
Cars parked on streets impede plowing. When the snow flies, the plows must make it through. Please help keep our streets safe and accessible this winter!



## Budget for 2025: No Tax Increase, No Cuts to Services

The Supervisor's proposed Town budget for 2025 was approved by the Town Board in November. The 2025 Town budget holds the Town tax rate flat – with no increase to the tax rate. It continues funding for all of the Town's services and events.

You'll find the 2025 Budget documents and the Supervisor's budget presentation on the Town website at [www.townofpittsford.org/budgets](http://www.townofpittsford.org/budgets). Hard copies are available for viewing at Town Hall. You can watch the Town Board's discussion of the Supervisor's proposed budget at the 11/5/24 Town Board meeting here: [www.townofpittsford.org/channel12](http://www.townofpittsford.org/channel12); select the "On Demand" link, choose "Playlists" and scroll to the Town of Pittsford Board Meetings section.



- ✓ Tax Rate Held Flat
- ✓ Maintains Full Services
- ✓ Keeps up with rising costs
- ✓ Supports Neighborhoods
- ✓ Sustainable

### 2025 Pittsford Town Budget

Bill Smith | Pittsford Town Supervisor

## Property Tax Breaks for Seniors, Veterans, Firefighters/Ambulance Workers and disabled persons with limited income

### *Tax bill reduction possible for those who qualify*

If you're age 65 or older, have a physical disability, or are a veteran, you may be entitled to a partial exemption from property taxes. See details below and please note, you must meet all requirements for the exemption you claim.

**Exemption for Seniors:** If you're **65 or older** on December 31, 2025 and your **2023 Adjusted Gross Income is less than \$58,400** you may be eligible for an exemption that could reduce future tax bills.

**Disabled with limited income exemption:** You will need your award letter from the Social Security Administration. If your **2023 Adjusted Gross Income is less than \$58,400** you may be eligible for an exemption.

*Please note you may claim one of the exemptions described above, not both.*

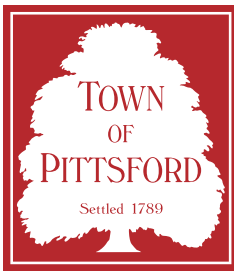
**Veteran's exemption:** You will need a copy of your DD214. If you've previously qualified for the veteran's exemption, you don't need to reapply.

**Firefighter's and Ambulance Worker's exemption:** You will need to fill out an application; find it and further details on the Town Assessor's web page. Widows and widowers of first responders are also eligible.

For the senior and disability exemptions, "income" means your adjusted gross income for federal income tax purposes **plus** your total Social Security benefits **and** any tax-exempt interest or dividends received. It does **not** include distributions from individual retirement accounts. For more information you can contact the Assessor's office.

**Filing deadline for all exemptions: March 1, 2025.** You must apply by March 1, 2025 to have the exemption applied to your taxes for the following year.

You'll find all applications for exemptions on the Town website at [www.townofpittsford.org/assessor/exemption-information](http://www.townofpittsford.org/assessor/exemption-information). If you have further questions, please contact the Town Assessor's office at **248-6230** by March 1, 2025.



11 South Main Street  
Pittsford, New York 14534  
(585) 248-6200

**Supervisor**

William A. Smith, Jr.

**Town Board**

Kim C. Taylor

*Deputy Town Supervisor*

Naveen Havannavar

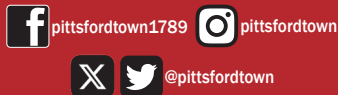
Cathleen A. Koshykar

Stephanie M. Townsend

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You can find us on:



## Pittsford Reservoir Named to Honor Mendon Ponds Park Founder

A former quarry reservoir in Pittsford adjacent to Mendon Ponds Park has been named Lake Fairchild in honor of Professor Herman LeRoy Fairchild. Founder and head of the Geology Department at the University of Rochester and a founder of the Geological Society of America, Fairchild was the first to recognize the exceptional geological characteristics of the area that now comprises Mendon Ponds Park. He petitioned the State and local governments in the 1920s to preserve the area known then as the Mendon Kames. Mendon Ponds Park, dedicated in 1928, exists today largely due to the efforts of Professor Fairchild.

Pittsford resident Jack Butler, co-author of the book *Mendon Ponds Park: Fairchild's Dream*, approached the Town about naming the reservoir for Fairchild. Supervisor Smith and the Town Board supported the effort, as did the Historic Pittsford Board and our County Legislators representing Pittsford - Howard Maffucci, Richard Milne and Michael Yudelson. The U.S. Board on Geographic Names approved the naming on October 10 of this year; supporters celebrated the new name at a ceremony on November 13.



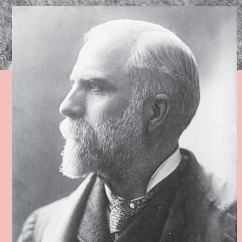
Town and County officials, Historic Pittsford Board members, and Mendon Ponds Park advocate Jack Butler celebrated the newly named Lake Fairchild and honored the impact Fairchild had on establishing Mendon Ponds Park.



Jack Butler, Mendon Ponds Park educational volunteer and tour guide and co-author of *Mendon Ponds Park: Fairchild's Dream*, advocated for naming the reservoir to honor Fairchild and discussed Fairchild's legacy at the November 13 naming ceremony.



Lake Fairchild



Renowned geologist Herman LeRoy Fairchild recognized the unique geology of what became Mendon Ponds Park and advocated for its creation.