



LINDA D. PUGLISI
TOWN SUPERVISOR

TOWN OF CORTLANDT

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TOWN BOARD

RICHARD H. BECKER
DEBRA A. COSTELLO
FRANCIS X. FARRELL
SETH M. FREACH

“26”

TOWN OF CORTLANDT

SUPERVISOR LINDA D. PUGLISI'S

PROPOSED 2017 ANNUAL BUDGET

TWENTY SIX YEARS OF ONLY 1 PERCENT

TOWN TAX INCREASES

(1992-2017)

**TO BENEFIT OUR TAXPAYERS
AND THEIR FAMILIES!**

**Lowest tax percent record in Cortlandt's
history, the region and perhaps in the State**



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Twenty-Six Years of Tax Control and Tax Caps

From the beginning of my administration that began twenty-six years ago I pledged to our taxpayers that I would make it my priority to deliver town tax controls, tax relief and very low town tax increases every year.

I am proud to announce that for 26 years our total town tax increase has been only 1%. Ten years were zero (0%) increases, one year was a -4% reduction and we **never** went over a 2.8% increase for two decades and six years. Therefore, we have met the recent New York State mandate to cap the tax levy of .68%, while staying 29% under the tax levy limit.

Over the years, we have had a voluntary and **real tax cap** in the Town of Cortlandt that has benefited all of our property owners both residential and business owners. At the same time we have tripled our town savings (fund balance) and every year produced a surplus.

We have **never** had one year of a deficit and we've always had a balanced budget. Once again each year we generated a surplus, which was used for tax control and relief, and maintained our savings account. These monies were also utilized for capital projects from town hall renovations, new recreational areas, road improvements, water projects and for acquisition of land for open space purposes. Cortlandt has completed over 140 million dollars of projects and did not impact our taxpayers with tax increases, during these 26 years.

Also, Moody's had upgraded Cortlandt to an Aa2 (double A) bond rating and kept us there based on our excellent financial practices and achievements. Even during the recent recession we kept this excellent bond rating status.

Our local economy is doing well. New businesses have come to Cortlandt throughout these twenty-six years and thousands of new jobs have been created from this economic growth. This is a remarkable statistic considering what has occurred in our Country during the recession that began in 2008.

To achieve this record we began early on to share services and consolidate in order to have a more efficient government. This was accomplished way before the recent state tax cap became mandatory and a New York State law.

Cortlandt is a large Town with 40 square miles and 42,000 people. It is a wonderful community in a lovely setting adjacent to the Hudson River. We have excellent schools, a state of the art recently expanded hospital center, dedicated emergency service providers, a Cortlandt train station and a Veterans medical facility that has served our Veterans for 60 years. One third of our land is parkland and open space and we have excellent recreation programs for every age group. We have also recently completed a new Master Plan to guide us for the next several years. In summary, Cortlandt is a wonderful and affordable community to reside and to raise our children.

“I am very proud to have served as Town Supervisor in Cortlandt for twenty-five years. I have worked very hard along with our entire team in our government (town board members, department heads and all of our 180 employees) to deliver and maintain a very close to zero percent town tax increase for our taxpayers while at the same time always seeking new ways to improve our services and community.”

Linda D. Puglisi, Supervisor Town of Cortlandt
October 2016

**TOWN OF CORTLANDT
RECEIVER OF TAXES
2016 TAX WARRANTS: TOWN, COUNTY, & SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

**SPECIAL DISTRICTS
\$8,126,680 , 5%**

**TOWN OF CORTLANDT
\$18,567,779 , 12%**

**WESTCHESTER COUNTY
\$22,875,680 , 14%**

**SCHOOL DISTRICTS
\$110,055,067 , 69%**

