

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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HAGUE, N.Y.

TOWN BOARD UNVEILS 1973 BUDGET

At its meeting on October 10th the town Board considered and approved a tentative budget for 1973. The budget will now be presented at a public meeting to be held on November 8th at 7:30 P.M. at which time the Board will consider possible changes in the tentative budget and will then adopt the actual budget for 1973.

The tentative budget calls for expenditures of \$159,550, which is about 15% over this year's expenditures. The amount to be raised by taxes is \$118,550, about 15% over the \$103,513. raised by taxes this year.

Principal increases in the budget are in the salaries to be paid to the town officials. Actual salaries paid in 1972 and salaries proposed for 1973 are as follows:

	1972	1973	Increase
Supervisor	\$3500.	\$4200.	20%
Councilmen (2)	2400.	2500.	17%
Clerk	2400.	2800.	17%
Tax Collector	700.	900.	28%
Justices (2)	3500.	4300.	23%
Supt. Highways	6500.	8000.	23%
Assessors (3)	4100.	5100.	24%
	\$23100.	\$28100.	22%

Wages paid highway workers will be increased from \$2.70 to \$2.80 an hour, an increase of about 3 1/2%.

A sum of \$4000. has been added to the cost of town police protection. This is intended to give the town an opportunity to experiment with a year-round policeman.

With the increases in salaries, social security and employee benefit expenditures will, of course, also go up.

Plans have been made to place the sanitary landfill operations under the supervision of the highway department. This will make it possible to cut salary allocat-

tion to the landfill in half, from \$6000. the present salary, to \$3000.

The budget provides for an amount of \$5000. to be paid to the Fire Department for fire protection and \$1000. for ambulance service.

As in previous budgets, there is an amount of \$1500. for publicity. This item is paid to the Hague Chamber of Commerce to be used by it to advertise the Town of Hague.

A copy of the budget is available for public inspection at the town hall and at the office of the Town Clerk.

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THE BUDGET - ONE MAN'S OPINION

1. Town officials are elected to particular offices for specific terms at stated salaries. Present salaries are at the level of or above the salaries paid in other towns in the county. Some of our present officials have served less than a year. Unless a specific showing of circumstances different from those which existed at the time the present officials were elected, increases of the size proposed are wholly unwarranted.

2. Members of the School Board, members of the Fire Department, and many other residents perform substantial services for the town and the community without compensation. While we would not expect that town officials would perform their duties without compensation, we would have expected that they would be satisfied with present salaries.

3. All of the elected officials hold positions in private industry or with some other branch of government and are not dependent on their official salaries for a livelihood. The highway workers who for the most part depend entirely on their town employment for their livelihood, are slated to get a paltry 3 1/2% increase. A 20% increase

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(continued from Page 1)

to the highway workers and an increase of 3 1/2% to the elected officials would seem to be more equitable.

4. We can find no fault with the item of \$1500. for publicity but we question the wisdom of turning this function and this money over to the Chamber of Commerce. If the Chamber wants to advertise the Town of Hague so as to bring more business to its members, that's fine - but the Chamber should spend its own money for this purpose - not the general taxpayer's money.

5. Before the Board establishes a year-round policeman's position, it should solicit the opinions of the residents. There are probably some who feel that the town might even dispense with the summer police men.

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REMEMBER! The public hearing on the budget will be on November 8th at 7:30 P.M. If you have any suggestions, questions or comments, you will be given an opportunity to be heard. If you can't be there, make your feelings known by letter. Write to Thomas F. Smith, Town Supervisor, Hague, New York 12836.

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BOARD CREATES A PLANNING COMMITTEE

At its October meeting, the Town Board created a Town Planning Committee. The following were appointed to membership on the committee: Edward Crabb, Ralph McKee, Robert Hoyt, Emil Seerup, and Joseph Streeter. Mr. Crabb will be the Board's representative on the committee.

The Board plans to invite Mr. Charles F. Riskert, Planning Administrator of the Warren County Planning Board to the December Board meeting to explain how a planning board function and operation.

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ASSISTANT ELECTION INSPECTOR APPOINTED

Mrs. Robert Danno (Democrat) and Mrs. Clifford Decker (Republican) were appointed by the Board to be assistant election inspectors. They will act in the event the regular inspectors are incapacitated or unavailable.

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NORMAN ELETHORPE

Norman Elethorpe who lived most of his 69 years in Hague, died on Sunday October 1 at his home on Rising Hill Road.

He is survived by his wife Harriet; a son, Norman Jr. of Asusa, California; three step-sons, Francis and Henry Trayah of Burlington, Vt. and Raymond Wood of Winoski, Vt.; his step-mother, Mrs. Etta Elethorpe of Hague; a sister, Mrs. Lida Hall of Lewis; five grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held on October 4 with the Rev. Bernard Fortune conducting. Burial was in the May Memorial Cemetery in Hague.

Mr. Elethorpe was an employee of Gorran Bros. of Troy in the business of road resurfacing. Most of his work during the last few years was in Vermont. He was also a long time member of the Hague Fish and Game Club.

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SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Monday October 9th with all members present.

The transportation contract under which Hague transports Ticonderoga and Crown Point students to the BOCES Area Educational Center in Port Henry, was extended for another year.

Hague continues to bus two students to St. Mary's at Ticonderoga. An effort to work out a co-operative arrangement with Ticonderoga for this transportation has failed.

Hague school bus drivers will attend a course for bus drivers at the BOCES Area Center. The course will extend over a ten-

week period, - hours per week.

The junior varsity will have uniforms. The school will purchase the materials and Mrs. Florence Smith has agreed to make them.

The Board is considering the purchase of a new scoreboard for the gymnasium. Anticipated cost will be about \$750.

The rug in the large open classroom will not be replaced as earlier reported. The contractor has agreed to power-stretch it and this is expected to remedy the difficulty.

The next meeting of the Board will be on Monday, November 13th.

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MRS. RUTH HARRISON

Mrs. Ruth Harrison died on Saturday October 7th at the Harrison home on Sabbath Day Point.

She is survived by her husband, George Harrison; a daughter, Mrs. Bruce Rex of Chatham, N.C.; a son, John B. Harrison of Mt. Tabor, N.C.; a brother, Albert Bostle of Bethesda, Md. and six grandchildren.

Funeral services were held in St. Theresa's Church, Summit, N.J. Burial was in St. Theresa's Cemetery, also in Summit.

The Harrisons were long time summer residents in the Silver Bay Area and for the last 7-8 years have been living here year-round on Sabbath Day Point. Mrs. Harrison was a well-known artist of considerable ability. Many of her paintings have been exhibited at the Silver Bay Post Office and elsewhere.

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SPECIAL ATTORNEY BOY SCOUT CONVENTION

Louis Spelman, Sr. was one of six delegates representing the Hoboken Council, Boy Scouts of America at the Region 2 Convention at San Juan, Puerto Rico, October 4-6. About 1200 delegates attended the meeting. Mr. Spelman was primarily interested in the sessions on cub scouting which he found enlightening.

rented a car and toured the island stopping for lunch at the Puerto Rico Boy Scout Camp on Lake Guaguacata. They also took a dip at night on a bay of phosphorescent water. There are only a few of these places in the world.

The only thing to mar the trip was that the airline lost the group's baggage on the way to Puerto Rico and now, three weeks later - none of it has been found.

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MRS. CHARLES C. PARLIN

Mrs. Marian B. Parlin, a long-time summer resident of Silver Bay, died on October 6th at her home in Englewood, N.J. after a long illness. She leaves her husband, Charles C. Parlin, two sons, Charles Jr. and Blackwood, a daughter, Mrs. Candilla P. Smith, and ten grandchildren.

Mrs. Parlin graduated from Wellesley College and did chemistry research at the University of Pennsylvania. Later she went to China as a missionary teaching chemistry and English. In her younger years she tried her hand at mountain climbing, challenging peaks in Europe, Korea and China.

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HOPEL OF STREAM BEING DREDGED

Most of us have seen the fish weir or fish ladder which was constructed several years ago in Hagen Brook along Route 8, about five hundred feet below the falls. Here water coming down the stream is held back and kept flowing as slowly as possible to give the fish a chance to reach their spawning ground upstream between the dam and the falls.

But few fish have found their way up the stream and the Department of Environmental Conservation concluded that the water at the mouth of the stream was not deep enough to attract the fish. It seems that the sand from the roads and the stream bed is being carried down by the current and is deposited in the lake, thus creating an artificial barrier.

For the past ten days dredging operations have been undertaken out in the lake with many truckloads of sand and silt being

dredged from the bottom. When the work is completed, the improvised roadway will also be hauled away.

Hopefully, this will solve the problem and in a couple years we should have more and bigger fish in the lake.

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ELECTION DAY - NOVEMBER 7TH

The only local office to be filled on Election Day is that of Assessor to fill the vacancy resulting from the resignation of Clinton Frasier last March. The only candidate whose name will appear on the ballot is Jack Bolton who is running under the Republican banner.

In addition to state and national offices up for election, voters will have a chance to vote for or against Proposition No. 1, the Environmental Quality Bond Issue. If approved by a majority of the voters, the state would be authorized to create a state debt in the amount of one and one-half billion dollars to provide moneys for the preservation, enhancement, restoration and improvement of the quality of the state's environment.

Briefly, the money would be used for:

- \$650 million for municipal waste treatment plants.
- \$150 million for air pollution projects.
- \$175 million for solid waste recovery and disposal projects.
- \$175 million for purchase of forest pre-

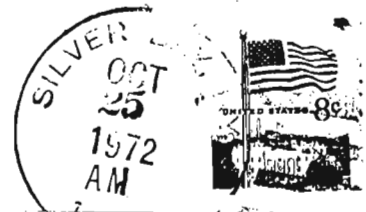
serve lands, state park and recreation development and wetlands preservation and restoration.

To the amounts provided by the state would be added matching federal funds and some contributions would be expected from the local communities benefitting from particular projects. It is expected that in this way funds totalling four and one-half billion dollars will be made available for these projects.

Many conservation groups, including the Lake George Association, favor the approval of the bond issue. But there are those who are opposed. Assemblyman Ryan, for example, points out that \$44 million will be allocated to the purchase of private lands in the Adirondack and Catskill Parks. This will be matched by federal funds thereby making \$88 million available for this purpose. The problem here, according to Ryan, is that when these lands become state lands they go off the regular tax rolls and will have the effect of increasing the tax burden on Adirondack Park residents. The Schroon Lake Tax Payers Association has taken a similar position. In its resolution opposing the bond issue, it states that the loss of taxes to Adirondack towns and school districts will be between \$180,000 and \$800,000.

This is one of those unfortunate all or nothing propositions. You vote either for or against the entire package. As one commentator put it - "The fact that the legislature has chosen to mix vinegar with honey makes the entire concoction unpalatable."

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11-72