

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

VOL. I - NO. 12 DECEMBER 1972 HAGUE, N.Y.

TOUR BOARD APPROVES BUDGET

Notwithstanding protests to some of the increases in salaries and other items, the tentative budget was approved unanimously by the Tour Board at the public meeting on November 8th. About twenty persons were present. After everyone had had his say for or con, and the Board had retired for a short executive session, the vote was taken with all members voting in the affirmative.

Summary sheets passed out at the meeting compare the 1973 budget with the budgets of 1971 and 1972, as follows:

	1971	1972	1973
General fund	\$75053.	\$75415.	\$89111.
Highway	61500.	56339.	61150.
	\$118553.	\$126994.	\$150264.

To these totals should be added amounts paid to the Fire Department for fire protection and ambulance services. In 1973 these will total \$6000, bringing the 1973 expenditures for which appropriations have been made to \$156,264.

Revenue is estimated at \$26,000, and it is anticipated that there will be a balance of \$15,000, carried over from 1972. Thus, the amount to be raised by taxes will be \$115,264. (These figures do not take into consideration cost of street lighting which is estimated to be \$2400. This expense is paid for by special levy on those properties included within the street lighting district).

The 1972 tax base (assessed valuation) is \$8,675,343. A rate of \$13.29 per \$1000 of assessed valuation is necessary to provide the revenue needed to meet the budget.

This year the rate was \$11.80. It would appear, therefore, that the increases provided for in the 1973 budget will cost taxpayers about \$1.49 per \$1000. of assessed valuation.

The county tax rate in 1972 was \$2.82 per \$1000. of assessed valuation. The county budget officer has announced that the county budget will be almost \$100,000. less than the current year's budget. The decreases are due, he said, "to efficiency and consolidation in county departments and committees". He also noted that the sales tax, revenue sharing and surplus county funds from 1972 contributed to the decrease. A reduction of \$.49 per \$1000. of assessed valuation in the county tax paid by Hague residents is anticipated. This will reduce the county tax rate to \$2.33 and bring the total tax rate to \$15.62, a net increase of \$1.00.

While approval of the budget by the Tour Board closes the matter for this year, a number of things brought out at the hearing should be reported. Highway workers who will be getting an increase of 10¢ an hour, will also receive fringe benefits, as follows:

Annual Cash Value

3 days sick leave	\$67.20
2 days personal leave	44.80
1 additional day vacation	22.40
Health Insurance	227.56

\$362.00

With the 10¢ hourly increase in wages, each man will receive the equivalent of an additional \$620.36 annually. This works out to an over-all increase of 15%.

The budget provides for a new position to be known as Director of Finance. A

The SERRUPS wish to take this opportunity to wish all CHRONICLE readers a

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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salary of \$500, and expenses of \$300, have been appropriated. The supervisor stated that he would fill the position. Thus he will be receiving as Supervisor and Director of Finance salaries which total \$4700 as against the \$3500 paid him in 1972.

Mr. Seearup reported at the meeting that he had inquired of the clerks of six towns in Warren County concerning salary increases provided for in their 1973 budgets and that he had received replies from four of them - Bolton, Hericon, Chester and Lake Luzerne. The reports established the following:

INCREASES

Superintendent of Hwy. Supt. Clerk

Town	Supervisor	Director	Supt. Clerk	School Clerk
Bolton	None	None	5%	None
Chester	None	None	7%	None
Hericon	14%	17%	14%	12%
Lake Luzerne	None	14%	8%	7%

He also reported that at County Headquarters he established that there would be no increase in 1973 in the salaries paid members of the Board of Supervisors.

The supervisor advised that Mr. Charles F. Reikert, Planning Administrator of the Warren County Planning Board would be invited to the December meeting of the Board to meet with and discuss local town planning with members of the recently created Hague Planning Committee. The meeting will be held on December 12. There will also be a meeting of the Board on December 26 to wind up 1972 financial matters.

The supervisor produced a map of the town a copy of which he said would be made available to any who request it. He asked that the Board approve. When it was discovered that one of the roads was improperly described, the map was withdrawn and the matter was tabled until corrections could be made.

The Supt. of Highways stated that there was a movement under way for the county to...

This would pose a problem unless of course the county provided the town with sufficient revenue to maintain the roads. There is some likelihood that the county will furnish equipment and materials to re-surface the town garage area next year.

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WALTER WATTS

Walter Watts passed away on November 9th at Mary Fletcher Hospital, Burlington, after an illness of several months.

Mr. Watts who was 47 years of age was born in Silver Bay and lived there his entire life. He attended Hague Central School. He was a veteran of World War II and participated in the Battle of the Bulge in the European Theater. For many years he was associated with his brother Henry Watts, the well-known land surveyor.

Mr. Watts is survived by his wife, Alice Watts; a daughter, Marie, who is a student at Hague Central School; a son, John who lives in Ticonderoga; his mother, Mrs. Ethel Watts of West Mount Infirmary, Glens Falls; three sisters, Dorothy Goodfellow of Pittsburgh, Pa., Ruth Aurbach, of Albany and Ethel Anirus, postmaster at Silver Bay; and his brother Henry Watts of Silver Bay.

Funeral services were conducted on November 11th at the Conway Funeral Home in Ticonderoga with burial at Bay Methodist Cemetery in Hague.

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SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The regular meeting of the Hague Board of Education was held on November 13 with all members of the Board present.

The Board had advertised for bids on a hot water tank and a 1958 school bus which it wanted to sell. Only one bid was received on the tank and this was sold for \$2.50. The bus brought in three bids and was sold to Curtis Jordan, the high bidder, for \$500.

A basketball team has been organized under the leadership of Dan Belden. It is made up of town residents and will be playing games against teams which are being organized in some of the other towns in the Adirondack area. Permission to use the gym...

been requested and the request was favorably acted upon.

A motion to replace the present lighting system in the gym with mercury vapor lights at a cost of \$68. per unit was adopted. There are nine lights to be replaced.

The independent audit report for the period ending June 30, 1972 was presented and approved.

There was an open house and book-fair at the school on Thursday evening, November 16.

The next meeting of the Board will be held on December 11.

SNOWMOBILES MUST CUT NOISE

State officials have declared 49 snowmobile manufacturers ineligible to sell the 1973 machines in the state until the noise level of their 1973 models have been approved. Thirty manufacturers have met the standards.

Under a state law which went into effect on September 1, snowmobiles manufactured after June 1, 1972 can produce no more than 82 decibels of sound while running at full throttle. All 1973 machines that do not meet this standard will not be registered by the Division of Marine and Recreational Vehicles.

FISH KILL BLAMED ON STORM

Research at Raquette Lake, deep in the heart of the Adirondacks, suggest that June's tropical storm, Agnes, may have deposited contaminants in the lake causing a substantial fish kill. It appears that the storm picked up atmospheric pollutants from heavily populated and industrial areas along its course and then deposited them in a number of sparsely settled areas such as Raquette Lake.

HAGUE TURNS OUT BIG VOTE

Approximately 80% of the registered

voters in Hague turned out for the November 7th national and state election. There were 58 absentee ballots including seven military. As usual the Republicans won with large majorities. The vote for the major candidates was as follows:

PRESIDENT - Nixon 325; McGovern 96.
CONGRESSMAN - KING 319; 1177 81.
STATE SENATE - Stafford 313; Suppased.
State Assembly - Ryan 280; Garrow 113.

The only local office to be filled was that of assessor. Jack Bolton, the only candidate, received 325 votes.

MISS OPAL RAY

Miss Opal Ray, a resident of Silver Bay since the 1930's, passed away on November 20 after a long illness. Funeral services were conducted at the Hague Baptist Church on November 22. Burial followed at Valley View Cemetery.

Miss Ray was the daughter of Rev. George Washington Ray who was associated for many years with the Bible Seminary which occupied a number of buildings along Route 93 just south of where the Silver Bay Post Office is now located. When the seminary closed its doors about 40 years ago, the Rev. Ray purchased one of the houses and Opal and her sister Eva lived there until Eva's death about four years ago. Since leaving Silver Bay, Miss Ray resided in White River Junction, Vermont.

FIREMEN HONOR CHIEF HOYT

On October 16, the Hague Volunteer Fire Department honored Robert Hoyt at a testimonial dinner at the Hague fire-house. Mr. Hoyt, who became chief when the department was founded in October, 1947, was being honored for his 25 years of continuous service as chief. Five other members of the department were presented with 25-year service pins - Henry Leach, Alton Rising, Richard Bolton, and Clifford Decker. The fifth was W. Keith Delam who was unable to attend.

The chiefs and officers of fire companies throughout Warren County and their

... were present. A number of state fire officials also attended. The Hoyts were presented with a portable bar by the visiting officials.

The Hague firemen presented their chief with a yellow Naugatherm Fire Fighter's coat and Mrs. Hoyt with a creamer and sugar bowl appropriately inscribed. Sixty-two guests attended the gala affair.

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HAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETS

The Hague Historical Society had its regular monthly meeting on November 15 at the Hague Baptist Church Annex. Mrs. Harry White and Miss Lona Bertlett who had arranged for the program, presented Mrs. June Lape of the Fort Ticanderoga Association who gave an interesting talk on the history of Fort Ticanderoga. Her talk was illustrated by many photographs, some from as early as the 1870's, which had been reproduced on slides.

Construction of the fort was commenced in 1755 by the French. Two years later, even before it had been completed, the British with 15,000 men under General Abercrombie, made five frontal assaults but could not drive the French out. Several years later, however, under General Amherst, the British again stormed the Fort and this time they were successful. Ethan Allen, who led the famous Green Mountain Boys, captured the fort from the British in the early stages of the Revolutionary War. Although it did not play a part in that war, its cannons and ammunition were removed and brought to Boston and used by General Washington in the defense of that city.

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The fort and its grounds which consists of about 1000 acres was deeded to Union and Columbia Colleges by the U.S. Government and in 1820 Mr. William Ferris Pell became its owner. Three generations later Mr. Stephen Pell set about to restore the Fort which had been in ruins for over a hundred years. In 1930 he deeded the property to the Fort Ticanderoga Association which owns and operates it today. Approximately 250,000 people visit the Fort each summer.

After Mrs. Lape's presentation, delicious refreshments were served by the Messrs. Clifford Decker, Clifton West and David Crabbe. The next meeting of the Historical Society will be held on December 6th with Mrs. Andrus in charge of the program.

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MRS. VALEDA FRASIER

Mrs. Valada Frasier of West Hague Road died suddenly at her home on November 21. Funeral services were held at the Brant Lake Episcopal Church, on November 25 with burial at the Brant Lake Cemetery.

Mrs. Frasier was born in Brant Lake and attended the Brant Lake School. Later she moved to Hague where she continued to reside until her death. Her husband, who passed away in 1954, was the local post commissioner.

Mrs. Frasier is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Florence Lambert of Hague and a son, Gerald Frasier of Brandon, Vermont. She also leaves three granddaughters and two grandsons.

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