

January 2026

PULTENEY FREE LIBRARY

Understanding Your Public Library's 2026 Budget Vote

Budget Narrative

The Fred & Harriet Taylor Memorial Library of Hammondspport and the Pulteney Free Library are working together to establish a single library funding referendum through a public vote based on Hammondspport Central School District boundaries. This approach would not only strengthen library funding, but also eliminate the double library tax currently paid by about 25% of Pulteney residents—a situation created when the Prattsburg Library moved to school district funding in 2017.



When the new library opened in 2019, taxes were not increased. Since then, only modest increases have been requested to support daily operations. Now, the Board is planning for long-term sustainability and hopes to bring to life several ideas shared by community members before the library was built. Those priorities are reflected in the proposed 2027 budget.

The budget supports expanding our collection with more requested authors and series, offering additional programs with instructors and performers, and increasing open hours. To do this, we plan to add staff and increase staff hours.

This funding would also allow us to begin planning improvements to the library basement, including an exterior entrance and a dedicated space for Storycraft programs. As the building continues to age, it will also help us keep up with essential maintenance and repairs.

The Pulteney community built an incredible library, and we are excited to keep growing with you. Thank you for your continued support!



The Library provides:

- Books, DVDs, magazines
- Digital books and audio
- Scanning, copying, & fax
- 24/7 Wi-Fi
- Six-day Summer Adventure Program with educational speakers, crafts & activities for school age children including kayaking.



- PurpleAir monitor to track air quality in Pulteney and weather station with links on our website
- STEM and STEAM programming for all ages
- Makerspace with 3D printer, ScanNCut machine & button maker
- Craft cart and STEAM cart
- Twice monthly book discussion group

- Prattsburgh Food Pantry collection site
- Empire Pass
- Take home craft kits
- Blood pressure monitoring kits
- Early Literacy Story Hours
- Winter and Summer Reading Programs for children & adults
- Artist workshops
- A multi-purpose room available for community use
- Polling site for Pulteney
- Programming for all ages
- Classes in collaboration with local agencies: CPR, Narcan training, nutrition
- One-on-one computer tutoring



- Kits for adults and children, iPads, Nooks, digital camera, personal scanner, digital recorder
- Fishing poles and tackle boxes, pickle ball set, and basketballs
- Publishes the Grapevine community newsletter, mailed to Pulteney residents
- A Library newsletter mailed three times a year to patrons



Over 8,000
library visits
last year!



24/7 Wi-Fi
availability!



Over
15,000 items
to choose
from!



Pre-K Field Trip



Easter Egg Hunt



Family Fun Night



Needle Felting Workshop



Domino Fun

2027 Proposed Budget:

Revenue	
Local taxpayer public funds	\$298,000
Interest income	\$900
Total	\$298,900

Expenses	
Personnel	\$115,100
Inventory	\$30,128
Programming	\$18,400
Operations & Facilities	\$134,347
Administrative & Other	\$925
Total	\$298,000

STRONG LIBRARIES BUILD STRONG COMMUNITIES

	Proposed Library Levy	*Proposed Annual Library Tax Bill for a Home Assessed at \$100,000	Library Tax Bill Increase for Town of Pulteney Residents	Increase per week for Town of Pulteney Residents
Pulteney Free Library	\$298,000.00	\$55.87	\$42.72	\$0.82

**Proposed Annual Library Tax Bill would support Taylor Memorial Library and Pulteney Free Library.*

Your investment is equal to the value of:



3 Books

OR



2 E-Books and
3 Audiobooks

OR



6 Programs
Attended

Area Libraries with Similar School District Levies	2025/2026 Tax Rates	Tax Bill for a Home Assessed at \$100,000
Wellsville	1.091	\$109.10
Alfred-Almond	0.8466	\$84.66
Dansville	0.7575	\$75.75
Friendship	0.7144	\$71.44
Hornell	0.6923	\$69.23
Wayland-Cohocton	0.646	\$64.60
Whitesville	0.5817	\$58.17
Hammondsport-Pulteney (Proposed Library Rate)	0.5587	\$55.87
Bath	0.5523	\$55.23
Cuba-Rushford	0.5231	\$52.31
Odessa-Montour	0.4944	\$49.44