Special Board Meeting
of the Town Board of the Town of Cuba
Held at the Cuba Town Hall, 15 Water Street, Cuba, NY 14727

Present:

Supervisor:	Lee James
Council Persons:	Jonathan Enzinna, Melodie Farwell, David Decker
Also Present:	Allesia Heslin, Town Clerk, Dustin Burch, Chief of Police, Dylan Burch, Sergeant
Absent:	Aaron Appleby, Ambulance Administrator, Chad Smith, Highway Superintendent, Bill Beck, Council Person

James called the meeting to order at 5:39pm.

James explained that the purpose of the meeting was to review and go over the budget for 2027.

The board would need to eliminate $112,000 from the budget to stay under the tax cap.

Discussion started about the difference between full-time and part-time competitive status for police officers.

Discussion continued on different aspects of the police department and how to adjust the budget accordingly. The department will have the highest calls to service this year to date.

The budget is currently at 6% increase on levy and that is with a lot of fund balance usage.

The town received its fiscal stress score and the town received a score of 15.8 and had "No Designation" for 2025.

The board continued to review everything. Farwell asked Justin from Baldwin how other communities are handling this, are they just going over the tax cap? Justin said yes there are maybe four that are staying under but are ones that have consistently gone up every year so they aren't behind. Cuba is starting out with a bit of fund balance usage from the year before so we start out behind. Farwell asked if we go to the 6% what would the change in the tax bill be? For example, on a house that is valued at $100,000 the bill would go from $9.44 to $5.64 per thousand but you have to take into account what your assessment did through the lawsuit. Most of the difference will be absorbed by people at the lake and people with a lot of acreage. The board went through some examples and ran numbers.

The board continued going through the lines. The board is concerned about rising utility and fuel costs.

Farwell proposed if they are going over to go over by 8%, reduce what we can, and take out of the fund balance. Discussion continued. James said to run with that and they will get the lake district and assessor numbers to Baldwin.

With the revaluation the town will go from $9.44 per thousand to $5.77 at 8% over tax cap.

With no further business to discuss, Enzinna motioned to adjourn, seconded by Farwell. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allesia A. Heslin, Town Clerk

DRAFT