



**Brian U. Stratton**  
Mayor

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## **SCHENECTADY BUDGET PASSES WITH TAX CUT**

### ***Mayor Stratton's 2007 Spending Plan Approved by City Council***

**SCHENECTADY --** Members of the Schenectady City Council today adopted a \$68.7 million spending plan for 2007 that includes a 1 percent tax cut for property owners in the City of Schenectady. The budget approved by a 6-0 vote of the Council (with one member absent) was virtually identical to the one Mayor Brian U. Stratton presented to the Council on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

Council members added just \$40,000 in additional spending, including \$25,000 for sharing the cost of a combined city and county historian with Schenectady County, and \$15,000 for the purchase of an all terrain vehicle (ATV) to be used by the Schenectady Police Department for patrolling the city's Woodlawn Preserve.

Mayor Brian U. Stratton praised the Council's action at its morning meeting, and said the new budget will help Schenectady continue its financial resurgence.

"The budget adopted by the City Council is – for all practical purposes – the same one I presented in September. It is a responsible spending plan, that not only provides increased services for public safety and quality of life in our neighborhoods, but delivers a much-needed property tax cut," Mayor Stratton said.

"The City Council made minor, but realistic changes, showing again how this administration continues to work closely with our legislative branch to make real progress and real change for the City of Schenectady," the Mayor added.

Although the \$68,733,250 budget will increase spending by more than \$4 million next year, property owners in Schenectady will see a tax cut of just over one percent. Under the new budget, property owners will pay \$21.10 per thousand dollars of assessed value, a 1.1 percent reduction over the 2006 property tax rate.

Mayor Stratton attributed the city's ability to increase services and deliver a tax cut at the same time to his administration's work with the City Council to increase recurring, non-tax revenues by \$11 million over the past three years.

