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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 23, 2026

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Town Budget Workshop August 26, 6 to 8 p.m., Town of Lee

WATERTOWN, NEW YORK – The Tug Hill Commission is sponsoring a town budget workshop on Wednesday, August 26 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Lee Town Hall, 5808 Stokes Lee Center Road, Lee Center, 13363. This free training opportunity is designed to assist town officials in preparing their annual budgets. The evening's presenter will be Laird Petrie, technical assistance provider with the Tug Hill Commission for the last five years. Laird worked as a municipal auditor for the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) in Syracuse for 27 years, where he conducted and supervised audits of local governments and school districts in an eight-county region of Central NY. Laird served as the technical assistance coordinator and conducted numerous training sessions for both OSC staff and local officials. Before joining OSC, Laird worked as a Tug Hill Commission circuit rider in the 1990's for a 14-town council of governments and attended town board meetings and provided training and technical assistance when requested.

Topics to be covered include an overview of the budgetary responsibilities of local officials, development of a structurally balanced budget, key elements of the annual budget, tools available for assisting town officials in the budget process and monitoring and amending the annual budget. Please bring questions for Laird to address during the question and answer period! Register for this free workshop by Monday, August 24 at tinyurl.com/2026BudgetWorkshop. Please call the call the Tug Hill Commission at (315) 785-2380 or email tughill@tughill.org with any questions.

The New York State Tug Hill Commission is a non-regulatory state agency charged with helping local governments, organizations, and citizens shape the future of the region, especially its environment and economy. The commission uses a grassroots approach to build local capacity and provide technical assistance in land use planning, community development, and natural resource management.

Helping local governments and citizens shape the future of the Tug Hill region.