

February 24, 2012

Honorable Senator Greg Ball
1441 Route 22, Suite 205
Brewster, NY 10509

Dear Senator Ball,

Last year the Town of Milan purchased a four-wheel drive heavy duty class truck under state contract for \$195,000. At our regular town board meeting this month, we discussed purchasing a two-wheel heavy duty class truck to replace a 23 year old truck. We were informed by our highway superintendent that because there is no longer a state contract for these trucks, we will have to pay \$225,000 for a truck similar to the one we paid \$195,000 for last year. This will cost our taxpayers an additional \$25,000 for no good reason. The highway superintendent informed us that the reason there was no state contract for heavy duty class trucks had to do with a dispute between the Comptroller and the Office of General Services (OGS). This dispute, which involves auditing issues, has prevented the OGS from contracting for heavy duty trucks. This unnecessary increase in cost represents a two percent increase in taxes. In addition, the stalemate affects other supplies and equipment purchases and appears to be a growing problem.

We urgently request that you look into this waste of taxpayers' funds. In order to have a truck available for snow removal next December, we need to take action soon. This issue affects not just the Town of Milan; it affects every municipality in your senatorial district; in fact, in the state.

Very truly yours,

William Gallagher
Milan Town Supervisor