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## Poughkeepsie tightens fiscal belt as city plans for 2010 budget

POUGHKEEPSIE – Officials in Poughkeepsie have about seven weeks before the city' preliminary 2010 budget must be submitted.

Mayor John Tkazyik said city administration is working to present a conservative spending package that is fiscally responsible to the taxpayers while maintaining the level of city services and quality of life.

“We are reprioritizing different departments to see how we can do more with less, but by still providing the same quality of life and services that our residents and businesses deserve,” he said.

The mayor said the city has already imposed a hiring freeze and is seeking to reduce the workforce whenever possible through attrition. It has also brought more work in house and cut outside contractors.

City Hall is working to avoid layoffs in the 2010 spending plan, said Tkazyik.

As for a possible early retirement program for city workers like the City of Kingston is considering, Tkazyik said that is under review.

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