

Case Study – Town of Woodbury

“The folks at CCA were very professional, and kept us informed every step of the way. Their work made an impact on our bottom line.”
John Burke, Town Supervisor



Background

Once home to flour mills, tanneries, fly rod manufacturing and farming, today's Woodbury serves as a bedroom community to New York City, located 45 miles south. With the Schunnemunk Mountains serving as a postcard backdrop, this picturesque Town of 10,000 residents offers the amenities of country living, with convenient access to the New York State Thruway, Route 17, and bus/rail transportation into New York City.

Challenges

The Town Board was interested in exploring cost saving strategies for their rising energy and telephone expenses, and Cost Control Associates (CCA) offered the perfect solution with its Cost Recovery and Reduction Program. This contingency fee based program had been utilized by hundreds of municipalities and is offered at no risk. There were no upfront costs to initiate the review, and no cost to the Town if the program was unsuccessful.

The Town provided CCA with copies of all utility and telecommunication bills, and the bills were carefully scrutinized by a team of CCA analysts. The dual purpose of the review was to recover refunds due to vendor billing errors and to identify potential cost savings.

Results of Electric and Telecom Bill Review

The analysis of the electric bills revealed rate plan changes on six separate accounts that resulted in annual savings of \$10,000. Annual telecom savings of \$9,000 were also identified from the review of all local, long distance and cellular bills, resulting in combined annual savings of over \$19,000. None of the energy cost savings involved a vendor change, as they

were the result of alternate rate plans available from the existing vendors, or elimination of unused services. CCA took full responsibility of implementing all cost savings that were approved by the Town.

Bonus Refund on Streetlighting Bills

As a separate project, CCA had been working with the utility provider to reconcile the monthly streetlighting bill on behalf of the Town of Woodbury. Through dogged perseverance of multiple refund claims including filing of requests with the New York State Public Service Commission, CCA ultimately prevailed in securing a refund of \$13,500 for the Town, which included retroactive interest of \$5,300.

Composite Results

Overall, the project produced \$15,307 in refunds and \$19,565 in ongoing annual cost savings.

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