

Village of Scarsdale



Jonathan I. Mark, Mayor

Stephen M. Pappalardo  
Village Manager

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Matthew J. Callaghan

Carl L. Finger

David S. Lee

Deborah Pekarsh

Marc Samwick

William Stern

Village Board Agenda

March 22, 2016

Village Board Meeting - 8:30 PM - Rutherford Hall

Action

Roll Call

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Pledge of Allegiance

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Minutes

➤ Village Board Meeting of March 8, 2016

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Bills

➤ Trustee Stern

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Mayor's Comments

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Manager's Comments

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Public Comments

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Committee Items

Finance Committee –Trustee Samwick

- Statement of Expenses and Revenues as of February 29, 2016
- Resolution re: Calling for a Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Tentative Budget

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Law Committee – Trustee Lee

- Resolution re: Authorization to Execute a License Agreement with 17 Harvest Realty, LLC, 17 Harvest Drive

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Municipal Services Committee – Trustee Stern

- Resolution re: Authorization to Execute a Grant Agreement with NYSDEC for the Cayuga Pond Stormwater And Sediment Reduction Project

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Recreation Committee – Trustee Pekarek

- Resolution re: Authorization to Execute an Agreement with Southeast Consortium for Special Services Inc.

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Other Committee Reports

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Liaison Reports

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Written Communications (14)

- Library Addition & Renovation Correspondence (5)
- Proposed Tax Increase (4)
- Lika Levi – 21 Lockwood Road – Various/Library
- Lena Crandall – 227 Fox Meadow Rd – Scarsdale Public TV
- Bob Harrison – 65 Fox Meadow Rd – Fund Balance Policy
- ML Perlman – 1 Carstensen Road – Accident on Crane Road
- Scarsdale Leaf Education Task Force

Future Meeting Schedule

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

- 7:30 PM Agenda Committee Meeting
- 8:00 PM Board of Trustees Meeting

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**THREE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FIFTY-FIRST****REGULAR MEETING**

Rutherford Hall  
Village Hall  
March 8, 2016

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Scarsdale was held in the Rutherford Hall in Village Hall on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 8:00 P.M.

Present were Mayor Mark, Trustees Callaghan, Finger, Lee, Pekarek, Samwick, and Stern. Also present were Village Manager Pappalardo, Deputy Village Manager Cole, Assistant Village Manager Richards, Village Attorney Esannason, Deputy Village Attorney Garrison, Village Treasurer McClure, and Assistant to the Village Manager Ringel.

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The minutes of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting of Tuesday, February 23, 2016 were approved on a motion entered by Trustee Pekarek, seconded by Trustee Finger, and carried unanimously.

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**Bills & Payroll**

Trustee Samwick reported that he had audited the Abstract of Claims dated March 8, 2016 in the amount of \$249,068.71 which includes \$8,432.33 in Library Claims previously audited by a Trustee of the Library Board which were found to be in order and he moved that such payment be ratified.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Samwick and seconded by Trustee Lee, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

**RESOLVED**, that the Abstract of Claims dated March 8, 2016 in the amount of \$249,068.71 is hereby approved.

Trustee Samwick further reported that he had examined the payment of bills made in advance of a Board of Trustees audit totaling \$680,224.95 which were found to be in order and he moved that such payments be ratified.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Samwick and seconded by Trustee Lee, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

**RESOLVED**, that payment of claims made in advance of a Board of Trustees audit totaling \$680,224.95 is hereby ratified.

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### Mayors Comments

Mayor Mark stated first of all he would like to thank whoever it was for giving him a nice cartoon of Bugs Bunny.

Mayor Mark stated that his comments are on the 2016-2017 Budget.

“The Village Staff and this Board are nearing the end of the process of preparing the 2016-2017 Village budget. Work on the budget has been going on since the fall of 2015. There have been at least nine public meetings that focused on the proposed budget. One of those meetings was an all-day session during which each Village department and certain Village organizations made presentations detailing their budget requests and the reasons underlying them. Among others, representatives of the Scarsdale Forum and the League of Women Voters attended some of those meetings.

The final draft preliminary budget proposal was discussed at a Finance Committee meeting earlier this evening. The schedule going forward is dictated by the statutory requirement that the budget be adopted no later than May 1, 2016. The schedule is as follows:

- the preliminary budget is to be filed on March 18, 2016,
- public hearings on the budget are scheduled for the Board meetings on March 22, 2016 and April 12, 2016, and
- adoption of the budget is scheduled for the Board meeting on April 26, 2016 to meet the May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

The following is a high level summary of what is proposed. The draft preliminary budget contemplates a year to year tax levy increase of approximately \$1.4 million or 3.69%. Based on our current estimated Village-wide taxable assessed value of approximately \$9 billion, the projected tax rate is \$4.267 per \$1,000 of assessed value which translates to an average Village property tax increase of \$230. As expected, this increase exceeds the NY State tax levy cap which for the 2016-2017 fiscal year is 0.45%, a percentage that would permit an aggregate dollar increase of approximately \$170,000.

Most of the increase in the proposed budget is driven by the following components: Increases in Departmental expenses of approximately \$581,000 or 2.05% from the current year adopted budget, representing certain negotiated collective bargaining agreement personnel increases (which are agreed contractual terms and so not presently in our control), as well as operating expenses for telecommunications, parking, auditing and legal services and street maintenance and construction supplies; and net increases in Non-departmental

expenses of approximately \$426,000 driven by a 9.5% increase in health insurance costs; and a 33% year to year increase in the General Fund transfer to the Capital Fund to perform important building and infrastructure work.

A net decrease from the prior year of a revenue source specifically, a decrease of approximately \$400,000 in the use of fund balance accounts for the balance of the \$1.4 million year-to-year budget increase.

This year, a fund balance amount of \$1,023,000 is proposed to be transferred for tax relief, an amount in line with prior years. Most of the approximately \$600,000 in proceeds received in the current fiscal year from the foreclosure sale of the property at 3 Edgewood Road are to be earmarked to fund certain important or committed capital projects through a General Fund transfer to Capital in the fall, should fiscal 2015-2016 year-end balances allow. Some have argued that a portion of these funds be added to the amount to be budgeted for tax rate relief. We would all like lower taxes. However, the budget process involves multiple tradeoffs and this is an example of one of them. Deferring or underfunding capital projects can have long term adverse impacts. However, deferment does occur out of necessity where doing so is judged not likely to present a long term physical and financial harm to the community. In making the judgment to use certain available funds for capital projects that are reasonably believed should no longer be deferred, rather than tax rate relief for example, the Staff and the Board are acting in what they believe to be the best long-term interests of the Village.

It is also noted, that after a two year hiatus, the water rate will be increasing, with additional increases contemplated over the next five years. The increase is driven by the increase cost in purchasing water from our supplier, New York City. It is also driven by a desire to replenish the fund balance in the Water Fund which has been used to provide a portion of the funds for renovations of the Ardsley Road and Reeves Newsome pump stations and other needed repairs to the water distribution system. Lastly, the water sewer rent fee will be increasing. This fee provides a fund that by law is dedicated to sewer maintenance a critical Village responsibility. Even with these increases for 2016-2017, the Village water rates will still be among the lowest in the area, ranking 15 out of 20 on a list of neighboring communities with the top rate being more than double than the proposed new Village base rate.

As noted, although the filing of the tentative budget must be made by March 18<sup>th</sup>, adoption of the final budget is still one month away and during that time further refinements of the proposed budget may be made. However, it is expected that the final budget will be reasonably close to what is presently proposed.”

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### Manager's Comments

Village Manager Pappalardo called on the Village's Water Superintendent, Stephen Johnson who is present this evening to talk about some notices that the water users have been receiving for a while now in their quarterly water bills that has to do with the safe water treatment rule and Scarsdale's involvement with Westchester County District #1.

Mr. Johnson stated that these notices have been going out for the last two quarters. To understand what these notices mean, you need to know a little of the history behind it and why they are necessary. He stated that back in the early 1990's the Federal Government enacted the Safe Water Drinking Act of which the Safe Water Treatment Rule is part of, and what that did is address some of the concerns that came about due to some water borne diseases coming from surface waters; specifically in the Midwest. The EPA, after much study, came up with a decision that all surface water sources must be treated with filtration unless the source can achieve filtration avoidance by meeting certain criteria.

Mr. Johnson spoke in regard to how this relates to Scarsdale. He stated that Scarsdale receives its water from New York City. New York City was able to demonstrate filtration avoidance so they did not have to filter their two supplies – the Catskill and Delaware. They have another source, the Croton system, which did have to be filtered. After several years, the EPA looked at this again and decided that New York City was not able to treat or mitigate cryptosporidium – a disease causing organism that attacks the intestinal track. The EPA required that New York City install ultra violet light, which they did. There is an ultraviolet plant that was installed by the Westchester Medical Center along Route 100C at a cost of \$2-3 billion dollars. Unfortunately, Westchester Water District #1 which is where Scarsdale receives the majority of its water from was unable to hook up to that facility because it was too far away. Westchester County then looked for alternative methods to appease the EPA and couldn't do so. The EPA sued Westchester County; went to court and a Consent Decree was issued by a Federal Judge stating that Westchester Water District #1 has to provide ultraviolet light; and the Water District received a fine. He stated that this water district is composed of White Plains, Scarsdale, Yonkers, and Mount Vernon.

He continued, stating that Scarsdale receives its water in three different ways: mainly from the Kensico Bronx waterline, or 48" pipeline which was originally built for New York City to supply water to the Bronx and over the years parts of Westchester tapped into it. Scarsdale did that and receives their alternative supply from the Kensico Bronx waterline up until the 1970's and it was at that time made the main source. Scarsdale also receives water from the Catskill aqueduct – that is the Ardsley Road pump station which is right near Ardsley Road and the Sprain Brook parkway. Scarsdale is also able to receive water from the Delaware aqueduct on the lower end of the Kensico Bronx line in Yonkers. Because Scarsdale receives water from New York City it does have filtration avoidance but do not have ultraviolet light.

However, Scarsdale is unable to treat the cryptosporidium but the Westchester County District #1 treats the water for other viruses, bacteria, and giardia. The Village of Scarsdale treats for those organisms as well.

The cause for the notification to residents is that Westchester County, acting on behalf of the members, which are White Plains, Scarsdale, Yonkers and Mt. Vernon, did not act in a timely manner to ensure the district members received EPA compliant water which means it was not treated with ultraviolet light which will deactivate the cryptosporidium organism. Because of this, the district was required to pay a fine and enter a Consent Order with the EPA and take the necessary steps for the design and construction of two UV plants. The design work is complete and the construction is ready to commence. Also part of the Consent Decree is a quarterly scary notification that residents receive that is required by and approved by the EPA. It is important to note, however, that the quality of the water received by Scarsdale residents and has not changed. The only thing that has changed is the new regulations. Westchester County Health Department is monitoring the source water to see if there is any cryptosporidium in the source water, and so far there have been no positive results.

Mayor Mark asked Mr. Johnson if he is correct in that the County, under the Consent Decree is required to test the water weekly, to which Mr. Johnson replied affirmatively. Mayor Mark added that the results of those tests are on the County website, [www.westchestergov.com](http://www.westchestergov.com). Mr. Johnson stated that from the website, residents need to go to Water District #1, and from there they can find the results. Mayor Mark noted that in December, the results indicated that cryptosporidium was zero. Mr. Johnson noted that it still is zero at this time.

Trustee Lee asked Mr. Johnson when the two ultraviolet plants scheduled to be completed. Mr. Johnson replied that there are two plants going in White Plains; the first one is going up near the dam near the Orchard Street pump station. That one is scheduled to be completed in May of 2017. The second one is going to be on Central Avenue at the Central Avenue pump station in White Plains. That one is scheduled to be completed in May of 2018.

Village Manager Pappalardo reiterated that during the interim period before the UV plants are completed the residents should be assured that they are going to receive the same quality of water that has been delivered to them for the past century. The notices approved by the EPA that come out can be onerous and a little scary; however, the residents will have an enhanced treatment when the UV plants are constructed but the water is safe to drink now. If residents have any concerns they should call the Water Department at any time or they can visit [www.westchestergov.com](http://www.westchestergov.com) to check the results of the cryptosporidium tests that are done on a weekly basis.

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Village Manager Pappalardo stated that he has a few things to report on this evening. The first item has to do with sanitary sewers; more specifically a lawsuit that was filed in Federal Court by a citizen organization called The Connecticut Fund for the Environment, better known as Save the Sound. The Mayor has reported on this previously, but he wanted to give the residents an update as to where that lawsuit stands to date. The lawsuit has commenced in Federal Court and names eleven (11) municipalities as well as the County of Westchester for alleged violations to the Federal Clean Water Act resulting from unlawful discharges of pollution from four separate Westchester County Sanitary Sewer Districts into the Long Island Sound. The claims include unlawful discharge of sanitary sewage, overflows from certain sanitary overflow systems that are located in four of the eleven communities and the municipal separate storm sewer systems. The issue is that there is storm water that is finding its way into the sanitary sewers during certain rain events which overrun the treatment plants that the County owns and operates. Based on this lawsuit, the Village has retained the law firm of Keane and Beane, PC in conjunction with the Village of Rye Brook which provides some cost savings. The Village has subsequently entered a joint defense agreement with all of the defendant municipalities with the exception of the County of Westchester. The parties to the action met on February 25, 2016 and the Village was represented by the Village Attorney and Counsel to discuss future efforts to resolve this lawsuit. During the meeting the defendant municipalities as well as the plaintiffs agreed that a resolution whereby the eleven municipalities and County were cooperative on analyzing and performing the identified sanitary sewer improvements would be the preferable way to resolve the issues. The parties continue to encourage the County of Westchester to work on such a reasonable cooperative basis with the municipalities. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for March 2016.

To this end, the Village Engineer has prepared an outline for a sanitary sewer evaluation study and a capacity management operation and maintenance program. In previous discussions with the County of Westchester to comply with the regulations at both the State and Federal level regarding an Intermunicipal agreement, the Village has been negotiating with the County. This would outline the conditions for the so-called municipal compliance. The studies that he mentioned were required. Staff will be forwarding these documents to the County this week to demonstrate the Village's commitment to improving the sewer system even though an Intermunicipal agreement with the County could not be reached and was never executed. In the transmittal letter, the Village urges the County to work with the municipalities to resolve these matters on a regional basis which would be the most efficient economically and also operationally.

Village Manager Pappalardo next updated the Board and residents on the Cayuga Pond Grant Project. On July 31, 2015, the Village submitted a \$1.4 million grant application to construct a sediment forbay and spillway detention at Cayuga Pond to provide flood mitigation and improve the functionality of the pond to benefit the overall storm drain system in the Village. This is a critical sub drainage basin area there and is part of the 100 year FEMA Flood Zone. On December 10<sup>th</sup> the Village was informed that the grant was approved for \$1.4 million, 75% of which would be funded by the State, 25% funded by the Village as the local share. Those items are identified in the Capital Budget Plan for FY

2016/17. In an effort to move forward in an expeditious manner, on January 26, 2016 of this year, the Board authorized the execution of a Professional Services agreement with an engineering consultant to help the Village with preparation of the grant application, development of the contracts, design of the overall project, assistance with the bidding process and provide engineering and construction management services during construction. Since then, staff, in conjunction with Dvirka and Bartalucci have submitted to the State all the necessary documents required to complete the contract. Last week, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the State agency overseeing this project proffered a contract for the Village's execution. It is hoped that a resolution will be before the Village Board at the next meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup> for the Board to approve the execution of this grant agreement.

The term of the contract is from January 11, 2016 to December 29, 2017. He stated that he expects the project will be substantially complete by the summer of 2017 as outlined in the work plan section of the contract. Once that contract is in and the Board approves it, the Village can get to work and start meeting with the residents there as a lot of the work will be done on private property. He stated that this work will make a difference in flood mitigation in that neighborhood and the Village is happy to accept the grant.

Village Manager Pappalardo stated that the next item he wanted to report on is the progress being made on the recruitment process for a new Superintendent of Parks, Recreation and Conservation as the former Superintendent, Jason Marra, left the Village on January 4<sup>th</sup> taking another job in the State. The Village has been fortunate to have Susanne Busby, a former Superintendent of Parks and Recreation to return to the Village on a part time interim basis to lead the department during the transition period. The Village has been engaged in an extensive recruitment and selection process in hopes of employing an effective leader for the department. The Village is vetting both lateral transfers -- Superintendents that are currently working in other municipalities as well as candidates who ranked on the County's Civil Service exam for this position.

Mr. Pappalardo stated that they have assembled an interview panel consisting of management staff, another professional in another community, and a Village Board representative. After conducting a few rounds of interviews, the panel has narrowed down the candidates to finalists and hope to make a selection within the next month. The Board and community will be updated on this outcome.

Village Manager Pappalardo addressed another item concerning a notice to commuters regarding the new steps at East Parkway. The contractor on that project is going to be here tomorrow recoating the bottom concrete platform that connects the new stairs to the metro north platform. When the platform was originally coated with the epoxy sand mixture, the sand was not uniformly applied, leaving areas with just the epoxy coating which became very slippery when wet. The surface will be prepared starting tomorrow, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. and apply the coating on Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. The drying time for this epoxy is about 24 hours. Therefore, the stairs will remain closed until noon on Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>,

or, worse case scenario at the end of the day on Friday. Notices will be posted in the Freightway and Christie Place garages tomorrow.

Mayor Mark thanked Village Manager Pappalardo for his reports.

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### Public Comment

**Robert Harrison**, 65 Fox Meadow Road, stated that he attended the Finance Committee meeting at 6:30 p.m. this evening and noted that it was a very detailed and excellent presentation by the Village Manager and Village Treasurer.

The Budget projection of the 3.69% tax increase for the residents will increase the homes with a fair market value of \$1 to \$3 million dollars of \$500 to \$1,000. There is also a 21.95% increase in the water rates for the average house. Some residents will have much more than \$118 water bill increase in the coming year on top of the bills they already get.

Mr. Harrison stated that this is a very highly taxed community but once taxes are raised they never get reduced. He opposed the proposed 3.69% increase in an economy with barely 1-2% growth and a low inflation rate environment. The taxes cannot be raised this much. Last year the Village used \$1.6 million of the Fund Balance, and a projection of using \$1,026,000 of that fund balance this year. He strongly urged the Board to use at least \$384,000 more of that fund balance so that the tax rate increase could be brought down to approximately 2.96%. He strongly urged the Board to reconsider the 3.69% increase.

Mr. Harrison continued, going over numbers used from the Village's fund balance from the auditors' reports from previous years that he foiled from the Village Treasurer. If the Village took \$370,000 and added to the fund balance of \$1,023,000 that they are using, that would bring the fund balance down to \$8,326,000 and the total budget – that represents 15.01% of the total budget. When he was on the Board, the goal was to try to keep the fund balance between 10-15% of the budget. He again asked the Board to reconsider the proposed rate and asked that the Board reconvene the Finance Committee to discuss this.

Trustee Stern stated that the Finance Committee had many meetings and heard from every single functionary in the community; there were very few raises given out; the heads of departments were asked to cut their budgets and not hire people and let people retire, so the term of 'rubber-stamping' that Mr. Harrison used was not accurate. The Board agonized over the budget and pared it to the bone. In regard to the water bill, the water rate in Scarsdale is not determined by the Village but by New York City and has a strange rate in that it calculates how much water a Scarsdale resident should use and that rate is rather low. Anything above that rate is raised 3 ½ times. He stated that if you use a sprinkler system and let it automatically water the lawn, you automatically go over the allowance and that is why you have larger water bills. Those that have pools or even a water leak would also incur

larger bills. He urged residents to use free natural watering in the form of rain and don't go over the New York City allotment for the water bill.

Trustee Finger stated that the Mayor noted at the beginning at the meeting that the Board will be taking comments and suggestions and feedback from the community before another a month or more on the budget. The Board will be listening to all of this. In terms of the fund balance, the Board will continue to hear feedback on it, but when Mr. Harrison stated that the Board hadn't really discussed it, the Board has had numerous conversations specifically about how much of the fund balance to use, whether to use more, whether it is the right amount, what the percentage is – Mr. Finger stated that the community should feel when Mr. Harrison states that the Board hasn't given this any consideration or discussed it, the Board has discussed extensively and will continue to discuss it and listen over the next month.

Mayor Mark stated that the Finance Committee has had nine meetings during which the use of fund balance was among the many topics discussed. The fact that the Committee did not discuss it extensively this evening was because they have discussed extensively at the nine other meetings that they have had, some of which Mr. Harrison has attended, and some of which he did not. Mayor Mark noted that the Chair of the Finance Committee also has some remarks which he would like to address now.

Trustee Samwick stated that “Mr. Harrison and others raise important points about the General Fund. The purpose of the General Fund is to provide the Village with a funding source to address any unplanned or emergency situation such as unbudgeted infrastructure repairs or severe storm related activity and to provide an overall cushion for the Village's finances.

The financial management policy of the Village is to maintain a strong General Fund balance. This policy is central to maintaining the Villages AAA bond rating, a policy that is at the core of Scarsdale fiscal strategy. When Moody's last reaffirmed the Village's AAA bond rating, it specifically referenced the “Village's formal policy of maintaining this balance at 10-15% of budgeted expenditures for the ensuing fiscal year.” I believe Scarsdale's fund balance target is below Moody's standard 15-20% target as a result of our regular funding of capital items within our annual budget. My understanding is that the General Fund balance is currently in the neighborhood of 15% of expenditures. It is very important to keep in mind that the General Fund balance is a dynamic level relative to budgeted expenditures and that we do not expect to have audited numbers until August or September. Also, it is the audited numbers that are used by rating agencies to determine our credit rating.

An important question is: where should the General Fund balance be within the targeted 10-15% range. I argue that today is a time that we should very prudent with our management of the General Fund balance. The fairly recent completion of the Popham Road bridge contained a nearly \$2 million cost overrun. The General Fund balance is maintained exactly for a capital project cost overrun of this nature and magnitude.

When looking forward just a few years, we see a number of major capital improvement projects in the offing. In the 2016-17 budget, we plan to fund \$1.5 million for repair of the Heathcote Road Bridge, storm water management with the Sheldrake River Basin Improvement Project and the Hutchison River Flood Mitigation Project. We also plan to start work on Fire Station #1, which is already largely funded. Looking forward a little further and we will see material work on the library (regardless of which renovation plan that is adopted), our storm and sanitary sewer systems and evaluation, pipe lining and valve replacement associated with our potable water distribution system, among other things.

These capital projects are in keeping with our long term capital planning and represent one of the critical functions performed by the Village. With these specific major capital projects anticipated over the next five years or so, today is not the time to draw down the General Fund balance.

Capital projects are a regularly occurring part of maintaining our Village and are managed very adeptly and responsibly by our exceptional Village staff. But with all capital projects, whether they are municipal or a renovation of a private home, there needs to be fiscal cushioning. The General Fund balance is a primary fiscal cushion for the Village and it is important that, as stewards of this critical Village asset, we act responsibly and exert fiscal prudence by maintaining our General Fund balance at the higher end of the targeted range.”

**Jeffrey Singer**, 9 Hazelton Drive, read from a prepared statement in support of the proposed Library renovations. He spoke about how important the library was to him and his family and considers the library an extension of the school system. He stated that it is time for a thorough modernization to occur. Beyond books, the library is a community hub. A modern library would fill the intellectual vacuum that has been created by technology where children and adults do not interact socially. The expense should be considered an investment in your property value. He urged everyone in power to do whatever they can do to move the project forward.

**Kristen Friedman**, President, Overhill Association, also read from a prepared statement regarding the proposed library renovation. She noted that the response of the neighborhood of the Overhill Association was predominately negative to the renovations. Although some of them like the proposal, all of them are concerned about the process. There are other necessary expenditures coming down the pike very soon or already upon us. There is no public mechanism for citizens currently to gain a long term perspective on Village spending. The Board should consider establishing a Municipal Services Advisory Council to help gain that broader perspective. Regarding the plan itself, rather than presenting to the community a fait accompli, they believe that a Village-wide referendum should be held on whether or not to go ahead with the Library plan as proposed. The Village Board should have held public hearings to discuss the scope and cost of the project as it was developing. Because of that they do not know if some of the elements of the plan could be provided elsewhere in the community, such as the high school. Also, it is unfair to ask the Village to take out a \$12 million bond before private financing is in place. If the

bond were issued and private donations fall short, the public could be on the hook for the difference or the project would have to be scaled back.

Mayor Mark commented on the suggestion of the establishment of a Municipal Advisory Committee. Every year as part of the budget, there is a five year Capital Plan which lays out projects that will be coming to the Village for funding and that plan is annotated indicating what the source of funds will be – whether from the General Fund, the Capital Fund, a bond, a grant, or a gift. The Village does have a very good idea of what the plans are going forward on a five year time frame and in some cases, farther than that as to what projects are being considered. The Village has started to consider the proposal being made by the Library and the financial part of it in the context of what the Village might have to do from a Capital point of view as well as getting some sense of what the School Board may want to do; they have some very big projects facing them. We understand that from a tax perspective we all understand that the money comes out of all of our pockets whether it is a municipal project or a School Board project. Mayor Mark stated that he would like to dispel the notion that the Village has not thought about these types of things on a long range basis and they are not at the precipice of issuing a \$12 million bond. There is still a lot of thinking to do – they are listening to the Library Board, the residents both in favor and opposition of the project. The Board is not going to reach a conclusion on this plan until the issue has been vetted sufficiently so the community has some level of comfort. They may not all agree with the result, but the community should feel that the process has been an open one and that they understand where the Board comes out, when they do.

Trustee Samwick stated that the prior years of the budget are on the website and the 2016/17 Tentative Budget will be on the website shortly.

Trustee Finger stated that one of the challenges that the Board has is getting the information that the Mayor just described meaningfully out to the community. The Village Board did have a public briefing on both the Budget and the Capital Budget within the last two weeks. Everything for the next five years in the Capital Budget was gone through item by item. Unfortunately the only one that was there from the public was Mr. Harrison and perhaps one other person. He asked Ms. Friedman to disseminate that information to her constituents that the information is available and the Board would like them to look at it. It does give context to this proposal as well as every other discussion they have had on the budget.

Village Manager Pappalardo stated that the Village Board did have a discussion about the library financing last month that was televised. He stated that a multi-year capital program project debt service pro forma was presented which included the library project at various price points for the Village's financial contribution to that would-be library project. Mr. Pappalardo stated that this meeting is available for viewing by going on the Village's website at [www.scarsdale.com](http://www.scarsdale.com) and selecting the Cable Television section and there should be a link there. It was a Finance Committee meeting that was held sometime in February and the Village Treasurer presented that evening the type of plan that Ms. Friedman is referring to where it was shown over a three to five year period the Capital Projects that the Village is

planning and what would be funded through debt service. The library project is included in there at various price points.

Trustee Lee stated that this hasn't been discussed as a Board, but he stated that he would not be surprised that the Board ultimately concludes that whatever amount they decide to bond and whether or not they subject that to a Village wide referendum, whatever amount is ultimately approved as the Village's share can be contingent upon the raising of a certain amount of private donations. So that prior to the Village beginning any construction and perhaps prior to the Village having the construction documents prepared, it would wait until the fund raising has achieved a certain level that the Board will decide sufficiently high so that they know whether there is a shortfall or not.

**Mona Longman**, 8 Varian Lane, read from a prepared statement in support of the library renovation project and the bond issue. She stated that she has been an active volunteer in the library since 2009 and stated that the building is incredibly dated and cited certain current defective issues such as water damaged ceilings, a dark, crowded basement, non ADA compliant restrooms as some examples. She spoke about the heavy usage of the library by different groups as well as the usual library traffic. Libraries all around Scarsdale are in the process of renovating and changing their facilities. She asked that the Mayor and Trustees not be daunted by the number that needs to be raised. This renovation will serve Scarsdale for decades. The Village should take advantage of the low interest and borrow the money as soon as possible.

Mayor Mark stated that we are in a low interest environment and have been in one for a long time. However, this misses the point – the principal has to be paid back. The interest rates are a small portion of the burden that a borrowing would place on the Village. It would be very nice to borrow money at historically low interest rates but that doesn't answer the question, is this Village prepared to pay back the principal at whatever level that it would take to do this project? The Board understands the comment and the thought, but the principal repayment has to be the principal concern.

Trustee Stern stated that the Village Engineer did a study on what the essential repair cost to the existing library would be and the number is \$4.5 million. That is putting a Band-Aid on a sorely neglected building. The Village would have to throw out \$4.5 million just to repair the library as it exists now and continue having an obsolete building.

**Steve Kessler**, 35 Brite Avenue, reading from a prepared statement, stated that on behalf of him and his wife, he would like to offer his strong support of the library plans. He stated that the plans would significantly enhance the ability of the library to respond to the growing needs and requests of residents for all the programs and services that are currently being offered and others that cannot be because of limitation in the current building. He thanked the Mayor and Trustees and staff for all of their time and effort in working together and analyzing this project along with the other needs of the community. He commended Village Manager Pappalardo, Project Manager Paul Zaicek and Village Treasurer McClure

who put a lot of time into understanding this project. This is not a plan that has been done in the dark or hidden; it is a plan that is very cost conscious.

**Patrick Tse**, 22 Circle Road, stated that he does think the library needs renovation and more space, but does the Village need a top of the line library? Do we need a business center to compete with Staples or Kinkos? Do we need a coffee shop to compete with Starbucks? Why do we need to do all these fancy things? We need to keep it down to what we actually want. Trustee Stern stated that we should take a look at what the other libraries are doing, so he actually went out and took a look. He looked at the Greenburgh and Mamaroneck libraries. Both of them are very nice libraries, especially Greenburgh which is a modern building. The Greenburgh library has a lot of programs and a decent research center. They also have a lot of programs for different ages and non-residents may participate. He then found out how much it costs to run the libraries. The Greenburgh library costs \$3.8 million per year; he did not know if that included the debt service or not. The original debt was \$10 million and they now have approximately \$7 million outstanding. The Mamaroneck library costs \$2.8 million to run which includes \$800,000 in debt service and \$2 million in operating costs. Our library costs \$3.9 million to run before debt servicing. His concern is that the Village needs a bigger library but how do we protect the Village from financial miscalculation like a shortfall in private funding or costs overruns. How do we make sure that the operating costs do not balloon?

**Lena Crandall**, 227 Fox Meadow Road, stated that her original intention on attending the meeting this evening was to encourage everyone to come out and vote on Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at the Village Election. She invited everyone, whether or not they can vote, to come to the Scarsdale Woman's Club, 8:30 – 10:00 pm to celebrate with everyone on the new leadership elected for the Village.

Ms. Crandall stated that she wanted to comment on the water and storm water topic that were touched upon earlier this evening. Regarding the lawsuit that Village Manager Pappalardo mentioned concerning the storm water traveling downstream, this is a topic she has been trying to learn more about. Residents can do their part by testing their soil before applying any fertilizer. Regarding water usage, she suggested that residents change their toilets to high efficiency toilets, high efficiency washing machines, water saving showers, etc. She suggested that the Village consider placing an insert with the next water bill – free information is available from the EPA. The EPA will provide the Village with the inserts to help residents save on their water bill, conserve water, and reminders and tips to protect the storm water.

Regarding the Library project, Ms. Crandall stated that she spoke at the last Scarsdale Forum meeting when the library made their presentation. She stated that she is in favor of the project and that the Village should look to their private citizens who are able to contribute as much towards the project as possible. She also urged the Board to take a look at the Weinberg Nature Center as she feels it would make a great permanent home for the future Scarsdale Children's Library.

Mayor Mark stated that at the meeting at the library yesterday, a report from the Staff indicated that they did take a look at Weinberg Nature Center as well as Supply Field and the Body Fit building which is now vacant. The meeting was taped, so it is available for viewing. The recommendation was against using the Weinberg Nature Center for a variety of reasons both because of path to get there and the limited space. In addition, there are existing programs that are there. It wasn't looked at as a permanent home for the Children's library, only an alternative for the temporary library. Another look could be made of it for the purpose of the Children's library.

Trustee Finger stated that the library is looking for locations for possible programs if and when there is a renovation.

**Max Grudin**, 4 Overhill Road, agreed with Ms. Crandall that the Village can education residents on water use and a brochure would be very useful.

Mr. Grudin stated that he agreed with Ms. Friedman's comments. Regarding yesterday's meeting regarding the library renovations, one of the topics was the location of a temporary library to an alternative location. A concern that he has about that is that there was a discussion of reducing the library hours to 40 hours per week and this would mean it would only be open 8 hours per day, 5 days per week. It is very hard for people that work to actually use the library and two years is a long time for that situation to continue.

Regarding the vote on the Homestead Tax Option rejecting approval of same, he stated that he read about it in the Inquirer and it was hard to understand the logic of why it happened.

Mayor Mark informed Mr. Grudin that Scarsdale10583 published at least his complete statement of his rationale and he said that can also be found on the Village's website under the Board of Trustees tab, Mayor's comments. The Board did lay out with great specificity why they voted as they did.

Trustee Finger responded to Mr. Grudin's comments regarding the Library hours; he stated that he didn't think that this was decided upon yet and that it had been stated as a minimum requirement. Even if they did have the minimum requirement, it was not clear to him whether it would be 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, for instance. He stated that he did not anticipate that one would not be able to use the library due to the hours. There will be flexibility in their hours to try to accommodate the traffic situation there. There probably is, however, no perfect solution for a temporary library situation.

**Robert Berg**, 32 Tisdale Road, stated that he shared Mr. Harrison's concern about the very high proposed tax rate increase of 3.69%. He stated that this increase is not justified in this economic environment and should be reduced. One source of funds to reduce the tax rate increase is to use the proceeds the Village has received from the Edgewood Road foreclosure sale of approximately \$600,000 which is instead earmarked for Capital projects. The Village funds too many Capital projects from the General Fund

Balance and should be bonded in this slow interest rate environment. Maintaining the Fund Balance at 15% is too high – this takes money out of the taxpayers' pockets today to maintain a rainy day fund that the Village doesn't tap into in a major degree. He urged the Board to decrease the proposed tax increase by using either the proceeds from the Edgewood Road foreclosure or reducing the General Fund balance.

**Steve Rakoff**, Morris Lane, spoke about the meeting held last November regarding the 2016 Reval and the presentation by Mr. Ryan who is performing the reval for the Village. At that meeting, Mr. Rakoff presented data in which he tracked market sales by lot sizes throughout the Town and he also had market data from 2009 through 2015. What he believed he showed with that presentation was that the 2013 Reval was flawed. The selling prices in 2015 and the assessments that were created and implemented in the Reval that prior June were severely discounted in every district except for one acre and up lots and those lots were over 100% valuation. Mr. Rakoff stated that it is clear to him that there is an imbalance in the way the methodology was implemented the first time. People are being forced to put their homes on the market due to the changes in the assessment and higher taxes.

Mr. Rakoff discussed the sales volume in neighborhood communities compared to the Scarsdale. He stated that we are in a crisis situation – people are not coming to the Town to live. The valuations are out of whack with competing communities. There should be an Ad Hoc Committee or a series of monitoring done so that the Assessor's office stays independent of Mr. Ryan so that the Village has a clinical, blind study. It is important to get a good sample group and a good blind study. He challenged the Board to consider hiring a law firm and hiring an independent statistical analyst to do the double check on the information coming from John Ryan.

Trustee Stern asked Mr. Rakoff his opinion as to whether Scarsdale is overbuilt with multimillion large homes on appropriate lots; oversupply and the market is not there? Mr. Rakoff stated that his discussion concerns resales and people being forced out of their homes by getting their assessments doubled. Trustee Stern stated that there could be other reasons people move and you cannot come to just that one conclusion. In terms of the reval, Trustee Stern stated that there is a tremendous remedy that everyone has and is aware of – they can dispute the reval and have a hearing. If they are not satisfied with the Assessor's determination, they can go to a SCARS hearing. If they are not satisfied with that they can go further. Trustee Stern stated that he was just wondering if there were an oversupply of new houses – on his block there are at least ten new homes that have been put up. The homes increase the value of his house but he thinks there is a tremendous oversupply and that is part of the problem.

Mr. Rakoff stated that the main thing is that there are residents putting their homes on the market in unprecedented amounts of listings. You can track all of this to the reval dates and watch the trend forward.

Mr. Rakoff also commended the Board on their decision regarding the Homestead Tax Option and explained why the enactment of this legislation would have been detrimental to Scarsdale.

Mayor Mark thanked Mr. Rakoff for all of his comments and stated that the Board has taken his point, however, the Board has business on the agenda to complete.

Mr. Rakoff continued, stating that people are getting forced out of their houses due to the increased assessments. There are 60 homes on the market on properties of one acre or more and this is unprecedented in the Village. He wanted to make everyone aware of it and thinks that the call to action to make sure the Ryan study is independent so everything gets rebalanced property is valid since the last time he was the independent analysis for Tyler it did not look like many of the comments made prior to the implementation of that took place.

There being no further comment, the Mayor closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

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#### Recreation Committee

Upon motion entered by Trustee Pekarek, and seconded by Trustee Lee, the following resolution regarding Awarding Renewal of Preferred Source Contract Village Properties: Applications and Special Services Agreement was approved by the vote indicated below:

**WHEREAS,** Pursuant to Article XI, Section 162 of the New York State Finance Law, the New York State Preferred Sources program was created to advance certain social and economic goals, and all state agencies, political subdivisions, and public benefit corporations are required to purchase approved products and services from preferred source vendors in accordance with the procedures and requirements described in the Preferred Sources Guidelines; and

**WHEREAS,** purchases for Preferred Sources take precedence over all other sources of supply and competitive procurement methods if the commodity or service being sought is available in the form, function and utility required; and

**WHEREAS,** the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation requires grounds keeping and lawn maintenance services, including fertilization, aerating, seeding and other organic applications for turf, as well as organic care maintenance services to athletic fields and other municipal properties; and

**WHEREAS,** Grounds keeping & Lawn Maintenance is a preferred source offering through the New York State Industries for the Disabled (“NYSID”), and on March 26, 2014, by way of referral from NYSID, the Village entered into a Preferred Sources agreement for \$48,936.06 with Earthcare Tree and Lawn Services, 1 Jem Court, Bayshore, NY 11706 through the New York State Office of General Services, later renewing the agreement on March 10, 2015 for an additional one-year term at a contractually provided increase to \$49,900.00; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village is in need of contracting again for these grounds maintenance services and the New York State Finance Law, Article XI, Section 162 mandates that a right of first refusal to supply service be given to a New York State Preferred Source Offering; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village has been satisfied with the services provided by NYSID and Alternative Earthcare Tree and Lawn Systems, as they have satisfied the form, function, and utility required; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village has negotiated a one-year renewal agreement with the NYSID at no increase over the 2015 rate of \$49,900, commencing April 1, 2016, and ending March 31, 2017; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** that pursuant to NYS Finance Law, Article XI, Section 162 the Village Manager is herein authorized to enter into a Preferred Source agreement with NYSID to provide the scope of services identified in said agreement, in the amount of \$49,900 for one year commencing April 1, 2016, and ending on March 31, 2017; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** that the scope of services identified in the agreement will be performed on behalf of the NYSID by Alternative Earthcare Tree and Lawn Systems, 1 Jem Court, Bayshore, New York 11706, acting as an affiliate of the NYSID; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** that the cost for the services provided in the agreement be charged accordingly to the General Fund Operating Budget Account #A-7020-PARKS-MAINT-400-499.

AYES

Trustee Callaghan  
Trustee Finger  
Trustee Lee  
Trustee Pekarek  
Trustee Samwick  
Trustee Stern  
Mayor Mark

NAYS

None

ABSENT

None

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Fire Commissioner

Upon motion entered by Trustee Pekarek, and seconded by Trustee Lee, the following resolution regarding the Award of VM Contract #1188 – Fire Apparatus Maintenance Services was approved by the vote indicated below:

**WHEREAS,** due to the mechanical and operational complexities of the Village Fire Department apparatuses, the Village contracts for certain repairs, service, and preventative maintenance work; and

**WHEREAS,** these Village contracts require the bidders to be licensed and certified by the Emergency Vehicle Technician Certification Commission and National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence relative to Level 3 Fire Apparatus, as well as be able to respond within 24 hours for emergency repairs, thus necessitating a business operating within close proximity to Scarsdale, with said certifications and geographic requirements limiting the number of available and qualified bidders; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village Manager reports that he publicly advertised for the receipt of bids on January 29, 2016, under VM Contract #1188 - Fire Apparatus Maintenance Services, while also distributing said packet to eight vendors; and

**WHEREAS,** the contract term is for one year, renewable for two additional one-year periods at the Village's option, with apparatus service charges based on hourly rates; and

**WHEREAS,** on the bid opening date of February 9, 2016, one bid was received, from Hendrickson Fire and Rescue Equipment, 140 Hoffman Lane, Islandia, NY 11749; and

**WHEREAS,** Hendrickson Fire and Rescue Equipment has previously performed satisfactory warranty and non-warranty maintenance services and repairs on the Village's Fire Department fleet; and

**WHEREAS,** a thorough bid review determined that Hendrickson Fire and Rescue Equipment met the bid specifications and requirements, constituting the lowest responsible bid; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** that VM Contract #1188 - Fire Apparatus Maintenance Services be awarded to Hendrickson Fire and Rescue Equipment, 140 Hoffman

Lane, Islandia, NY 11749, at the hourly service and trip rate charges identified on the VM contract #1188 bid tabulation sheet attached hereto and made a part hereof, with total repair and maintenance expenses generally falling between \$25,000 to \$30,000 per year; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that all costs associated with this work be charged to the appropriate Department of Public Works and Fire Department Operating Budget accounts for FY 2015/16 and, for FY 2016/17, subject to the availability of said funds; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Village Manager is hereby authorized and directed to execute VM Contract #1188 on behalf of the Village of Scarsdale with said Hendrickson Fire and Rescue Equipment for a period of one year, with the option to extend said contract for two additional one year periods.

<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Trustee Callaghan	None	None
Trustee Finger		
Trustee Lee		
Trustee Pekarek		
Trustee Samwick		
Trustee Stern		
Mayor Mark		

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Municipal Services Committee

Upon motion entered by Trustee Stern, and seconded by Trustee Pekarek, the following resolution regarding Additional Phase II Design Services with Grigg & Davis Engineers, PC for the Popham Road Firehouse Renovation Project was approved by the vote indicated below:

**WHEREAS**, the Popham Road Firehouse (Station 1), constructed in 1923, is in need of major renovation due to structural deterioration and functional obsolescence, in that it is unable to accommodate larger generations of fire apparatus; and

**WHEREAS**, at their January 12, 2010 meeting, the Village Board authorized a \$24,925 Phase I Design Services Agreement with Grigg & Davis Engineers, 21 Crossway, Scarsdale, N.Y. (G&D) to perform Station 1 preliminary design work; and

**WHEREAS,** at their November 12, 2013 meeting, the Village Board authorized a \$356,748 Phase II Design and Construction Administration Services Agreement with G&D to prepare construction bid documents, perform bidding assistance, and perform construction administration services, also having approved at the same meeting a \$3,500,000 bond issuance for Station 1 improvements; and

**WHEREAS,** G&D's construction estimate arising from the Phase II Design and Construction Administration Services work, inclusive of design feedback received from the Municipal Services Committee and others, was \$5,115,000, which was well above the \$3,080,000 budget, necessitating concept modifications to bring the project within budget; and

**WHEREAS,** during January and February 2016, G&D relied on feedback from the Municipal Services Committee and staff, including proposed elimination of the elevator and stair tower, to modify the Station 1 concept such that project costs could be reduced to an estimated \$3,191,770; and

**WHEREAS,** in response to additional work incurred through the design process, G&D has proposed an amendment, attached herewith as Exhibit I, to the November 12, 2013 agreement, thereby increasing the total contract cost to an amount not to exceed \$449,249, representing a \$92,501 increase, now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** that the 2013 Phase II Design and Construction Administration Services Agreement with Grigg & Davis Engineers, PC, 21 Crossway, Scarsdale, NY 10583, is herein increased by \$92,501 for additional design and bid documentation services pursuant to Exhibit I of said agreement, attached hereto and made a part hereof, for a revised total amount of \$449,249, to be paid from Station 1 bond proceeds; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** that the Village Manager is hereby authorized to execute a professional services Agreement, in substantially the same form as attached hereto, with Grigg & Davis Engineers, and to undertake all associated administrative acts as required.

AYES

Trustee Callaghan  
Trustee Finger  
Trustee Lee  
Trustee Pekarek  
Trustee Samwick

NAYS

None

ABSENT

None

Trustee Stern  
Mayor Mark

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Upon motion entered by Trustee Stern, and seconded by Trustee Samwick, the following resolution regarding the Award of VM Contract #1196 Proposal "A" Cured-in-Place Sewer Lining and Rejecting Proposal "B" Sewer Cleaning and Televising Work – FY 2015/16 and 2016/17 was approved by the vote indicated below:

**WHEREAS,** the Village of Scarsdale is currently under a separate non-emergency contract for cured-in-place lining, however there is an identified need to retain a vendor to respond to the Village on an emergency basis; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village Manager reports that he publicly advertised for the receipt of bids on February 05, 2016 and notified four vendors of VM Contract #1196 for Cleaning, Televising and Cured In Place Pipelining for Storm and Sanitary Sewer Lines (Proposal "A") and Sanitary Sewer Cleaning and Televising Work (Proposal "B"); and

**WHEREAS,** on the bid opening date, February 16, 2016, two bids were received for both Proposal "A" Cured-In-Place Sewer Lining, and Proposal "B" Sewer Cleaning and Televising work, pursuant to VM Contract # 1196; and

**WHEREAS,** the lowest responsible bid, meeting specifications for Proposal "A": Cured-In-Place Sewer Lining, was received from En Tech Corporation, 91 Ruckman Road, Closter NJ 07624, based on the unit bid prices identified for items 1, 2 and 3 on the Bid Tabulation Sheet attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

**WHEREAS,** staff has reviewed the bid response, and spoken with references provided in the bid material, and has determined that En Tech Corporation is capable of performing the work as described in the contract; and

**WHEREAS,** an existing contract for emergency and non-emergency sewer cleaning and televising work is in place and the bids received pursuant to VM Contract #1196 Proposal "B" do not provide any beneficial savings to the Village and as such, it is recommended that the bids for Proposal "B" be rejected; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED,** that VM Contract #1196 Proposal "A": Cured-In-Place Sewer Lining be awarded to En Tech Corporation, 91 Ruckman Road, Closter NJ

07624, for emergency sewer work at the unit bid prices itemized as follows: Item 1 Lining of 6" – 10" pipe - \$64.50 per linear foot; Item 2 Lining of 12" – 18" pipe – \$ 90.50 per linear foot; Item 3 Lining of 20" – 30" pipe – \$ 225.00 per linear foot, based on estimated work quantities not to exceed budgeted appropriations of approximately \$100,000 for FY 15/16 and a similar amount for FY 16/17 subject to the adopted budget; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the cost of same be charged to the appropriate Capital Budget sanitary sewer and storm drainage accounts as determined by the Village Treasurer; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Village Manager is hereby authorized to execute VM Contract #1196 Proposal "A" on behalf of the Village of Scarsdale with said En Tech Corporation, 91 Ruckman Road, Closter NJ 07624 and to undertake administrative acts as may be required under said agreement; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that all bids pursuant to VM Contract #1196 Proposal "B" Sewer Cleaning and Televising Work are herein rejected.

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#### Finance Committee

Upon motion entered by Trustee Lee, and seconded by Trustee Pekarek, the following resolution regarding Acceptance of a Gift for the Scarsdale Public Library Addition and Renovation Project was approved by a unanimous vote:

**WHEREAS**, the Scarsdale Library Board completed a Master Plan dated June 10, 2013 which identifies a number of building renovations and additions that will increase the capacity of the Library to provide a broader range of rapidly evolving library services while maintaining popular traditional collections and programs by offering a more balanced utilization of the building space within a safe, attractive and inviting comfortable environment, said master plan supported by the Scarsdale Village Board of Trustees via resolution dated April 8, 2014 (attached); and

**WHEREAS**, the improvements identified in the Master Plan will transform the Library into a multi-purpose community asset for future generations, maintain its preeminent status among free public libraries in the County and State, enhance its technological capacity to further library services and create a physical environment that will be a welcoming and versatile learning center; and

**WHEREAS,** the Scarsdale Public Library Board, at their October 21, 2013 meeting, authorized the retention of the fund raising consulting firm of Plan A Advisors, P.O. Box 165, Thornwood, NY 10594, to design and conduct a capital campaign to implement such a project, subsequently identified in the July 20, 2015 Schematic Design Report prepared by Dattner Architects, at an estimated construction cost of \$16,500,000, including furniture, fixtures and equipment, and total project cost of approximately \$19,500,000; and

**WHEREAS,** the Friends of the Scarsdale Library has offered to donate the gift of \$25,250 to the Scarsdale Public Library Addition and Renovation Capital Improvement Project; and

**WHEREAS,** pursuant to Policy #106: "*Gifts to the Village of Scarsdale*" of the Village of Scarsdale Administrative Policies & Procedures Manual, acceptance of all gifts valued at \$500 or greater must be approved by the Village Board of Trustees; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED,** that the Village Board hereby accepts the gift of \$25,250 from the Friends of the Scarsdale Library toward the Scarsdale Public Library Master Plan Improvement Project; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** that the Village Treasurer take the necessary steps to complete the transaction and accept this financial gift of \$25,250 and deposit it in the Library Capital Campaign Account; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** that the Board of Trustees hereby extends their heartfelt thanks and great appreciation to the Friends of the Scarsdale Library, for their generosity and commitment to the Scarsdale Public Library and Community.

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Land Use Committee

Upon motion entered by Trustee Samwick, and seconded by Trustee Lee, the following resolution regarding a Subdivision Recreation Fee for 35 Brookby Road, Section 18 Block 1 Lot 46 was approved by a unanimous vote:

**WHEREAS,** Section 7-730-4 of New York State Village law authorizes planning boards to reserve land in a subdivision for park, playground or other recreational purposes, and take money in lieu of land in cases where suitable park lands of adequate size cannot be properly located on a

subdivision plat, the amount of said money to be established by the Village Board of Trustees; and

**WHEREAS,** on January 27, 2016, the Planning Board approved the two lot subdivision of 35 Brookby Road creating one new buildable lot, after finding the proposed subdivision would not have a significant negative environmental impact pursuant to SEQRA; and

**WHEREAS,** on February 24, 2016, the Planning Board recommended a payment in lieu of contribution of land as the dedication of land for park, playground or recreation purposes is not feasible in view of the small amount of land available in this two lot subdivision; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation provides a variety of facilities to meet the interests and needs of the community which includes parks, playgrounds, ball fields and an outdoor pool; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation has a Five Year Capital Plan which calls for the replacement of facilities and equipment as well as additional facilities that will be needed in the future; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** that the Board of Trustees hereby accepts the recommendation of the Planning Board that the applicant, Brookby Holdings LLC, pay to the Village an amount equal to 5.0% of the \$1,350,000 Guideline Value of a lot in the A-2 zoning district pursuant to the 2007 Subdivision Recreation Fee Schedule, or \$67,500, in lieu of a contribution of land for park, playground or other recreational purposes for the one new buildable lot resulting from the subdivision of property at 35 Brookby Road, identified on the Village tax map as Section 18, Block 1, Lot 46.

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Upon motion entered by Trustee Samwick, and seconded by Trustee Pekarek, the following resolution regarding a Subdivision Recreation Fee for 11 Carstensen Road, Section 3 Block 2 Lot 20 was approved by a unanimous vote:

**WHEREAS,** Section 7-730-4 of New York State Village law authorizes planning boards to reserve land in a subdivision for park, playground or other recreational purposes, and take money in lieu of land in cases where suitable park lands of adequate size cannot be properly located on a subdivision plat, the amount of said money to be established by the Village Board of Trustees; and

**WHEREAS,** on January 27, 2016, the Planning Board approved the two lot subdivision of 11 Carstensen Road creating one new buildable lot, after finding the proposed subdivision would not have a significant negative environmental impact pursuant to SEQRA; and

**WHEREAS,** on February 24, 2016, the Planning Board recommended a payment in lieu of contribution of land as the dedication of land for park, playground or recreation purposes is not feasible in view of the small amount of land available in this two lot subdivision; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation provides a variety of facilities to meet the interests and needs of the community which includes parks, playgrounds, ball fields and an outdoor pool; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation has a Five Year Capital Plan which calls for the replacement of facilities and equipment as well as additional facilities that will be needed in the future; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** that the Board of Trustees hereby accepts the recommendation of the Planning Board that the applicant, Lin Tien, pay to the Village an amount equal to 5.0% of the \$825,000 Guideline Value of a lot in the A-3 zoning district pursuant to the 2007 Subdivision Recreation Fee Schedule, or \$41,250, in lieu of a contribution of land for park, playground or other recreational purposes for the one new buildable lot resulting from the subdivision of property at 11 Carstensen Road, identified on the Village tax map as Section 3, Block 2, Lot 20.

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Police Commissioner

Upon motion entered by Trustee Samwick, and seconded by Trustee Lee, the following resolution regarding the Award of VM Contract #1197 – Furnish and Deliver Police Uniforms was approved by the vote indicated below:

**WHEREAS,** pursuant to the collective bargaining agreement between the Village of Scarsdale and the Scarsdale Police Benevolent Association, all sworn officers in the department receive replacement uniforms on a bi-annual basis; and

**WHEREAS,** adequate appropriations are provided for in the Police Department's FY 2016/17 Tentative General Fund Operating Budget for the purchase of uniforms for the Scarsdale Police Department; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village Manager reports that on February 5, 2016, he publicly advertised for the receipt of bids under VM Contract #1197 – Furnish and Deliver Police Uniforms, and sent notices to five vendors; and

**WHEREAS,** on the bid opening date of Tuesday, February 23, 2016, one sealed bid was received from New England Uniform LLC of 356 Main Street, Danbury CT 06810, for multiple unit bit prices in the attached bid tabulation sheet made a part hereof, for a total contract price at a bid price of \$42,863.50; and

**WHEREAS,** New England Uniform LLC, has previously provided police uniforms to the Village and staff has been satisfied with the quality of the uniforms provided; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED,** that VM Contract # 1197 – Furnish and Deliver Police Uniforms be awarded to New England Uniform LLC of 356 Main street, Danbury CT 06810, at a bid price of \$42,863.50; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** that the cost of same be charged to the appropriate Police Department FY 2016/17 General Fund Budget accounts, pending final approval of the budget by the Village Board; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** that the Village Manager is, herein, authorized to execute VM Contract # 1197 – Furnish and Deliver Police Uniforms with New England Uniform LLC of 356 Main street, Danbury CT 06810, at a bid price of \$42,863.50 and to undertake administrative acts as may be required under said agreement.

AYES

NAYS

ABSENT

Trustee Callaghan  
Trustee Finger  
Trustee Lee  
Trustee Pekarek  
Trustee Samwick  
Trustee Stern  
Mayor Mark

None

None

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None.

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#### Other Committee Reports

None.

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#### Written Communications

Village Treasurer McClure reported on behalf of the Village Clerk Conking that eighteen (18) communications have been received since the last meeting. All communications can be viewed on the Village's website, [www.scarsdale.com](http://www.scarsdale.com) under the Board of Trustees or Village Clerk section.

Seven (7) communications were received concerning the proposed Library renovations from the following residents:

- Susan and Joe Levine, Ardmore Road
- Tama Seife, 21 Circle Road
- Max Grudin, 4 Overhill Road
- Patrick Tse, 22 Circle Road
- Harvey Barton, 12 Overhill Road
- Howard N. Blitman, 3 Elmdorf Drive
- Lika Levy, 21 Lockwood Road

Six (6) communications were received concerning Trustee Finger's vote on the Homestead Tax Option from the following:

- Two emails from Robert J. Berg, 32 Tisdale Road; a response from the Village Attorney is included
- Jeffrey Johnson, Fox Meadow
- Judi Townsend, 195 Bell Road
- Sanford Greenberg, Fox Meadow
- Susan Levine, Ardmore Road

Additional correspondence was received as follows:

- An email from Mark Lewis, 98 Brewster Road, regarding energy savings
- An email from Catherine Purdon regarding the Food Waste Compost Pilot Program

- An email from Chet Vogel, 1 Christie Place East regarding the Village Board Public Hearing on the Homestead Tax Option
- An email from Bob Harrison, 65 Fox Meadow Road, regarding the proposed 2016/17 Village Budget
- An email from Michael Wachs, 18 Dolma Road, regarding the proposed 2016/17 Village Budget

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There being no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Samwick moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 P.M. seconded by Trustee Pekarek and carried by a unanimous vote.

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Donna M. Conkling  
Village Clerk

**RESOLUTION RE:     CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON  
                          THE FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 TENTATIVE  
                          BUDGET**

**WHEREAS,**           pursuant to New York State Village Law §5-508 (3), a public hearing must be held on the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Tentative Budget on or before the fifteenth day of April, with notice of such public hearing published in the official newspaper; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED,**         that the Village Board of Trustees herein schedules a public hearing for Tuesday, April 12, 2016 at 8:00 PM in Rutherford Hall in Village Hall to receive comments on the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Tentative Budget filed on March 18, 2016; and be it further

**RESOLVED,**         that the Village Clerk is hereby directed to publish notice of said hearing pursuant to Village Law.

Submitted by: Village Manager  
Date:            March 17, 2016  
For:             March 22, 2016

**RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE A LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH 17 HARVEST REALTY, LLC, 17 HARVEST DRIVE**

- WHEREAS,** 17 Harvest Realty, LLC, represented by Lee Handler (hereinafter "Licensee") is the owner of certain real property located at 17 Harvest Drive, Scarsdale, New York, as shown on the official tax map of the Village of Scarsdale as Section 22, Block 11, Lot 31 (hereinafter "Property"); and
- WHEREAS,** Licensee is the owner of an existing walkway that encroaches upon the Village right-of-way at the grass area between the Property line in the front of the home located on the Property and the curblin; and
- WHEREAS,** due to the asymmetry of the property, the dwelling was designed to have a front walkway directly to the street from the front door; and
- WHEREAS,** the Village Engineer has inspected the walkway and determined that the existing encroachment of the Village right-of-way does not result in a visual obstruction or unsafe condition; and
- WHEREAS,** Licensee has requested that the Village Board approve a license agreement to legalize the encroachment to permit the use and maintenance of the existing walkway in the Village right-of-way, at the Licensee's expense, in accordance with the final as-built survey dated February 11, 2016 prepared by The Munson Company, attached hereto and made a part hereof and included as Exhibit "A" of the license agreement; and
- WHEREAS,** Licensee will indemnify and hold harmless the Village in all actions, claims, judgments, costs or expenses arising from said use and maintenance of said walkway and provide the Village with a certificate of liability insurance naming the Village as an additional insured, at limits approved by the Village Attorney; and
- WHEREAS,** the granting of said revocable license agreement will not interfere with the Village's present use and maintenance of said Village right-of-way; and
- WHEREAS,** Licensee has informed the Village of a pending sale of 17 Harvest Drive and has requested that the license agreement be transferable to said buyer upon completion of the sale; and
- WHEREAS,** should Licensee sell the property and home at 17 Harvest Drive within three months of the Village Board's approval of said license agreement, the Village agrees to provide for the transfer of said license agreement without

additional fee, contingent upon the necessary amendment to the agreement and proof of ownership; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** that the Village Manager is herein authorized to execute a revocable license agreement in substantially the same form as attached hereto, with 17 Harvest Realty, LLC, represented by Lee Handler, owner of the Property located at 17 Harvest Drive, allowing for the existing walkway to remain in the Village right-of-way; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** that pursuant to the FY 2015-2016 Village-Wide Fees and Charges Schedule, Licensee shall pay to the Village of Scarsdale the sum of \$1,000.00 as an administrative fee associated with the preparation and execution of the license agreement; and be it further.

**RESOLVED,** that should Licensee sell the property and home at 17 Harvest Drive, within three months of the Village Board's approval of the said license agreement, the Village agrees to provide for the transfer of said agreement without additional fee, contingent upon the necessary amendment to the agreement and proof of transfer of ownership.

Submitted by: Village Manager  
Date: March 16, 2016  
For: March 22, 2016

**RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION (NYSDEC) FOR THE CAYUGA POND STORMWATER AND SEDIMENT REDUCTION PROJECT (WQIP #57157)**

**WHEREAS,** In order to understand and mitigate flooding that has historically been prevalent in certain sections of the Village, a Storm Water Drainage Condition Survey was completed in 2004, followed by development of a 2009 Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan, which incorporated mitigation measures targeting six Critical Sub-Drainage Basins located within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recognized 100-year floodplain, including the Sheldrake River Critical Sub-Drainage Basin identified as SR3; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village has aggressively pursued grant funding to support the water quality improvement and flood mitigation projects called for in the 2009 Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan, including 2015 work in SR3 targeting silt removal from the open water course between Seneca and Cayuga Roads, thereby increasing both capacity and flow rates; and

**WHEREAS,** the proposed SR3 Cayuga Pond project will deliver both water quality improvements and flood mitigation services through the combination of a new sediment forebay, increasing the depth of Cayuga Pond by a couple of feet, and installing a pumping station that will help to proactively manage stormwater flows, making it both a logical and necessary project to maintain and enhance the effectiveness of the 2015 completed work; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village applied for a NYSDEC Water Quality Improvement (WQIP) Grant to support completion of the proposed Cayuga Pond project and was awarded a \$1.4 million grant requiring a 25% (\$350,000) local match, a portion of which can be met through in-kind services; and

**WHEREAS,** New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has proffered a grant agreement to the Village, attached hereto and made part hereof; and

**WHEREAS,** on January 26, 2016, the Village Board authorized \$350,000 in proceeds from the Sheldrake River Drainage Project Bond Resolution dated March 23, 2010, attached hereto and made a part hereof, to be applied to the required local match; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village Board also authorized the Village Manager on January 26, 2016, to execute a \$179,450 professional services agreement with D & B Engineers and

Architects, P.C., for engineering services associated with the Cayuga Pond project, WQIP #57157 (resolution attached); now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,**

that the Village Manager is herein authorized to execute a NYSDEC Grant agreement in substantially the same form as attached hereto, for the design and construction of the Cayuga Pond project, as outlined in Attachment C - work plan summary of the contract; and be it further

**RESOLVED,**

that the Village Manager is herein authorized to undertake all administrative acts required pursuant to the terms of the agreement.

Submitted by: Village Manager  
Date: March 17, 2016  
For: March 22, 2016

**RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH EAST CONSORTIUM FOR SPECIAL SERVICES INC.**

**WHEREAS,** the South East Consortium for Special Services, Inc. is a voluntary not-for-profit corporation whose sole purpose is to provide therapeutic recreation services to Westchester County youth and adults with physical, developmental, learning and emotional disabilities; and

**WHEREAS,** the Consortium provides these services through an inter-municipal agreement with the member municipalities of the City of Rye, Towns of Eastchester, Pelham and Mamaroneck, the Villages of Bronxville, Mamaroneck, Port Chester, Rye Brook and Tuckahoe, and the Town/Villages of Harrison and Scarsdale; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village has participated in this program since its inception 33 years ago and has found it to be a very beneficial and successful endeavor; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village of Scarsdale's cost to participate in the Consortium for 2016 is \$16,334.00 which remains unchanged from 2015; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED,** that the Village Manager is hereby authorized to execute a renewal agreement for calendar year 2016, on behalf of the Village of Scarsdale, with South East Consortium for Special Services, Inc. to provide special recreation programs for disabled individuals in Scarsdale, in substantially the same form as attached hereto; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** that the 2016 program year cost of \$16,334.00 is hereby approved and shall be charged to the Recreation Department Operating Budget Account #A-7020- REC-DISAB-400-499.

Submitted by: Village Manager  
Date: March 17, 2016  
For: March 22, 2016

## Donna Conkling

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**From:** Jeannie <baubion\_mackler@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 14, 2016 1:12 PM  
**To:** Clerk's Department  
**Subject:** Letter to Mayor and Board of Trustees re: Library Renovation Plans

Dear Mayor and Trustees,

We have been reflecting on the Scarsdale Public Library major renovation plans.

As Mayor Jon Mark told us, every Scarsdale resident should make their voices heard.

We have lived in this Village for many, many decades and we have regularly used our public library.

The staff is helpful, well informed and cordial. The programs are excellent for adults and children.

The library building is ideally located, nestled in a park-like setting in a most peaceful and beautiful open space.

This Fall we were taken by total surprise when the Library Board presented its renovation plans.

Over the years, we have visited and used our library several times a week. Until the Fall of 2015 we were unaware of

the renovation plans. We had never seen a library survey on the circulation desk, yet we are Friends of the Library.

We have attended 2 renovation plans presentations by Ms. Simon and Ms Bermel in the Scott Room.

We also attended the meeting of the BOT finance committee where the Long-Term Outstanding Debts were presented.

Our response to the library plans as they have been presented to the public follows:

- 1- \$19.5 to \$20.5 million is excessive and extravagant.
- 2- Our Village has many financial priorities ahead of this extensive library renovation and we must not lose sight of our priorities.
- 3- If, indeed, the BOT were to go ahead and accept this extravagant and extensive Library Board renovation plans, it

would set a bad precedent for the School Board who is also planning to spend many tax dollars on the schools in the very near future.

- 4- Our Village roads are in very poor condition and need many miles of resurfacing. ( As of today, we have

spent several thousand dollars on:

2 damaged tires and rims on Bernard's Lexus, and a complete wheel alignment and 2 new front tires on Jeannie's Volvo.)

5- Closing our library for 2 years and moving a skeleton staff to the Supply Field building would be a hardship and unreasonable for us all.

6- The President of the Library Board, Ms. Simon, went overboard and exaggerated, when she described our present library building as:

"tired, worn-down, not up-to-date and aesthetically unpleasant..."

In our discussion with fellow Scarsdale residents, no one agrees with Ms. Simon's description.

Most everyone in our Village "loves our public library" as is.

7- Taking down the 1998 book mezzanine stacks, would be wasting \$1million dollars. To bring in a view of the grounds and more available light, the library architects

could open the rear wall with multiple windows facing the pond.

8- As for doubling the meeting room space parallel to the Scott Room, we believe that it would disfigure the entrance to our beautiful library. It would necessitate

cutting down 50 year old trees and cutting off the beautiful present entrance plaza.

9- Yes, both restrooms need a complete upgrading. Yes, they are very worn-out.

10- As for a dedicated space for teenagers, the architects should look to expand the library footprints in the rear right corner.

11- The Children's corner is lovely, private and very functional. We attend weekly story readings with our 2 grandsons and love the staff and its space.

12- The Reference Room was updated, painted and has new furniture, as of 7 or 8 years ago. Leave it alone,

13- Yes, some of the windows need to be replaced and the roof needs to be fixed for leaks. The AC was just replaced a year ago.

Our beautiful Scarsdale Library is used on a daily basis by many residents, but also by many non-residents who chose to use this idyllic building. No parking meters,

no traffic and a welcoming pond with public benches for a stroll.

Thank you for giving us an opportunity to express our views and opinions.

Cordially yours,

Bernard and Jeannie Mackler  
5 Lenox Plac.

## Donna Conkling

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**From:** Mayor  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 08, 2016 4:00 PM  
**To:** Christopher O'Brien  
**Cc:** Donna Conkling; Steve Pappalardo; Robert Cole; David Lee (dlee.trustee@gmail.com); Bill Stern; dpekarek@verizon.net; Marc Samwick (marc.samwick@verizon.net); Carl Finger; Matt Callaghan  
**Subject:** Fw: Comments regarding proposed library renovation

FYI. JM

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**From:** Mayor  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 8, 2016 3:59 PM  
**To:** Carrie  
**Subject:** Re: Comments regarding proposed library renovation

Dear Ms. Moskowitz -- This is not a "done deal" and I believe I said so at the meeting. The Library Board has its views on how the project should proceed and is advocating for them as they are entitled to do. However, the Village Board is still in the process of considering the matter and has some more thinking to do before a conclusion is reached.

It is the case that the Village is budgeting so it may finish the largely empty second floor space at the Supply Field building. It is doing so in part because if the Library renovation goes ahead, the Supply Field could house the temporary Library. However, that space has been looked for several years at as a place the Village might allocate for a variety of Village uses such as moving the Parks and Recreation Department offices there to free up space in Village Hall as one example. So the Supply Field building interior finishing project that was talked about might get done -- although even that is not a certainty.

As for the Library renovation itself, the Village Board still has a lot of thinking to do before it reaches a conclusion on whether or not to proceed with that proposal or some version of it. It is the intention to have further public meetings on this topic as more facts and information are gathered, and before concluding on the matter.

Very truly yours, Jon Mark

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**From:** thesmarterdog@gmail.com <thesmarterdog@gmail.com> on behalf of Carrie <Carrie@thesmarterdog.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 8, 2016 3:32 PM  
**To:** Mayor  
**Subject:** Re: Comments regarding proposed library renovation

Dear Mr. Mayor,

Quick question: I attended the meeting last night and am somewhat confused. It seemed, based on the discussion at the meeting meeting, that this was a 'done deal'. The conversation that I heard was about specifics about where the library will be moved, etc. etc. Is that accurate?

Thanks, c

On Sat, Mar 5, 2016 at 5:52 PM, Mayor <[mayor@scarsdale.com](mailto:mayor@scarsdale.com)> wrote:  
Dear Ms. Moskowitz and Mr. Nesoff -- Thank you for your email.

Very truly yours, Jon Mark

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From: [thesmarterdog@gmail.com](mailto:thesmarterdog@gmail.com) <[thesmarterdog@gmail.com](mailto:thesmarterdog@gmail.com)> on behalf of Carrie  
<[Carrie@thesmarterdog.com](mailto:Carrie@thesmarterdog.com)>  
Sent: Saturday, March 5, 2016 5:38 PM  
To: Mayor  
Subject: Comments regarding proposed library renovation

Dear Mr. Mayor,  
Attached document contains our comments regarding the proposed library renovation.

Please let us know if you need any additional information. While we will try to attend the meeting on Monday, we may not be able to.

Thank you for all of your work on our behalf as the Mayor of this Village. We appreciate your efforts and those of the rest of the Board of Trustees.

Best,  
Carrie Moskowitz  
Mark Nesoff

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[Carrie@thesmarterdog.com](mailto:Carrie@thesmarterdog.com)<<mailto:Carrie@thesmarterdog.com>>

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Carrie@thesmarterdog.com

## Donna Conkling

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**From:** Mayor  
**Sent:** Friday, March 04, 2016 11:33 AM  
**To:** Christopher O'Brien  
**Cc:** Donna Conkling; Steve Pappalardo; Robert Cole; David Lee (dlee.trustee@gmail.com); Bill Stern; dpekarek@verizon.net; Marc Samwick (marc.samwick@verizon.net); Carl Finger; Matt Callaghan  
**Subject:** Fw: LIBRARY ADDITION

FYI. JM

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**From:** Mayor  
**Sent:** Friday, March 4, 2016 11:32 AM  
**To:** David Hammer  
**Subject:** Re: LIBRARY ADDITION

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Hammer -- Thank you for your email.

Very truly yours, Jon Mark

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**From:** David Hammer <dhgpp@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 4, 2016 10:23 AM  
**To:** Mayor  
**Cc:** overhillassn@gmail.com  
**Subject:** LIBRARY ADDITION

We wish to add our voice in opposition to the addition to the present library.

It is our strong feeling that such a large expenditure in the present day and age with the technology that is now available on the internet is not needed. We have no objection to a reasonable amount of money spent to update the IT system or to structural changes within the present footprint to allow for more seating and a more pleasant environment. However, we fail to see the need for an 18 million dollar investment which will raise taxes and not improve the educational experience for our students.

As to the need for more public space for meetings a less expensive solution is surely available with some further thought and planning.

Sincerely,

David and Barri Hammer  
29 Circle Road

March 8, 2016

The Honorable Jonathan Mark  
Mayor, Village of Scarsdale  
1001 Post Rd.  
Scarsdale, NY 10583

RE: Support for the Plans to Transform the Scarsdale Library

I am writing on behalf of my wife, Barbara Kessler, and I, in strong support for the plans to significantly transform the Scarsdale Library to better serve current and future generations of our community. This important initiative presents all of us with the unique and timely opportunity to enhance our esteemed Library, a most valuable community resource. The Library is committed to inclusion: serving all its residents, of every age and means. The Library also progressively serves residents with various disabilities. My wife and I have been Scarsdale residents for over 30 years. Our three children attended the Scarsdale schools and we all benefited living here. Professionally, Barbara was a librarian for over 30 years including working in the Scarsdale Public Library.

I, first, would like to personally thank the Mayor, the Village Trustees and Village staff for your efforts, professionalism and diligence in reviewing the Library Plans. I particularly would like to thank Steve Pappalardo, the Village Manager, Paul Zaicek, the Village Director of Capital Projects, for his valuable work and contributions in reviewing the technical aspects of the Plans and Mary Lou McClure, the Village Treasurer, in assisting the Library in preparing Village financial controls and oversight of the funds raised by the Library's capital campaign.

The Library Plans continue to be carefully reviewed by the Village Board of Trustees, the Library Board and Capital Campaign Committee. As long time Scarsdale residents, we fully appreciate and understand that the Village Trustees not only are reviewing the Library Plans on its individual merits but also in the broader context of other important community challenges and needs the Trustees are considering at this time. I would also like to assure my fellow Scarsdale residents, that all the members of the Library Board and the Library Capital Campaign Committee including my wife and I are local taxpayers and, we too, do appreciate the professional commitment of the Village Trustees in assessing all the current community needs.

The Library Transformation Plans have been carefully prepared by the Library Board to preserve the integrity of the Library in a cost controlled manner that will enable the Library to significantly and efficiently increase the services and programs provided to our community.

## IS THERE COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR ACTIVE LIBRARY PROGRAMS & SERVICES?

Community support for an active, vibrant and high quality Library is clearly demonstrated by the very high level of community usage of Library services and when compared to other Westchester communities. Additionally, the Library Board's surveys of community residents confirms residents' strong interest in maintaining and increasing Library programs & services. The Scarsdale community's high level usage of Scarsdale Library programs & services consistently increases year over year. Community usage includes all segments of our local community.

## WHY SHOULD THE VILLAGE APPROVE THE PLANS AT THIS TIME?

A low interest rate environment, strong community Library usage, a well developed, comprehensive design plan and lingering significant outstanding infrastructure repairs support acting sooner than later in approving funding for the Library plans. The Village Board properly states that there are other timely Village needs including infrastructure repairs and local school improvements; which we fully understand and respect as residents. However, there will always be on-going important community needs to be addressed. We look for our Village Board to continue to show the leadership and vision for longer term projects that the Village undertakes from time to time. Our community has a rich tradition of displaying leadership and vision in acting in the best interests of our community. We request that we continue this tradition in approving the Library plans.

Thank you again for your courtesy and professionalism in reviewing the Library Plans.

Sincerely,

Steve Kessler  
35 Brite Ave  
Scarsdale, NY 10583

## Donna Conkling

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**From:** Anne Schager <annebrdnce@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 09, 2016 11:27 AM  
**To:** Clerk's Department  
**Cc:** proscars@aol.com  
**Subject:** Taxes

A proposed tax rate increase of 3.69% is outrageously high. It is double the inflation rate and way over the 2.0% cap. I adamantly oppose it.

Anne Schager  
58 Garden Road

## Donna Conkling

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**From:** Mayor  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2016 2:39 PM  
**To:** Donna Conkling  
**Cc:** Steve Pappalardo; Robert Cole; David Lee (dlee.trustee@gmail.com); Bill Stern; dpekarek@verizon.net; Marc Samwick (marc.samwick@verizon.net); Carl Finger; Matt Callaghan  
**Subject:** Fw:

FYI. JM

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**From:** Mayor  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2016 2:38 PM  
**To:** Howard Goldin  
**Subject:** Re:

Dear Dr. Goldin-- This will acknowledge receipt of your email.

Very truly yours, Jon Mark

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**From:** Howard Goldin <howardgoldinmd@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2016 12:13 PM  
**To:** Mayor  
**Subject:**

Dear Mayor: My wife and I have lived in the village for about 40 years. We have an old house on a beautiful piece of property on Old Orchard Lane where we have our gardens with peace and quiet, a welcome alternative to working in NYC and apt. living. We raised our three children in Scarsdale. They are all grown and gone. I am 80 years of age and my wife 3 years younger. Because our property taxes are about \$60,000, which we can not afford, at this time in our lives, we are forced to look for another place to live, but will not have the relaxing creativity of our gardens.

I think it is unfortunate that the village makes no effort to address the needs of elderly people like us, enabling us to keep and enjoy a place which has been so central to our wellbeing.

Howard Goldin MD,

Clinical Professore of MedicineThe New York Presbyterian Hospital/ Weill Cornell Medical College

## Donna Conkling

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**From:** Mayor  
**Sent:** Monday, March 07, 2016 10:46 PM  
**To:** Christopher O'Brien  
**Cc:** Donna Conkling; Steve Pappalardo; Robert Cole; David Lee (dlee.trustee@gmail.com); Bill Stern; dpekarek@verizon.net; Marc Samwick (marc.samwick@verizon.net); Carl Finger; Matt Callaghan  
**Subject:** Fw: proposed tax increase

FYI. JM

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**From:** Mayor  
**Sent:** Monday, March 7, 2016 10:44 PM  
**To:** Michael Wachs  
**Subject:** Re: proposed tax increase

Dear Mr. Wachs -- Thank you for your email.

Very truly yours, Jon Mark

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**From:** Michael Wachs <michael@sociuscg.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 7, 2016 5:38 PM  
**To:** Mayor  
**Subject:** proposed tax increase

Dear Mayor Mark,

I am writing to you to express my disappointment that the Trustees would propose a tax increase of 3.69%, far beyond levels that other comparable towns are levying. It seems to me that there is more than a casual link between the proposed tax increase and upcoming revaluation. As I am sure you are aware, the revaluation destroyed property values in Heathcote even more than the Recession did. I know of homes that are likely to trade this Spring at 20-30% below their assessed values. Hopefully, the Village will get it right the second time, so there is no further value destruction. I understand that the likely shortfall will need to be made up somewhere. I would encourage the Village to use more of the Fund Balance to mitigate a tax rate increase. If the Village gets the revaluation correct this time, high-end property values should begin to recover, and the Village will be able to recover the shortfall through appreciation of real estate instead of a tax rate increase. By contrast, a significant tax increase will only further serve to negatively encumber property values, as the revaluation has, creating an unending downward spiral.

I hope the Trustees recognize the value that was destroyed by dramatically raising taxes beyond fair valuations in Heathcote, and don't make the same mistake a second time. Scarsdale is a great place to live, but needs to be competitive with other similarly situated municipalities. Today, plunging high-end real estate prices suggest that it isn't. Raising taxes will only exacerbate the problem, not correct it.

Respectfully,  
Michael Wachs  
18 Dolma Road  
(917) 509-6446

## Donna Conkling

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**From:** Mayor  
**Sent:** Monday, March 07, 2016 1:49 PM  
**To:** proscars@aol.com; dlee.trustee@gmail.com; bill.stern@yahoo.com; dpekarek@verizon.net; marc.samwick@verizon.net; carlfingerscarsdaletrustee@gmail.com; MJC49C@gmail.com; Clerk's Department; Christopher O'Brien; Steve Pappalardo; Robert Cole; Mary Lou McClure; Wayne Esannason  
**Subject:** Re: The Proposed Tax Rate Increase of 3.69 % Is Too High Plus The Water Bill Increase

Bob -- Thank you for your email.

Very truly yours, Jon Mark

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**From:** proscars@aol.com <proscars@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 7, 2016 1:42 PM  
**To:** Mayor; dlee.trustee@gmail.com; bill.stern@yahoo.com; dpekarek@verizon.net; marc.samwick@verizon.net; carlfingerscarsdaletrustee@gmail.com; MJC49C@gmail.com; Clerk's Department; Christopher O'Brien; Steve Pappalardo; Robert Cole; Mary Lou McClure; Wayne Esannason  
**Subject:** The Proposed Tax Rate Increase of 3.69 % Is Too High Plus The Water Bill Increase

To All :

The proposed tax rate increase of 3.69 % for the average assessed Scarsdale home plus the 21.95 % increase in the water bill for the fiscal year starting June 1 are too high for Scarsdale Home owners in a low inflation rate environment greatly exceeding the tax cap CPI of 0.12 % and the growth factor of 0.33 % for a total tax cap of 0.45 % ..

We urge the Village Board to reduce the tax rate increase by using more of the Fund Balance and cutting additional budget expenditures where possible. Staff has indicated that the proposed Budget has a 13.7 % Fund Balance of the total budget in a policy range of 10 % to 15 %. Staff indicates that the Fund Balance is \$ 8.7 million. The current indicated proposed Budget expenditures are \$ 55,361,405 . A Fund Balance of \$ 8.7 million vs a \$ 55.361 million Budget would calculate to be a 15.7 % Fund Balance of the total Budget.

Please correct our math if there is a mistake. It would seem that the Board could easily use at least \$ 370,400. of Fund Balance which would reduce the tax rate increase by 1 % or more and keep the Fund Balance well within the policy range . We would hope that the Board could reduce the tax rate increase to the 2.0 % area to keep the property tax levy on home owners as low as possible.

Thank you for your consideration in this important matter for our home owner taxpayers.

Bob Harrison, Chairman  
Scarsdale Taxpayer Alert

914 725-0962  
914 646-4054 (cell)

## Donna Conkling

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**From:** Mayor  
**Sent:** Friday, March 04, 2016 11:31 AM  
**To:** Lena Crandall; Donna Conkling  
**Cc:** Kelvin Guevara; Lorayne Fiorillo; Deb Morel; Steve Pappalardo; Robert Cole  
**Subject:** Re: Scarsdale Public TV

Lena-- Thanks for letting us know. JM

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**From:** Lena Crandall <lena.crandall@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 4, 2016 10:38 AM  
**To:** Mayor; Donna Conkling  
**Cc:** Kelvin Guevara; Lorayne Fiorillo; Deb Morel  
**Subject:** Scarsdale Public TV

Dear Mayor,

I was very pleased to see that the Scarsdale Public Television Station re-broadcasted the League of Women Voters' program on the non-partisan system from a couple of years ago. I don't know whose idea it was, but it was a good one!

I'm also using the web site. It's well organized and easy to maneuver.

Many thanks to those responsible!

Sincerely,

Lena Crandall  
227 Fox Meadow Rd  
Scarsdale, NY 10583

## Donna Conkling

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**From:** Mayor  
**Sent:** Monday, March 07, 2016 10:48 PM  
**To:** Christopher O'Brien  
**Cc:** Donna Conkling; Steve Pappalardo; Robert Cole  
**Subject:** Fw: Library proposal

FYI. JM

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**From:** Mayor  
**Sent:** Monday, March 7, 2016 10:47 PM  
**To:** Lika L. Levi  
**Subject:** Re: Library proposal

Dear Ms. Levi -- Thank you for your email.

Very truly yours, Jon Mark

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**From:** Lika L. Levi <likallevi@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 7, 2016 8:01 PM  
**To:** Mayor  
**Subject:** Library proposal

Dear Mayor Mark and the Village Board,

I attended the meeting tonight hoping our Mayor would open up the meeting for comments, but that was not the case. So, I am writing.

I was away overseas for a while and hence could not attend past meetings or voice my opinion since other matters prevailed. Frankly, I thought I would not have to oppose the library's plans for renovation. In an ideal world, who would not want a better library ?

But, our roads are full of potholes, our water is not potable and alas at the meeting almost all of the chairs' upholstery was frayed and in threads...Maybe an indication of the state of our budget/our priorities... Why do we want a better library when we seem so strapped ?

Have we solved the problem of the McMansions being built on small lots ? Have we tackled the neighborhood character issue ? Do we have an open space fund ? Are we leaving a better Scarsdale for future generations ? Less build up or more built up ? Is more built up better ? For who ? What happened to the Village-in-a-park ? Soon, we will say, where is the park ?...

How much debt do we have ? Why not this year instead of increasing taxes, decrease taxes ? Give something to the community, instead of burdening the community, continually taxing us in more ways than one...

I have been away for a while and not up to the latest on the news, maybe all these things are in place.

Then, it makes sense to have a better library, but even then only with zero burden to the tax payer. The library board should solicit private donors...

With best wishes,

Lika

Lika L. Levi  
21 Lockwood Road

Home: (914) 725-9119  
Cell: (914) 589-1794

## Donna Conkling

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**From:** Mayor  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 08, 2016 9:33 AM  
**To:** Christopher O'Brien  
**Cc:** Donna Conkling; Steve Pappalardo; Robert Cole  
**Subject:** Fw: Accident on Crane Rd

FYI. JM

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**From:** Mayor  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 8, 2016 9:32 AM  
**To:** ML Perlman  
**Subject:** Re: Accident on Crane Rd

Dear Ms Perlman -- Thank you for your email. I understand your reaction and hope there were no serious personal injuries.

Very truly yours, Jon Mark

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**From:** ML Perlman <themlperlman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 8, 2016 8:58 AM  
**To:** Mayor  
**Subject:** Accident on Crane Rd

Mayor Mark -

Just saw an traffic accident on crane rd (BTW carstensen & post) that may have involved a sanitation cart in the collision. Emergency vehicles are there now but I could not tell what had occurred. Traffic is backed up at the Post rd - Crane rd intersection.

This accident is representative of the issues The Forum's Municipal Services Committee' recent report warned the town about. The speed and aggressive driving on Crane is a public safety hazard. Kids cross Crane as they walk to school with no pedestrian paths or right of way. What if the collision had involved a person walking? Or a bike?

I know many of my neighbors have expressed equal concern about these issues. Surely the town and board needs to address this wholly and comprehensively.

- reduce speed limit on crane to 25
- add speed bumps
- ticket violations
- paths for pedestrian traffic
- paths for bike traffic

Thank you for your time. It is very disconcerting to see so many emergency vehicles on such a beautiful Scarsdale morning.

ML Perlman  
1 Carstensen rd

## Donna Conkling

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**From:** proscars@aol.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 13, 2016 7:32 PM  
**To:** Mayor; jmark58@aol.com; dlee.trustee@gmail.com; bill.stern@yahoo.com; dpekarek@verizon.net; marc.samwick@verizon.net; carlfingerscarsdaletrustee@gmail.com; MJC49C@gmail.com; Clerk's Department; Steve Pappalardo; Robert Cole; Mary Lou McClure; Wayne Esannason  
**Subject:** Fwd: History of Village Budget Unassigned Fund Balance as a % of the Total Budget

To All :

FYI below are the Village Budget Unassigned Fund Balances as a % of the Total Budgets from the last four Fiscal Years from the Audited Results obtained by FOIL request. This list has been submitted to Catherine Ferris , the Government Reporter for the Scarsdale Inquirer.

Based on Trustee Samwick's prepared statement read at last Tuesday's Village Board meeting that the Fund Balance Policy is to keep the Fund Balance within a range of 10 % to 15 % of the Total Budget.

We strongly recommend that the Village Board MEET NOW to use an additional \$ 384,000 or more of Fund Balance to reduce the tax rate increase to a 2.69 % increase or less. This change in Fund Balance would leave a Fund Balance of \$ 8,340,000 that would be 15.01 % of the total budget , still above the upper end of the policy range. Your Budget must be filed by this Friday , March 18th.

The Village earns very little interest on the Fund Balance. Give some of this money back to the home owner taxpayers with a smaller tax rate increase . May I remind you that Scarsdale homeowners will also have a 21.95 % water bill increase of \$ 118 per average household for the coming year.

From my institutional memory and serving on the Village Board , the Village has consistently had close out surpluses of over \$ 1,000,000 + per year because of good management by Village Staff.

We look forward to any comments from the Board . Are you willing to reduce the tax rate increase on Scarsdale Homeowners Taxpayers ?

Bob Harrison, Chairman  
Scarsdale Taxpayer Alert

914 725-0962  
914 646-4054 (cell)

-----Original Message-----

From: proscars <proscars@aol.com>  
To: cferris <cferris@scarsdalenews.com>; editor <editor@scarsdalenews.com>  
Sent: Wed, Mar 9, 2016 11:24 am  
Subject: History of Village Budget Unassigned Fund Balance as a % of the Total Budget

Catherine,

FYI are the numbers that I presented to the Village Board last night on the Village Budget Unassigned Fund Balance as a % of the Total Budget.

	Unassigned Fund Balance	% of Total Budget
2011-2012	\$ 6,026,977	12.8 %
2012-2013	\$ 7,477,396	15.4 %

2013-2014	\$ 8,486,082	16.7 %
2014-2015	\$ 8,710,658	16.08 %

Trustee Samwick read from a prepared statement that the Fund Balance Policy for the Village has been to keep the Fund Balance within a range of 10 % to 15 % of the Total Budget.

The Total Budget of the new fiscal year starting June 1, 2016 is \$ 55,464,000. A Fund Balance of \$ 8,710,658 as a % of the \$ 55,464,000 Budget is 15.7 % . The proposed Budget is using \$ 1,023,000 from the Fund Balance down from \$ 1,600,000 in the current fiscal year .

We are strongly recommending that the proposed Budget should use an additional \$ 384,000 or more of Fund Balance to reduce the tax rate increase to a 2.69 % increase or less.

This change in Fund Balance would leave a Fund Balance of \$ 8,340,000 which would be 15.01 % of the total budget. Therefore, the Village Budget would have a Fund Balance % still above the upper end of their policy range.

Fund Balance is created from past property taxes collected from Scarsdale homeowners . The Village Board should not be HOARDING taxpayer money EXCESSIVELY !!!

The School Board has applied their Fund Balance appropriately to reduce the tax rate increase. The School Board is projecting a tax levy tax increase of 0.63 % that is UNDER the state tax cap of 0.75 % for their new Fiscal year starting on July 1st.

I hope this information is helpful to you in reporting to Scarsdale Homeowner taxpayers.

Bob Harrison , Chairman  
Scarsdale Taxpayer Alert

914 725-0962  
914 646-4054 (cell)

**Scarsdale Leaf Education Task Force**  
**Review of 2015 Education Campaign and Proposal for 2016**  
**March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

The Leaf Education Task Force was established by the Village Board in the fall of 2014 and has recently completed its second year of community education. Its educational focus has been on giving residents strategies for handling leaves on their properties. The following report provides a review of Task Force activities completed throughout 2015 and a proposal for the continuation of community leaf education in 2016.

**Review of the 2015 Education Campaign**

The Task Force, under the leadership of Anne Jaffe-Holmes of the Greenburgh Nature Center and community volunteers, developed a diverse and in-depth education campaign to provide Scarsdale residents with information about leaf mulch mowing. We held informational events, live demonstrations, distributed mailings to residents, worked with Village Staff in the Parks, Recreation and Conservation and Public Works departments and coordinated with outside organizations such as the Cornell Cooperative Extension. The following is a detailed listing of work completed throughout 2015:

**Events**

- **Mulch Mowing Demonstrations:** Two mulch mowing demonstrations were held at the Weinberg Nature Center and Temple Shaarei Tikvah. Each demonstration included an overview of leaf mulch mowing by Ms. Jaffe-Holmes, a demonstration by a professional landscaper with a commercial mower and a demonstration with a residential homeowner mower.
- **Education Panel with Cornell Cooperative Extension and Local Landscapers:** An education panel event was held to help residents learn about mulch mowing and how it works from representations of the Cornell Cooperative Extension as well as two local landscapers. Questions posed to panelists represented common questions residents had been asking as well as an open Q&A at the event.
- **Benefits of Mulch Mowing Presentation by Chip Osborne:** Mr. Osborne, a national organic turf management consultant and consultant to Scarsdale's PRC department, gave a comprehensive lecture at the Scarsdale Library. His presentation covered the environmental benefits of mulch mowing and the science behind organic turf and soil management. The presentation also included a report on the positive empirical results measured in the soil at Chase Park as a result of mulch mowing.

**Information and Outreach**

- **Mulch Mowing Tutorial Video:** An educational how-to video was produced providing an overview of mulch mowing, the proper technique and what a lawn looks like once leaves have been mulch mowed. The video covers techniques using both commercial and residential mowers. The video was produced in conjunction with Scarsdale Public TV and can be found on [scarsdalepublictv.com](http://scarsdalepublictv.com).

- **Sanitation truck magnets:** Large magnets promoting mulch mowing were created and placed on Village sanitation trucks.
- **Homeowner lawn signs:** Small lawn signs were created for homeowners to place on their properties to identify that they or their landscapers employ mulch mowing.
- **Grasscycling Educational Mailer:** A one-page letter providing an overview of grasscycling and its environmental benefits was sent in the November water bill. The Task Force addressed grasscycling because it provides similar benefits throughout the growing season, is also accomplished easily by mowing and can be an opportunity for a homeowner to try this practice as a companion technique to fall leaf mulch mowing.
- **House of Worship Outreach:** The Task Force contacted local houses of worship about the mulch mowing initiative, local events and how to learn more.
- **Village Hall Entrance Display:** A display was put up in the Village Hall display case to build awareness of mulch mowing and grasscycling.

#### Metrics

- **Mulch Mowing Map:** A map to track properties that are being mulch mowed was created and will be ready for launch in spring 2016. The map will provide practical information and allow residents to locate and view similar properties where mulch mowing is being practiced.
- **Leaf Volume Tracking (DPW):** In order to better track important metrics such as leaf collection volumes and yearly changes, the DPW has begun tracking leaf volumes separate from other yard waste. In past years all yard waste during the fall months was measured in the aggregate, limiting the ability to track changes in leaf collection volume from year to year. The tracking will help the Village determine the results, if any, of onsite leaf management.
- **Cornell Waste Management Institute, Soil Health Assessment Study:** Launched in 2014, Cornell is conducting a two-year study to measure the impact of leaf mulch mowing. Working in conjunction with the Task Force and the PRC, two Scarsdale properties are included in the study (Chase Park and a private residence in the Village Center).

Despite these numerous education campaign initiatives, the use of mulch mowing in all Village public properties (including recreation fields and parks), anecdotal accounts of homeowners switching to mulch mowing and the use of mulch mowing equipment by some landscapers, to date there does not appear to be a significant increase in the adoption of mulch mowing techniques and activity on residential properties. This assertion is based on preliminary metrics of fall yard waste from the DPW, which indicates that leaf volume handled by the Village in 2015 was in line with volume collected in 2014. Although leaf collection volumes are unchanged, we feel awareness of leaf mulch mowing has increased in our community as a result of the education initiatives undertaken to date.

#### Task Force Proposals for 2016

The Task Force proposes continuing community education and outreach in 2016 to continue building awareness of this initiative and to provide information to those interested in adopting

mulch mowing. Although the impact of education alone has been limited, continuing education and outreach might eventually increase residential mulch mowing and lower the volume of leaves collected. The areas of focus for this year's educational campaign will be (1) updating the Village website<sup>1</sup> with easy to use resources (2) outreach to Houses of Worship as well as local organizations and (3) other awareness building and educational actions that can be easily repeated from previous years such as the Village Hall display. We believe this is the most effective way to reach the largest number of residents and leverage the existing work completed over the previous two leaf collection seasons.

In addition to this educational campaign, the Task Force has considered drafting mulch mowing materials for use by the landscaper community for use in their own marketing. These materials would outline benefits of the mulch mowing approach, potentially including reduced costs, and would be provided in a format available for any landscaper to use. In this way, we are hoping to catalyze market forces, letting landscapers publicize mulch mowing as part of their business.

The Task Force does not recommend a continuation of live events such as demonstrations and panels since video replays are available for events held in 2014 and 2015. If the need arises during the fall 2016 season, appropriate live events can be developed at that time.

To support the continuing educational campaign, the Task Force also recommends that the Village Board should adopt a policy change to encourage grasscycling. The Village should discontinue the curbside pickup of grass clippings. Residents and landscapers could continue to bring grass clippings to the Secor facility as needed. This policy change would be an incremental step in promoting the onsite management of grass and leaves.

The Task Force believes the most significant, positive outcome for residential leaf handling and the environment would occur as the result of a policy change discontinuing curbside loose leaf pickup. However, in the absence of such a change in policy and procedure, education on alternatives to leaf collection should continue. Residents are becoming more aware of onsite leaf management options, landscapers are continuing to purchase mulch mowing equipment and other communities and municipalities continue to address this issue.

The Task Force would also like to thank Ms. Jaffe-Holmes of the Greenburgh Nature Center for her expertise, guidance and leadership throughout the 2014 and 2015 education campaign.

Scarsdale Leaf Education Task Force – Resident Volunteers  
March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016

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<sup>1</sup> To be completed after the new Village website format is live.