

**THREE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SIXTY-EIGHTH**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

Video Conference  
Via Zoom  
February 9, 2021

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Scarsdale was held on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 via video conference (Zoom) at 7:00 p.m.

Present were Mayor Samwick and Trustees Arest, Crandall, Lewis, Ross, Waldman and Whitestone. Also present were Village Manager Pappalardo, Deputy Village Manager Cole, Village Attorney Pozin, Village Treasurer Scaglione, Village Clerk Conkling, and Assistant to the Village Manager Katzin.

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Minutes

The minutes of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting of Tuesday, January 26, 2021 were amended by Trustee Crandall, seconded by Trustee Whitestone and carried unanimously to reflect the change of the word “Garden” to “Garth” on page 31 in two instances. The minutes, as amended were approved on a motion entered by Trustee Crandall, seconded by Trustee Ross, and carried unanimously.

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Bills & Payroll

Trustee Lewis reported that he had examined the payment of bills made in advance of a Board of Trustees audit totaling \$2,076,319.35 which were found to be in order and he moved that such payments be ratified.

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

**RESOLVED**, that payment of claims made in advance of a Board of Trustees audit totaling \$2,076,319.35 is hereby ratified.

Trustee Lewis further reported that he had audited the Abstract of Claims dated February 9, 2021 in the amount of \$1,950,014.66 which included \$44,321.16 in Library Claims previously audited by a Trustee of the Library Board.

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

**RESOLVED**, that the Abstract of Claims dated February 9, 2021 in the amount of \$1,950,014.66 is hereby approved.

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### Mayors Comments

Mayor Samwick offered the following Mayor's Comments, stating, "Village Manager Steve Pappalardo announced that he will be retiring in July, following over thirty years of dedicated public service, including nearly six years in his current capacity of Village Manager.

Steve, who I have come to know as a colleague, friend, and trusted advisor, will be missed as he transitions to a new stage in his life. After more than 30 years, Steve's imprints are all over the Village and we, as a community, are as much a part of Steve as he is a part of our community.

Thank you for your outstanding service, Steve. You have cultivated and nurtured our great community – this special place that we have chosen to make our home and raise our families. Our community is content knowing that you have been there, looking out for our well-being and quality of life, even when we had no knowledge of your presence and profound influence.

On behalf of the Scarsdale community, Steve, best of luck in your future endeavors and I'm sure we'll see you around the 'Dale!

### **COVID-19: *Vaccine and Face Coverings***

COVID-19 vaccinations represent an opportunity to protect yourself while helping to counter the devastating impacts of the global pandemic. Although the vaccine rollout is still not up-to-speed, additional vaccines are becoming available and all Scarsdale residents are encouraged to get vaccinated, once eligible and an appointment can be made.

If you are a Scarsdale senior citizen and are having difficulty navigating the vaccination appointment process, Westchester County has launched a new help line to assist weekdays from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM: (914) 813-6300. At this time, all others must either contact their private healthcare provider for an appointment or, for vaccination at a NYS facility, check your eligibility and make an appointment through NYS online or by phone through the hotline: 1-833-697-4829.

Again, all residents are encouraged to become vaccinated once eligible.

In the meantime, please continue to help slow the spread of COVID-19 by adhering to the NYS mandates and continue to follow these CDC and the NYS Department of Health guidelines:

- Wear a mask.

- Wash or sanitize your hands frequently.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Practice social distancing (6 feet).
- Stay at home if you are not feeling well.

Undertaking these efforts, including encouraging children, teens, and young adults, will reduce the likelihood that more rigorous restrictions on businesses and our daily activities may need to be reinstated.

We've done a great job locally, so please keep up your diligent work.

### **Budget Update**

Review and adoption of the annual budget is one of the most important responsibilities borne by your Village Board of Trustees. The financial complexities of this year's budget analysis are particularly challenging with the backdrop of the pandemic.

Below is a brief summary of our progress to-date:

- The second review of our operating and capital budgets (2<sup>nd</sup> Pass) were presented 2/2/21. All budget meetings are included on the Village Meeting Calendar and have been conducted by Zoom, thereby maximizing opportunity for public viewing and engagement.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Pass budget gap was \$1,827,432, including a fund balance appropriation of \$2,250,000. The gap represents the dollar amount needed to present a balanced budget, one where anticipated revenues are adequate to cover proposed expenses.
- Following the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pass, the proposed FY 21-22 General Fund Budget is currently \$60,336,721. By way of comparison, the adopted FY20-21 budget was \$59,238,049. The year-over-year increase of \$1,098,672 is comprised of \$740,000 (67%) non-discretionary items, primarily an increase of \$576,328 in NYS pension expenses. The balance of the \$1,827,432 gap (\$728,760) is on the revenue side, with non-property tax revenues such as parking fees and Justice Court fines having sharply decreased in response to pandemic effects. These revenues are not expected to rebound fully during FY 21-22.
- If the budget gap were to be closed using an increase in property taxes, a 4.37% increase would be needed, or \$249.13 more in Village Taxes for a property assessed at \$1,510,000, the Village average.
- While a 4.37% increase would comply with the NYS Tax Cap Legislation, we are working aggressively to lower the increase to a more reasonable level that reflects and appropriate balance between maintaining Village services and appreciating the broader fiscal conditions we are confronted with as an organization and as a community.
- Importantly, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pass does not call for any reduction to Village services.
- The next step will take place tomorrow at 5pm when we continue to vet projected revenues and endeavor to reduce the financial burden on taxpayers by minimizing any tax increase while continuing to maintain Village services and support community quality of life.

Importantly, budget development is a public process and all residents are encouraged to participate.

Future budget meetings are still planned to be available by Zoom. The notice and agenda for each budget meeting is available through the online at [www.scarsdale.com](http://www.scarsdale.com). Staff are committed to posting each meeting's materials online in advance, as soon as practical ahead of the meeting.

I look forward to continued community participation in development of the FY 21-22 Village Budget.

### **Police Reform and Reinvention Committee**

Pursuant to Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 203, the Village of Scarsdale was mandated to perform a comprehensive review of current police force deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices, and develop a plan to improve, where possible, particularly with respect to the intersection of policing, public trust and confidence in law enforcement, and potential racial bias in the treatment of persons of color.

The Police Reform and Reinvention Committee has prepared a Draft Report which was presented immediately prior to this regular meeting. Members of the Scarsdale community are encouraged to read the report and present any comments for further consideration.

### **Ad Hoc Council to Combat Racism and Bias**

In the wake of George Floyd's tragic death in May 2020, and following a vigil held in Chase Park in June 2020, the Ad Hoc Council to Combat Racism and Bias (CCRB) was formed by resolution of the Village Board on July 20, 2020.

Since that time, the CCRB has been undertaking research and convening Listening Sessions to hear from persons of color about their experiences with diversity and inclusion in Scarsdale. Most recently, the group conducted a Listening Session open to anyone, regardless of race or ethnicity, wishing to relate an experience relevant to the CCRB's charge. To facilitate broad public participation in this effort, including persons unable to attend a CCRB Listening Session, the CCRB launched an online Community Experience Questionnaire and issued a press release to encourage every Scarsdale resident to participate; non-residents were also explicitly welcomed to complete the questionnaire.

The CCRB's work will culminate in a report to be presented to the Village Board at its regular meeting on March 23, 2021."

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### Manager's Comments

Village Manager Pappalardo thanked the Mayor for his kind words regarding his retirement announcement.

Village Manager Pappalardo reported to the Board and the community how the Scarsdale Public Works Department prepares to fight the snow storms that seem to be happening every other day. He stated that during the week leading up to the January 31, 2021 storm event, which lasted for three days, the DPW staff was ready with equipment and inventory materials in anticipation of this large storm. Staff of the Highway, and Facilities Maintenance divisions, as well as the Central Garage were directed to be prepared to report for a long duration event snow fighting operation beginning at 8:30pm.

Mr. Pappalardo stated that on Sunday night, after a single Village wide salt application, the Department switched to an all plowing operation until the storm ended, for some 30 hours and 20 inches later. He stated that plowing operations continued through the day on Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. After leaving for the day on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, staff was directed to return to work again that evening in order to resolve all Village roadways, as a snow squall had covered the Village with fresh snow, with some of it icing.

Village Manager Pappalardo stated that department storm response included staff, as he mentioned, from Central Garage, Highway, and Sanitation. He stated that Facilities Maintenance handles all of the sidewalks and the parking lots in the Village Center. The Parks Department comes in as well, and takes care of all of the parks and recreation facilities that need to be plowed. The Water Department also comes in and takes care of their facilities.

Village Manager Pappalardo stated that Wednesday into Thursday morning, Public Works staff hauled snow from the Village Center and the Heathcote five corners area, and placed it in the open lot at the Freightway garage. An estimated 3,000 cubic yards of snow was removed in a single night. When the depth of the snow gets to be a foot or more, the snow cannot be left in the Village Center or at the Heathcote five corners. The snow piles are too high, affecting sightlines for vehicles and pedestrians and the streets and walkways just are too narrow, so the snow has to be hauled away. He noted that there is quite a mound of snow in the Freightway open lot, piled up along the fence where the Metro North railroad track is. He noted that a total of 30 pieces of equipment was used in the operation, 1,894 man hours of labor was expended consisting of a combination of straight time and overtime, 750 tons of salt and 2,000 gallons of liquid calcium chloride were used between Sunday night and Thursday morning.

Village Manager Pappalardo stated that for the duration of the event, Center Garage staff were able to keep up with vehicle repairs, with only one plow truck being sidelined at the end of the snow fighting operations on Tuesday. That vehicle has since been repaired and was ready for service at the beginning of the next snow operation this past Sunday. Preliminary accounting has the cost of the storm at approximately \$93,000 in overtime and \$42,000 in materials.

Village Manager Pappalardo stated that for the six inch snow event this past Super Bowl Sunday, operations began at approximately 8:30 a.m. and ended around 8:00 p.m., almost 12 hours in duration. They used approximately 400 tons of salt and 1,500 gallons of

calcium chloride. He stated that we experienced yet another storm today with a few inches of snow fall, but fortunately, this happened during the day when the crews were scheduled to work. They went around and did what they needed to do and the roads are safe.

Village Manager Pappalardo stated that there are 24 miles of sidewalks in the Village and snow is removed from them using special plowing equipment that goes around and does the sidewalks and the walkways after the roads are plowed. That operation is usually done early at daybreak because it's very difficult at nighttime to do that work, and could be dangerous for the operators.

Village Manager Pappalardo stated that the winter started slow, relative to storm activity, but as he just reported, it has picked up considerably, and there is still a ways to go. He stated that he would be remiss if he did not recognize our hardworking DPW employees who braved these storms in order to clear the Village roads, sidewalks, and walkways for safe travel. We certainly appreciate their reliability, diligent efforts, and dedication.

Mayor Samwick thanked Village Manager Pappalardo for his comments and echoed his sentiments regarding the DPW staff.

Trustee Crandall informed Village Manager Pappalardo that she has noticed that there have been some mailboxes damaged in the Fox Meadow Road area, and she is concerned about the mailboxes, as well as the Village equipment. She asked Mr. Pappalardo to find out if during these large snowfalls, the mailboxes are getting in the way of the snowplows. She stated that she has noticed that these mailboxes appear to be in the Village ROW and asked if they are causing problems. She thought perhaps there needed to be some communication with the public in this regard.

Village Manager Pappalardo responded to Trustee Crandall's comments, noting that it is not uncommon for the plows, especially during large snowfalls, to hit things like mailboxes or curbing driveway aprons. Sometimes the plows will even hit cars that might be parked on the street. When you get large snowfalls, some of these mailboxes probably weren't visible and the plows hit them. He stated that the Village has insurance for that. He stated that by State law, there is immunity during the snow operations during these types of snowstorms, so if the Village does damage to any personal property that's out in the roadway or in the public right of way, which is what she suggested, the Village does have immunity. These are taken on a case by case basis; the Village does have a facilities maintenance crew, and if they can, they will go out there and reset the mailbox or make a fix if the damage is not too bad. The Village will do it because we try to do the right thing by our residents, but again, there is immunity for this.

Village Manager Pappalardo stated that plowing the roads is a lot of work and they're out there continually driving around in difficult conditions too – you have wind and it's sometimes very difficult to see out the windshield a few feet in front of you, so these things do happen. He stated that he will talk to the DPW Superintendent to find out what damage may have occurred during this past storm, and whether it was any worse than other storms that we've had over the years. If the DPW Superintendent feels that there is an issue, we certainly can follow up, with at least those individuals whose mailboxes may have been damaged.

Trustee Crandall also asked Village Manager Pappalardo to find out if any of our equipment was damaged. Going through the budget process, she is aware of how expensive our trucks are.

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### Public Comment

Mayor Samwick opened public comment at this time and reminded the public that they should please raise your hand on the zoom screen and they will be called upon. Each speaker will have five minutes to speak and in the event they should require more time, there will be another public comment section at the end of this meeting for all those who wish to be heard.

Mayor Samwick noted there are a lot of people that are signed onto the meeting this evening, and recommended that speakers try to be expeditious and say what they want to say; if they agree with what someone else said before them, its fine to just to say that they agree.

**John McCann**, spoke in support of renaming Crossway Field after Rippy Philipps, noting that many of the letters the Village has received in support of this are very touching, including one from his son. He stated that he thinks this is a great way to honor Rippy as he has been on that field for over 30 years.

**Madelaine Eppenstein**, stated that she also support the resolution to rename Crossway Field after Rippy Philipps, as does Kay Eisenman and Bar Hamlin in their individual capacities, recognizing Mr. Philips's contribution as a Scarsdale volunteer. On a personal note, she stated that she is familiar with the important and positive role that coaches play, stating that her husband Ted held 14 school records in basketball in his college career and is still in touch with his JV coach and his varsity coach.

**Dave Pechman**, stated that he is also in support of renaming Crossway Field after Rippy Philipps. He stated that he started playing football in eighth grade and Rippy was a very supportive, great person to be involved with when you are in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. He stated that he pushed the kids, but in a way that was at the right level for people at that age and very good for instilling some amount of discipline, but also camaraderie and teamwork. Mr. Philipps also supported them throughout high school and even afterwards.

**Michael Philipps**, thanked the Board for consideration of renaming Crossway Field for Rippy Philipps. He stated that it is an honor for his younger brother. He stated that he is in awe of the way he treats his kids our kids. He stated that often, after a game, his brother will approach an opposing coach to say hello, introduce himself, and compliment one of the player, and ask them where they're going and what they're doing, and if he can help them in any way. He stated that this is a special quality. He again thanked the Board for their consideration and that it is really special to honor Rippy's selflessness over the last 30 years.

**Dean Borg**, SHS Class of 1980, thanked the Mayor and the Board for their public service. He noted that he was currently in Florida. He noted that he did write in and had included photographs. He stated that he was Captain of the Scarsdale High School in 1979 and graduated in 1980. He stated that Rippy is extremely civic minded and a person whose humility is striking. He stated that up to a few weeks ago, Rippy was unaware of what was happening in the background, on his behalf, until about 10 days ago. Mr. Borg stated that he did not know the extent of how many children he has touched; when he read the letters that were available on the Scarsdale website, it was beyond what I ever knew. Even the way he's conducted himself the last week or so is emblematic of what a special person he is. He stated that this is a wonderful opportunity to allow one of our own to be recognized. He is well deserving and as a teammate going back to our teenage years, he's the same person he always was and always will be supportive, kind, and generous with vision and integrity.

**Paul Fix**, spoke in support of renaming Crossway Field for Rippy Philips, stating that the letter he sent in tells the story, as well as the article he included. He noted that as he sits with his son and looks at him, he can't think of a more appropriate naming of the field. He stated that Rippy literally changed the trajectory of his life, and to think that he'll be coaching his two sons and daughter, makes him very happy. He stated that not many people that have walked this earth, who love and care about others in the Village of Scarsdale the way that Rippy does.

**Scott Kaufman**, stated that he concurs with all the people that have spoken about Rippy Philips. He stated that he is the epitome of Scarsdale Little Raider football. He starts with young kids and follows them through high school into college, and maintains those friendships after college. Renaming Crossway Field after Rippy is a fitting tribute for his decades of dedication.

**Kathy Coleman**, stated that she is supportive of this resolution as well. She stated that she knows him from her time serving as Co-President of the Maroon and White organization at the high school. She pointed out that Rippy was always helpful and insightful and supportive with what the next project should be, or how it should work, so that it has influence and support which extends beyond seventh and eighth grade football. She encouraged the Board to approve the resolution.

**Chris Pierro**, stated that he has been in the community teaching in the middle school for 25 years and coaching. He stated that he has been coaching for a long time and has had the luxury and pleasure of working with Rippy. He stated that the biggest thing he can say about Rippy is the fact that he was concerned about the whole child, not just winning on a football field. As Paul Fix mentioned, Rippy touched kids' lives, not by just what he did on the field, but off the field. He stated that he can't think of a better person to have something named after, considering the amount of time he spent in this community representing the children and the community.

**Robert Berg**, 17 Black Birch Lane, stated that he had two points to make this evening. First, he stated that he is delighted that the Village is planning to rename the Crossway Field for Rippy Philips. He stated that he has read many of the letters supporting him and they're truly remarkable. He stated that he has always known Rippy to be an ardent supporter of sports in Scarsdale and spoke to his efforts in raising money for the turf field

which was done within a couple of days. The outpouring of support from the community shows what an amazing person Rippy is and he's so deserving of this honor.

Mr. Berg stated that the other point he wanted to talk about is the proposed pool fee increases. He stated that he is concerned that raising the prices by the large amount proposed is going to drive membership lower. There has been a big problem over the last couple of years with membership declining. He stated that he doesn't think that the Village has performed a sensitivity analysis, but he is convinced that if the Village raises the full membership prices as proposed, there is going to be a decrease in total revenues, which will be an even bigger problem. He stated that he does support selling 100 memberships to non-Scarsdale residents as was done last year. He stated that he believed the maximum charge for such membership should be two times the normal Scarsdale resident price; at three times the price he did not think the Village would sell too many memberships.

**Matt McCann**, supported all the previous comments. He stated that Rippy's commitment to the football program and to the people of Scarsdale expands beyond the field itself, and it really carries through to high school, through college and afterwards. If anyone was really interested in playing football on another level, he never hesitated to assist with that. All of the support to this proposal speaks to his values and what he thinks of this town.

**Robert Harrison**, 65 Fox Meadow Road, stated that his two sons played football and enjoyed their time in the youth leagues of Scarsdale. He strongly supported the resolution renaming Crossway Field for Rippy Philipps. Rippy has done a lot for Scarsdale over the years.

Mr. Harrison congratulated Village Manager Pappalardo on his retirement and for his many years of service to the Scarsdale community. He also congratulated on the work done with the recent storms; his management of the storms and the work of the DPW as well as the work done by all of the men and women who work for Scarsdale. He stated that the cleanup has been amazing. He wished Mr. Pappalardo well in his future endeavors.

Mr. Harrison referred to a letter from the Scarsdale Forum about a truck and vehicle in the budget for a cost of approximately \$280,000 which he agreed could be deferred. He also stated that he hoped the Board could bring any increase in taxes under 3%, although he would like to see it at 2%. Deferring the truck cost of \$280,000 and using the fund balance to a degree as well as saving money in other areas could hopefully get the tax increase down to a manageable amount.

**Andrew Verboys**, stated that he is the varsity football coach at Scarsdale high school, finishing up his 31st year. The key to his success is being part of a great school district, a great town, and an unbelievable community. He stated that he has the hidden weapon of Rippy Philipps, and to have somebody like him, supporting the high school program, and they work hand in hand. He stated that not a day goes by that he doesn't get a phone call from Rippy asking him what more they can do, where is there anything else they can continue to do. He stated that he appreciates the Board taking the time to consider naming the Crossway Field in honor of Rippy. He stated that he has spent so many hours

on that field with him, and there's nobody more deserving of it. He finished by stated that it has been great listening to everybody talk about what a wonderful person he is.

**Gail Leone**, stated that on behalf of her entire family, they fully support naming the Crossway Field after Rippy Philipps. She stated that he is more than a coach, he is a friend of their family and he becomes part of everyone's family. He is interested in who the kid is and who the family is, what's happening at home and she stated that it's truly incredible.

**Dan DiFalco**, stated that he has known Rippy Philipps since he was young, played for him, and Rippy followed him through high school and followed all of his brothers through high school. He stated that he went on to play college football and coach the varsity football team at Ardsley high school and owes almost all of it to Rippy, who inspired him. He stated that he was never very talented, but what Rippy did for him as a young man and now even as an adult, he can't thank him enough. He stated that when you drive by that field, the first thing comes to your mind is Rippy Philipps and the amount of young men that he did so much for and continues to do for. He will do so for a long time to come. As a very good friend and a mentor, he stated that it would be amazing for the Board to give him that honor.

**Paul Pechman**, stated that he is a 30 year resident of Scarsdale, and both of his boys and his brother David spoke earlier. He stated that they both had very positive experiences on the team and a lot of it has to do with the wonderful coaches. He stated that Rippy was always an example of team work, commitment, and accomplishments, as well a fairness and he was always generous with his efforts. He was always thoughtful, kind, and considerate and would like to echo all the comments made previously, all the wonderful things that have been said. Rippy made a huge contribution to his family in terms of the community. He stated that he and his family feels that it is a great idea to put Rippy's name on Crossway Field.

Mr. Pechman also thanked everyone in the Village for keeping the roads clean during the recent snowstorm.

As there were no further public comments, this public comment section of the meeting was closed at this time by Mayor Samwick. The Mayor noted that there will be a second public comment section at the end of the meeting and anyone is free to speak again with a five minute limit at that time as well.

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### Trustee Liaison Reports

Trustee Waldman reported as Liaison to the Library, stating that \* The Library has increased its virtual program offering for all ages, as well as offering take and make crafts for kids, teens and adults. Parents are encouraged to reach out to the Librarians to get book recommendations for their children, which you can then pick up through contactless pick up.

The Library is hosting a variety of events to celebrate Black History Month including

a panel discussion with authors, library staff and NYS Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins on February 23 at 5:30pm. Registration is required. Please check the Library website for all of their upcoming programs and events at [Scarsdalelibrary.org](http://Scarsdalelibrary.org).

Apiary Cafe at the Library is eager for your breakfast, lunch or coffee break business. Their menu is available on the Library homepage and you can order online. They will also deliver through Grubhub.

Library is working towards a limited reopening on or around March 1. Information about the Library's plans are on the Library website."

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Trustee Crandall stated that she would like to add to Trustee Waldman's report on the Library, stating that the Library has been partnering with our Aging in Place Program. There are two Aging in Place programs coming up -- the first one is tomorrow, Wednesday, February 10th at 1:00 p.m. on zoom. Jane Slevin of the Westchester Jewish Community Services will address the topic of caregiver burnout. The second program is on Wednesday, March 3rd at 1:00 p.m., which features a talk on the COVID19 vaccinations by Dr. Michael Palumbo, Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of White Plains hospital. Both programs are free and open to the public, but advanced registration is required.

Trustee Crandall stated that those interested may contact the Aging in Place Coordinator, Mary Ellen Saenger at 914-723-3281 or Claudette Glasser at the Scarsdale Public Library, 914-722-1300 for more information. She stated that you can go to the library website, which is [www.scarsdalelibrary.org](http://www.scarsdalelibrary.org) to register. You will have to create an account but, as Trustee Waldman stated, it is well worth it - the library has something for everyone.

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### Trustee Arest

Trustee Arest reported on the Statements of Expense and Revenue for June 2020 through January 2021.

General fund appropriations were 57.95% spend as of January 2021 as compared to 64.38% in 2019-2020.

General fund revenues other than property taxes are \$8,509,642 through January 2020 compared with \$11,400,736 with the same period of last year. This represents a decrease of \$2,891,044 from 2019-2020. The primary factors are the reduction in Parking Permit and Meter revenue of \$1,400,000 and the reduction in Recreation revenue of \$978,000. The sale of parking permits was decreased due to the COVID-19 impact on commutation into New York City. Also, the coronavirus led to the cancellation of summer camps with the resultant reduction in revenue and expense.

The actual collection of Village taxes through January, 2021 is at 94.04%. The second half of the Village taxes were due in December 2020. The percentage of actual Village Tax collection at January 31, 2021 was 99.46%.

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Trustee Lewis stated that the Statement of Expenses and Revenue that Trustee Arest just reported on was very clear; however, he wanted to take a look at page one, in particular the data and other related to revenues and surplus. He stated that when he looks at that line and obviously the real property taxes, and at a percent to date and percent a year ago, that's tracking quite nicely. He stated that this should give us some reassurance, as we project forward and when we look at the other revenue, as well as the sales tax.

Trustee Lewis continued, stating that some of the matters highlighted by Trustee Arest is where the challenge has developed this year, and this seems to be the amongst the greatest sources of our challenge. When he looks at the differential between percent to date versus percent a year ago, it's a 10% differential. When he looks at the annual budgeted items for those categories, and when we think about future years, we can all have views about whether or not these items bounce back in the upcoming year. However, in the years that follow this next year, he felt that it would be important to see scenarios; to see what happens to the deficit that we have and the hole in our budget. If this does not have a complete rebound in year two and year three, he is concerned that lifestyle habits have changed and we may not return readily to pre-COVID levels. That may leave a structural imbalance in our budget; a revenue stream that's a bit lower than we would like.

Trustee Lewis stated that he would like to see some multiyear projections on this with scenarios at the next budget work session. He stated that he feels it is difficult for the Board make decisions on the budgeting without those kinds of multiyear projections on this.

Village Treasurer Scaglione stated that there are some items that where the revenue is lower, we've also seen a reduction in expenses as it relates to the Parks and Recreation Department. As discussed previously, there are some items that are hard to predict what the changing patterns are going to be, for example, the parking revenues. And then there are other revenues that we have seen an increase in because of changing patterns; for example, we've seen an increase in our mortgage tax, and some spikes in building permits and such. Therefore, we can certainly talk about that at the work session tomorrow; we've spent a lot of time looking at it, but to project out a few years it is very uncertain as to what the patterns are going to be.

Trustee Lewis stated that he thinks it would be important because it will influence how comfortable we are in taking reserves this year and if we think we might have to take them again next year.

Trustee Arest thanked Trustee Lewis and noted that the Board did request that information and he seconded that. He was happy for the reminder to every one of that because one of the requests for tomorrow's meeting is to get into deeper detail for the revenue assumptions for that exact reason. There is big difference in policy about using

fund balance for one time deficits versus things that may be ongoing for exactly the reasons that Trustee Lewis stated. He said he looks forward to that discussion.

Trustee Crandall suggested that the Board find out what assumptions our neighbors are making. She said that when she listened to the County budget presentation to the Westchester League of Women Voters, she heard them say that they're assuming that their parking at the County Center will come back by 50% by the summer months. However, she stated that she doesn't know if that's changed. Also, the Town of Greenburgh might have some assumptions about their commuter parking.

Mayor Samwick asked that the Board continue the budget discussion at tomorrow's budget meeting.

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Trustee Arest introduced the following resolution to call for a public hearing on a local law authorizing a real property tax level in excess of the New York State cap. He stated that there is a very good memo backing this up with a lot of information from the Village Treasurer.

He stated that he believed it is the Board's hope to not have to ever get to this vote, their hope is we that they are currently under the tax limit, and they expect to stay under the tax limit. However, the Board has learned, especially this year with the uncertainties that exist, that you never know what could happen, so it would be irresponsible for this body, not to adopt this resolution and not to preserve that optionality, just in case. However, he stressed that this is not signify that this Board is intent on going over the tax cap. This is similar to a housekeeping item in this respect. He stated that so that the community understands, there should be no panic, and there should be no concern from this resolution.

Upon motion entered by Trustee Arest, and seconded by Trustee Crandall, the following resolution was approved by the vote indicated below:

**RESOLVED**, that a Public Hearing is hereby scheduled by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Scarsdale to be held on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom video conferencing, to consider a proposed local law to amend a local law authorizing the Board of Trustees to adopt a budget for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law §3-c, as attached hereto and made a part hereof; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Village Clerk is directed to advertise said Public Hearing.

<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Trustee Arest	None	None
Trustee Crandall		
Trustee Lewis		
Trustee Ross		

Trustee Waldman  
Trustee Whitestone  
Mayor Samwick

Before voting aye, Trustee Arest noted that he has absolutely no intention of supporting this resolution unless it really becomes necessary.

Trustee Lewis stated that he supports the idea of an open public hearing because discussion and transparency is always helpful, however, he could not imagine any scenario where the Board should or would raise taxes anywhere near or above the tax CAP. With these great reservations he voted aye regarding the resolution and the public hearing.

Trustee Ross echoed Trustees Arest and Lewis' comments, stating that he hoped that if there's any discussion of actually exceeding the CAP, that discussion will be deferred until such time as the Board is actually considering doing that, which he did not anticipate would happen. He voted aye.

Trustee Waldman agreed with her fellow trustees and voted aye.

Trustee Whitestone stated that he couldn't say strongly enough that he thinks the Board can very much get under the CAP and not trigger this option, and he agreed with what Trustee Arest stated in that optionality matters. He concurred on the issue of attacking the structural questions that have been raised, and voted aye.

Mayor Samwick voted aye and stated that he agreed with some of what's been said and would like to provide a slightly different perspective as well. He agreed that the Board has no intention of going over the tax CAP and he didn't think any one of them wants that to happen. However, in the past, he has been on Boards that have passed the tax CAP resolution, not just for optionality, but you don't know what will come down the pike and if you are in a position where you do have to exceed the tax CAP. If you do not adopt this local law, there are very tangible penalties that would be assessed on the Village and avoiding those penalties has very real value to the Village and its tax base.

A brief discussion ensued amongst the Board members, the Village Attorney and the Village Treasurer regarding the reasons behind and the benefits of adopting the preceding resolution.

\* \* \* \* \*

Trustee Arest noted that as Parks and Recreation Superintendent Gray mentioned in his memorandum, these increases relating to the 2021-2022 Recreation Fees are all directly or indirectly related to increases in personnel, including part time workers, such as for the day camp, or if it's through outside contractors that the Village hires for various events and programming. He noted that the minimum wage is going up again from \$14 to \$15 which is accounted for in this. That is the bulk of these increases; the Board always tries to do their best to have the fees offset the expenses.

Upon motion entered by Trustee Arest, and seconded by Trustee Crandall, the following resolution regarding Establishing Fiscal Year 2021-22 Recreation Fees and Charges was approved by the vote indicated below:

**WHEREAS,** the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department annually reviews its Recreation Fees and Charges with input from the Advisory Council on Parks and Recreation and the Board of Trustees; and

**WHEREAS,** the Advisory Council on Parks and Recreation reviewed the proposed Fiscal Year 2021-22 Recreation Fees and Charges Schedule at its meeting held on December 16, 2020, recommending the schedule be presented to the Village Board for their consideration; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village Board reviewed the proposed Fiscal Year 2021-22 Recreation Fees and Charges Schedule at Work Sessions held on January 21, and January 28, 2021, having modified the schedule to address increased operating costs in connection with COVID-19 protocols prior to providing for the modified schedule to be formally presented to the Board for consideration of approval at its February 09, 2021 meeting; and

**WHEREAS,** Fiscal Year 2021-22 fee increases are proposed for the following existing and new programs or offerings, as detailed in the attached staff memo dated February 01, 2021, attached hereto:

- Day Camp
- Sports Camp
- Soccer Camp
- Teen Travel Camp
- Halloween Window Painting
- Basketball K-2 Sunday Clinic
- K-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Flag Football
- Basketball League
- Pool Permits and Guest Fees
- 100 Non-Resident Family Pool Permits; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** that the fees and charges for recreation programs identified in the Recreation Fees and Charges Schedule, dated February 01, 2021, attached hereto and made a part hereof, are herein adopted and shall remain in effect unless further amended by resolution of the Village Board of Trustees.

<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Trustee Arest	None	None
Trustee Crandall		

Trustee Lewis  
Trustee Ross  
Trustee Waldman  
Trustee Whitestone  
Mayor Samwick

\* \* \* \* \*

Trustee Waldman

Upon motion entered by Trustee Waldman, and seconded by Trustee Crandall, the following resolution regarding Acceptance of a Gift for the Scarsdale Public Library was approved by a unanimous vote:

**WHEREAS,** the Scarsdale Library Master Plan, dated June 10, 2013, supported by the Scarsdale Village Board of Trustees via resolution dated April 8, 2014, identified a number of building renovations and additions that would 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 constituting a welcoming and versatile learning center; and

**WHEREAS,** the Library Addition and Renovation Project is anticipated to cost \$22,285,034, with over \$8,000,000 in project funding already raised through the Library Capital Campaign, courtesy of the philanthropy exhibited by Scarsdale residents; and

**WHEREAS,** the following donation has been offered to the Scarsdale Public Library Addition and Renovation Capital Improvement Project: Friends of the Scarsdale Library - \$37,311.70; 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 following gift toward the Scarsdale Public Library Master Plan Improvement Project: \$37,311.70 from the Friends of the Scarsdale Library; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** that the Village Treasurer take the necessary steps to complete the transaction and accept the financial gift totaling \$37,311.70 and deposit said funds into 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 the community it serves.

Mayor Samwick noted that the Board does a wide range of things as Trustees and when they are able to do encouraging things where the community is building an expanded and improved library, and seeing enormous amounts of generosity coming from the community, it is really heartwarming. The Board thanks everyone that's been involved in this from the residents who helped fund the campaign, to library staff, to volunteers on the Library Board, the Campaign Committee, and the Building Committee – he thanked them stating that the end result is great and they are very excited to have an opening soon around March 1<sup>st</sup>.

\* \* \* \* \*

Trustee Waldman stated that her next resolution is also very heartwarming and it is the resolution to name the football field at the Crossway athletic complex the Richard “Rippy” Philipps Field at Crossway. As everyone heard tonight from many residents of Scarsdale this evening, as well as former students coaches and parents, and the 100 plus letters of amazing and touching stories of how influential Rippy is to so many children's lives in Scarsdale, there is clearly overwhelming support to honor Rippy by naming the football field at Crossway in his honor.

Upon motion entered by Trustee Waldman, and seconded by Trustee Crandall, the following resolution regarding Naming the Football Field at the Crossway Athletic Complex the Richard “Rippy” Philipps Field at Crossway was tabled to the next regular meeting of the Board by a unanimous vote:

**WHEREAS,** longtime Scarsdale resident Richard “Rippy” Philipps has been deeply involved in Scarsdale youth athletics for nearly three decades; and

**WHEREAS,** Mr. Philipps currently serves as the President of the Scarsdale Raiders Football, is a member of the Westchester Youth Football League Board, and previously served as an Executive Board member of the Scarsdale Youth Football League, having committed countless hours over the past 26 years to helping Scarsdale youth enjoy the game of football, while having also encouraged development of valuable life skills, including discipline and collaboration within a team framework; and

**WHEREAS,** Richard “Rippy” Philipps has not only committed his life to serving Scarsdale youth through his demonstrated leadership and commitment to supporting their recreational interests and enhancing their personal growth, as reflected in the attached bio, but his mentorship guides and supports our youth well after their last down on the field, as they continue on with their life pursuits; and

**WHEREAS,** as a testament to his positive impact and lasting influence, more than 100 Scarsdale residents, including former football players, have recently written individually to the Village Board of Trustees requesting that the football field at the Crossway Athletic Complex (Crossway Football Field) on Mamaroneck Road be renamed in honor of Richard “Rippy” Philipps; and

**WHEREAS,** citing the “passion, dedication, love and the tireless and tremendous amounts of time Rippy has dedicated to the youth football program,” the transformative effect Mr. Philipps has had upon Scarsdale’s youth football players, and observing that Rippy is a “local institution, well respected and loved in the community,” the Advisory Council on Parks and Recreation voted unanimously to request that the Village Board consider renaming the Crossway Football Field in honor of Richard “Rippy” Philipps, a request supported by staff; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** that the football field at the Crossway Athletic Complex shall now be officially known as the *Richard “Rippy” Philipps Field at Crossway*, an honor held in the highest regard by the Village Board; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** that the Village Board extends its heartfelt thanks and gratitude to Richard “Rippy” Philipps for his exemplary commitment and selfless dedication to advancing the physical fitness and positive maturation of Scarsdale’s youth through athletics.

\* \* \* \* \*

Written Communications

Village Clerk Conkling reported that twenty-seven (27) communications have been received since the last regular Board of Trustees meeting. These written communications include responses from the Mayor, and may be viewed on the Village’s website at [www.scarsdale.com](http://www.scarsdale.com).

- 23 emails have been received in support of renaming Crossway Field, The Richard "Rippy" Philipps Field at Crossways". These emails have been posted on the Village’s website under written correspondence.
- An email from Robert and Terri Harrison in opposition to a proposal to increase the Scarsdale resident pool permit rates.
- An email from Robert Harrison regarding the lack of opportunity for the public to speak at the budget meeting of January 28<sup>th</sup>, and his suggestions surrounding any increase in pool permit fees.
- An email from Susan Levine, and an email from Nicholas Thompson regarding gas-powered leaf blowers.

\* \* \* \* \*

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 P.M. by a motion entered by Trustee Arest, seconded by Trustee Crandall, and carried by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

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Donna M. Conkling  
Village Clerk