

THREE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FORTY-SEVENTH

REGULAR MEETING

Video Conference
Via Zoom
March 24, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Scarsdale was held on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 via video conference (Zoom) at 8:00 p.m.

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

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Before approval of the minutes, Mayor Samwick stated that he would like to entertain a motion to amend the agenda to include a period after Manager’s Comments for Trustees to comment on budget related matters followed by Public Comment, as well as adding a resolution that Trustee Arest will have prior to calling the Public Hearing on the budget; that resolution is also related to the budget and lastly to table the first resolution that Trustee Lewis has regarding extension of the contract for administrative services with Dattner Architects on the Scarsdale Library Renovation and Expansion Project. Motion so moved by Trustee Arest, seconded by Trustee Lewis and carried unanimously.

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Minutes

The minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting of Tuesday, March 10, 2020 were approved on a motion entered by Trustee Crandall, seconded by Trustee Waldman and carried unanimously.

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Bills & Payroll

Trustee Ross reported that he had audited the Abstract of Claims dated March 24, 2020 in the amount of \$1,641,890.92 which includes \$2,511.89 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 Ross and seconded by Trustee Crandall, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

RESOLVED, that the Abstract of Claims dated March 24, 2020 in the amount of \$1,641,890.92 is hereby approved.

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Before beginning Mayor's Comments, Mayor Samwick stated that County Executive George Latimer may be joining the meeting at some point. The Board will break wherever they are in the agenda when he phones in and permit him to speak.

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Mayor's Comments

Mayor Samwick stated "Scarsdale always comes together in times of adversity, and this is certainly no exception. We are a strong and tight knit community, united in our dedication to supporting each other and in our recognition that we are better when we work together. Every day I hear examples of how we continue to be the caring and generous community that we all cherish. Let's take care of each other, as we always do - reach out through phone calls and emails to our neighbors and friends, especially seniors and those directly impacted by the Coronavirus. Although we cannot be together physically, we can do our part to keep our community strong and connected.

I would like to highlight one of the recent shining examples of our community's generosity. On Friday, the Scarsdale Chinese Association secured and donated 3,000 surgical masks to Scarsdale's first responders and to the Scarsdale Volunteer Ambulance Corps. As you know, many first responders and health care providers are having a difficult time getting medical and protective supplies, so please follow the lead of the Scarsdale Chinese Association and donate personal protective equipment, medical supplies, food and other essential items to the Village, the Scarsdale Volunteer Ambulance Corps (SVAC), White Plains Hospital and other worthy causes that are helping to protect our community.

For the foreseeable future, the Village and the Board have three priorities: (i) the health, safety and welfare of our residents, Village employees, and local merchants, (ii) delivery of essential Village services, and (iii) fiscally responsible and prudent management of the Village budget.

This is the first Village Board meeting being held via videoconference, so please bear with us as we move through various segments of the meeting, including public comment. The Village Board is committed to open and transparent communication and to seeking extensive public input, so we will ensure that the public has ways to share its views with us – even if we encounter technical issues. Also, given the potential number of participants in this teleconference, speakers during public comment will be limited to 3 minutes. A second public comment period will be held at the end of the meeting provided that the second public comment period is able to start before 10:00 p.m. and the second public comment period will conclude no later than 10:30 p.m. In the event there are technical issues or time does not permit you to conclude your public comment, you are welcome to email me at mayor@scarsdale.com with the remainder of your thoughts and your email will become part

of the public record. We expect future meetings and work sessions of the Village Board to be held via videoconference for the foreseeable future.

I'd like to provide an update of COVID-19 in the Village of Scarsdale. The Village receives daily updates of positive COVID-19 cases from the County Department of Health, which receives the information from the State Department of Health. This information lags, but we would like to share it with you, where we are, so you are as well informed as we are. As of today's report, there are 38 positive cases of COVID-19 in Scarsdale. This virus indiscriminately impacts every segment of our population. Please be compassionate and caring to those of us that have tested positively.

Communication is always a priority of our Village, but of the utmost importance at this difficult time. The most urgent messages to convey at present are:

1. Stay Home, Save Lives;
2. When outside of your home, be sure to practice social distancing; and
3. Wash your hands frequently and use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol.

I also ask that Scarsdale residents recognize that there are many of us out walking, running and cycling - especially on nicer days. Please exercise restraint and caution while driving on our roadways. Please slow down. I would also like to encourage the use of social distancing in environments that we are not accustomed to using such distances, such as on line in grocery stores or at restaurants when picking up food and when meeting our neighbors while on a walk. These actions can help to flatten the curve and save lives.

With regard to Scarsdale communication, I am very pleased to report that the Deputy Village Manager Rob Cole has been designated as the Public Information Officer and he has done an outstanding job keeping the community updated on the rapidly evolving events that impact the Village and its residents. The communication strategies being deployed to help keep you informed include:

1. Our Twitter presence - @ScarsdaleGov – which can be accessed via the Twitter app or at www.Twitter.com/ScarsdaleGov. This has been an active source of community announcements and I encourage all residents to follow us on Twitter;
2. Notify Me - sign up on the Village website to receive Press Releases by subscription. Press releases are also available online at www.Scarsdale.com; and
3. Weekly Updates to our COVID-19 Webpage on the Village website.

I will also send weekly updates to the community. These updates will be tweeted and will be sent out to those who sign up for Notify Me as well as being posted on the Village website.

I'd like to now speak about the Current Year and the coming year FY 2020-21 Village Budgets. The Village has statutory deadlines to file and adopt its annual budgets. The first of such deadlines with the filing of the draft Village budget, occurred on March 20th. As is done every year, the filed draft Village budget is available on the Village website. New York State requires that we hold a public hearing on the proposed FY20-21 budget and vote to adopt a budget no later than May 1st. This evening's agenda includes the calling of a

public hearing for the Fiscal 20-21 budget on April 14th with a vote to adopt the budget expected on April 28th. Again, these are statutorily required dates.

Village staff and the Board spent an enormous amount of time on the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget. The originally crafted budget was conservative and was based on assumptions that may no longer be accurate given the pace of change of the economic impact of COVID-19. We have addressed these changes in a few ways.

First, as a result of the virus-related changes to Village operations, last week the Village Manager and I requested that the Village Treasurer review the current fiscal year budget. At this juncture, we believe that the budgetary impacts of COVID-19, while overall negative to the Village, will not cause a deficit in the current fiscal year budget. The Village's current year fiscal position benefits from thorough and conservative fiscal planning coupled with quick and decisive action by the Village Manager as well as last year's change in the County sales tax rate. There are over two months remaining in the current fiscal year and the economic impacts of COVID-19 are rapidly evolving and severe. Accordingly, there will be ongoing revisions to the current fiscal year projections and the coming fiscal year budget – commencing well before the start of the Village fiscal year on June 1st. Our approach to the budget will remain to be: (i) be fiscally responsible, (ii) base budget adjustments, if any, on facts and on our best available information, and (iii) utilize the flexibility inherent in the Village's budget authority to adjust the budget after it is adopted, as is likely to be required.

Second, the Village Manager and I asked the Village Treasurer to review the 2020-21 Village budget with the intent of reallocating certain funds totaling \$300,000 to create a COVID-19 contingency account to address a portion of the revenue and expense impacts that may occur as a result of the pandemic.

Third, with the potential for material future fiscal impacts resulting from COVID-19, the Village Manager has directed Department Heads to restrict spending to essential items required for the operation of our Village and for our response to the current pandemic. You will see a resolution this evening that freezes certain line items in the current fiscal year and establishes the COVID-19 contingency account that I just mentioned. The amount reallocated into the reserve account is over \$1.55 million, including over \$1.25 million from the current fiscal year plus the previously mentioned \$300,000 reallocated from the coming fiscal year. These two actions are first of what we fully expect to be a sequence of Board and staff actions that are designed to fiscally adjust to the rapidly changing economic environment that we find ourselves in. As with all budget matters, these discussions will be open to the public and will include ample opportunity for public input.

Our overall long-term operating goal is consistent with what it has always been – to provide the residents with the essential services they expect from the Village at a cost residents are willing and able to pay. Of course, it is impossible to plan for an unprecedented event – such as this one, but with the Board's and the Village staff's focus on the operational demands of the moment, which are rapidly changing; we will make every effort to meet the operational challenges we are all facing.

Lastly, these are unprecedented times and there are likely to be a wide range of implications, some which are visible to us today and some that are not. We will continue to

diligently and responsibly act to protect the health, safety, and welfare of our community. Trustees may have some comments about the budget as well and the Trustees may make their comments before we vote on Calling for Public Hearing on the Fiscal 2020-21 Village Budget.

I'd like to make a couple of general comments as well. Scarsdale resident, Julie Zhu, sent me the following quote from Vice Admiral Sean Buck, Superintendent of the United States Naval Academy, "We are in uncharted waters right now, but with your trust and support, we will navigate and get through this together." Fear only lasts so long, but hope never dies.

Please be safe and stay well. Although things will get more difficult before they improve, I know that we will come through this, and I look forward to sharing much happier times with you in the not too distant future.

I will ask the Village Manager to provide us with an update of Village operations. Before I hand it over to Steve, I would be remiss if I do not acknowledge the Herculean effort put forth by the Village Manager, Deputy Village Manager, Department Heads and staff over the past weeks in addition to the work of our first responders. Thank you all for your extraordinary efforts during this crisis. Scarsdale's residents are fortunate to have such a hardworking and dedicated staff. Residents, feel free to thank Village staff as they protect us, pick-up our trash and do all the things that permit our Village to continue to operate during this pandemic.

The Village started planning for the Coronavirus on February 2nd - well ahead of any regional impacts from the virus. We are grateful for your foresight. Since that time, much has been and will continue to be asked of staff. Village staff always rise to the occasion to keep us safe and to provide essential services such as police and fire protection, waste removal and continuous water service among many other things.

I would also like to acknowledge the Scarsdale Volunteer Ambulance Corps, one of our most treasured volunteer organizations. Never have we needed their services more.

Steve and all of those I mentioned, on behalf of Village residents, we thank you. One of the reasons that Scarsdale is a great place to live and to raise a family is because of the care, dedication and professionalism, and responsible stewardship you bring to the Village each and every day."

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Manager's Comments

Village Manager Pappalardo thanked the Mayor for his kind words and he echoed the Mayor's comments about the Village Staff. They do a tremendous job, and when they are need the most, they are there, and he knows that they will continue to work hard during this time.

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At this time, Mayor Samwick stated that County Executive George Latimer had joined the meeting via teleconference. He stated that he was very glad that the County Executive was able to join the Village Board meeting this evening. The County Executive and his staff have been outstanding partners of the Village since this pandemic started and also as they have been since the County Executive took office two years ago. The County Executive exhibits genuine cooperative leadership, sensitivity and clear, timely and concise communication and appropriate and decisive action to address the needs of the County, which has never been greater than at this trying time. He thanked Mr. Latimer for all he does for the County and again thanked him for joining the Village Board meeting this evening; the Board is very happy to have him here.

George Latimer, Westchester County Executive thanked the Mayor for his kind comments and he stated that he appreciated the Mayor and the Board giving him a quick opportunity to give them an update on where the County is with COVID-19 and then he will take any questions from the Board. He stated he was joined on the line by Ellen Hendricks, the Assistant Director of Intergovernmental Relations and is a key person of their team in communication.

County Executive Latimer stated that he could have echoed the Mayor's comments about the Scarsdale professional staff; they have been terrific to work with. This is obviously an area where we have no roadmap and we are all trying to figure out how to do things under tremendous pressure. He stated that he was very appreciative of the Mayor and the Board, and the staff.

Mr. Latimer noted that earlier today the Governor stated that statewide there were 25,665 positive cases and 3,891 in Westchester County. Thirty-eight of these are tracked to Scarsdale. Considering that 3 weeks ago yesterday we had our first case, and that we now have almost 4,000 positive cases tells you how contagious this virus is. We take it very seriously from our standpoint; what we are concerned about is that the expansion of the people that contract the virus grows exponentially. Eighty percent of the people that contract the virus can handle it with their own bodies and don't need help; 20% become very ill and may need hospitalization. There are 3,000 hospital rooms in Westchester County and we can handle that 20% number now; what we can't handle is if it increases tenfold again in a week's time we will run out of hospital rooms and ICU rooms quickly. This is why the County has contributed the County Center to serve as a temporary hospital to add additional beds, and we don't know if that is going to be enough. We all see what is happening in Italy, for example, and it is tragic. We don't know how hard we are going to have to work to avoid that outcome.

Mr. Latimer stated that the County has also allocated Glen Island as a testing center. He stated that they have been able to test more aggressively in Westchester County per capita than any other county in the nation. There is also a testing center in the Westchester Medical Center, one is just opening at St. John's Riverside in Yonkers, and they have had their continual teams of County and State Department of Health nurses doing testing in house. There is an aggressive testing regimen but we still have a long list of people that need to be tested.

The County has been looking at how to be helpful to the local governments; their emergency operations center, emergency department is serving as a conduit in taking in requests for PPE, as well as hand sanitizer. They take the requests from each of the communities, ferry that to Albany, Albany gets the County the materials, and the County redistributes it out to the

various towns. That process is slow, but they work to push it along. He informed the Mayor and the Board that they can reach out to him or any member of the County Legislators should the Village need anything, and they will be helpful if they can.

Mr. Latimer stated that the Beeline Bus system has suspended collecting fares; those using the system must enter using the rear entrance. In this manner they do not go past the fare box or the driver and a couple of rows are blocked off to safeguard the driver as some of the ridership may have the virus and they don't want to lose the drivers. Without the drivers, there will be no bus system to operate.

Mr. Latimer continued, stating that they are keeping all of their parks open at this time – the Bronx River reservation, which is a great place to walk and bicycle; Kensico Dam and Saxon Woods. However, they are trying to enforce social distancing as best as they can. The golf courses are being kept open; the clubhouses are not open. Golf is not a contact sport; you can space yourself out at the tee box and the green. There is a rule of one cart per person when they go out. A decision will have to be made about opening Playland and the beaches which usually open up at the end of May, and the pools that open up at the end of June. They don't know yet what they are going to do. Both the Village Recreation Department and the County Recreation Department will be in contact to share information so that any decisions that are made can be somewhat coordinated.

Mr. Latimer stated that he has been working with the School Districts; the day care is not a need in every single district but in those districts where there is day care they want to make sure that children in grades K-5 have that opportunity to be cared for so that their parents, if they are emergency service and hospital workers, will be able to go to work. The County is also making a call for all nurses, health care professionals, and retired doctors that have left the profession for a while.

County Executive Latimer stated that they have a hotline, 211, which people can call for general information, and there is an email address as well, COVID19FAQ@westchestergove.com. All of this information is on the County's website in English and Spanish. The hotline is getting 1,200-1,500 calls per day. There is a separate hotline that they refer people to when they have a prescription from the doctor to get a test.

Director of Economic Development Bridget Gibbons is working to try to start a clearinghouse of information for businesses, which have been hit hard by COVID-19. He stated that he thinks that we will have to look to Washington to provide the assistance that is bigger than the Village, County and State.

County Executive Latimer closed by stating that our mission here is to try to keep the contagion at a level that our health care system can handle. If we can do that, and the rush passes, we have a chance of resuming normal business activity. We are going to do this based on science, not political science. We can't have the restaurants open until the health care professionals tell us we can and we are just going to try to make intelligent decisions at every turn, and the County appreciates the Village's partnership.

Trustee Lewis thanked County Executive Latimer for his comments and asked him to keep the Village posted on the sales tax as that will be important to them as they continue to revise the budget. Trustee Lewis thanked him for his service.

Trustee Veron stated that one of the questions they continue to be asked regularly is regarding short term capital loans and if there is anything local where they can afford businesses the immediacy of cash.

Mr. Latimer stated that unfortunately, because both the State and the County are in the same budgetary situation, the State is trying to finalize its budget now, with all of these open ended variables that we can't predict, neither the State or County have the resources to be able to help the local businesses that really need it, or even to the workforces of those local businesses. They will have to look to the Federal government; that is something on their level to make the decision to invest in. Some of the businesses may not come out of this depending on how long it is before the help comes. They are lobbying for this and have congressional help in their delegation; however, he did not think there would be anything from the County or the State in the short term that will be significant enough to help.

Village Manager Pappalardo thanked the County Executive for his leadership.

Mayor Samwick thanked the County Executive for joining the meeting this evening; it has been very helpful for everyone. His support of the Village and the County has been very important to them and it is appreciated.

County Executive Latimer thanked the Mayor and the Board, as well as the staff.

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Village Manager Pappalardo continued with Village Manager Comments. He stated that he had a report that he had written to update the Board and the community on the operations here in the Village relative to the Corona Virus:

“In response to the CoronaVirus outbreak and Governor Cuomo’s Executive Order, the first one he issued, Village Hall was closed on March 16, 2020 and continues to be closed to date. All 14 Department Heads and other select staff were issued laptops to work remotely from home and so-called non-essential employees were sent home on administrative leave and available to assist remotely with the Corona Virus effort as needed. They have been very helpful over the last couple of weeks in this effort.

Voice messages left on each department’s general business number are accessible to the department heads on their respective laptops in order to return phone calls and emails remotely as necessary and time allows.

Emergency Public Safety Police and Fire Department and Public Works personal including the Water Department. have been maintaining operations at their respective facilities. The Scarsdale Volunteer Ambulance Corps is maintaining operations at their headquarters on Weaver Street. Select Village Manager’s Office staff are reporting to work at Village Hall to coordinate the overall Village emergency response including assigning a

Public Information Officer as the Mayor mentioned earlier in his comments, Deputy Village Manager Rob Cole and furthermore, establishing a coordinated communications post.

Other department heads are reporting to work to complete essential functions and further organize for an anticipated lengthy stay from the office. These include the Village Treasurer and select staff to complete the bi-weekly payroll and to issue the 2020 Westchester County tax bills; the Village Clerks Office who handled over 200 absentee ballots in a single day in anticipation of the Village Election on March 18th which was subsequently postponed by the Governor the following day; the Building Inspector to cancel inspections and contact local contractors and tradesmen with outstanding building permits; and the Justice Court Clerk who contacted all defendants for last week's and the previous week's court calendar as Village Justice Court was suspended until further notice by Judge Alemany in coordination with the Village Manager's Office. The State has also suspended all Justice Court operations this past week.

All non-statutory required evening meetings at Village Hall were cancelled with a single Planning Board meeting held. Rutherford Hall seating capacity was reduced considerably to provide for the minimum 6 feet for social distancing recommended by the health agencies. All such meetings have been further cancelled until April 17th and we are working toward conducting the statutory meetings remotely using Zoom as we are this evening.

Cleaning protocols in all occupied Village buildings were enhanced prior to the Village Hall closure. To date, janitors continue to sanitize frequently touched areas including hand rails, door knobs and work stations. Personal hand sanitizers and disinfectant products were purchased and provided to staff members working in Village facilities. Pursuant to a written request, the Village received a delivery of hand sanitizer from the State of New York which was distributed to Village facilities in operation. We are awaiting a second delivery of hand sanitizer from the State. A cleaning company was engaged to thoroughly clean all surfaces and high point areas utilizing a "fogging" machine, which gets to all points in all of our facilities. The Village Hall, Library Loft, Girls Scout House and Wayside Cottage have all been cleaned in this manner. All activities in these buildings have ceased and they are available for Village emergency management use should we lose a building to contamination or otherwise. Additionally, the Public Safety Building and emergency police and fire vehicles and equipment are continually cleaned in this fashion to protect our employees. With the assistance of the Scarsdale Volunteer Ambulance Corps, the Village has purchased two of these fogging machines and will be cleaning our facilities and emergency vehicles as needed moving forward.

On Friday March 20th the Village Manager extended the closure of Village Hall until April 17th pursuant to the continued threat to public safety.

Village operations have evolved and transitioned in accordance with the Governor's frequent Executive Orders and guidance from the CDC, NYS and County Health Departments.

At this point only “essential employees” as defined by the latest Executive Order are reporting to work. All others are home working remotely and available to the Village as needed.

All non-essential businesses were required to close as of Sunday, March 22nd and the Village Center merchants have complied. I was down there on Saturday, went to all the stores and they are doing the best that they can down there under the circumstances, providing take-out and other services as they can. It is a sad situation for our local businesses and we just hope it gets better as time goes on. We will certainly work with them to do what we can.

The Public Safety and Public Works departments have further established operational guidelines in an effort to maintain services for as long as possible. The common theme in these efforts is to separate the experienced crews to the greatest extent possible to mitigate loss of workers should one become infected by the virus. In order to do so, has required physically separating the employees during the work day, establishing permanent work groups of the same personnel, longer shifts, and, in the case of DPW, utilizing less experienced Highway and Facilities workers in the Sanitation Division as garbage collection is deemed an essential public safety service. In the Water Department we have engaged a private firm with the requisite NYS licenses, to operate our water pumping stations should our pump station operators be quarantined. We have two pump station operators currently working in the Village and our Water Superintendent has the license to operate pump stations as well, but this certainly is important back up that we’ve been able to secure, should we have issues with our employees. Department heads have also developed plans for reduced services should less personnel become available over time.

To date, staff and crews are performing their functions and holding up well under the circumstances.

The Police Department continues to provide 24/7 Highly Visible Preventative Patrol, and continues to adapt to the ever changing environment associated with this pandemic through frequently issued Patrol Bulletins. The Chief has instituted a Public Safety Answering Point pre-screening when dispatching Officers or SVAC personnel on Medical Aided cases for the safety of the responding personnel. Most importantly they are providing immediate response to all Emergency Calls for Service and Crimes in Progress, with all calls addressed and followed up on as needed. The Chief has also prepared several alternate work schedules which can be implemented in stages to ensure continuous public safety staffing. Residents are reminded to continue to call 911 for Emergencies and 722-1200 for non-emergencies. Also, please take advantage of our online services by requesting police reports through the Village website. The reports will be sent online or through the United States Postal Service. This will assist the Police Department to continue their focus on Corona Virus related calls as our Records Room civilian staff is currently at minimal levels.

Additionally, Police Chief Matturro is constantly in touch with County Police Chiefs and those of our contiguous communities devising mutual aid plans should one or more local police departments suffer high numbers of personnel and other losses during this emergency event.

The Fire Department has now transitioned to 24 hour tour shifts as opposed to the standard 10 hour days and 14 hour night shifts. These shifts have dramatically cut down on the number of personnel coming and going from the three fire stations reducing the chances of personal exposure to the Virus. The Chief has also established a temporary quarantine area at Fire Station No. 1, Popham Road, should a Firefighter complain or exhibit Coronavirus related symptoms, so as to quickly remove him from other department personnel prior to receiving medical assistance.

The Public Works Department continues to function at both the administrative and operating levels. Operations are primarily focused on sanitation services, public safety and emergency Highway Division functions and essential Central Garage operations. Departmental personnel have been interspersed within divisions to protect against losing too many employees within each division due to exposure to the virus. Sanitation collection is considered the most important public health service at this time. In DPW, as of this week, curbside food scrap recycling has been temporarily suspended until further notice. Residents may utilize the food scrap drop-off facility at the Recycling Center, which continues to maintain normal operating hours and services. The current plan is for a Village employee to remove the food scraps from the resident's vehicle and dump for them so the resident never leaves the vehicle. Should this change due to staff reductions moving forward, residents are reminded to maintain proper social distancing when visiting the site. This temporary suspension of the popular curbside food scrap program is necessary to help maintain continuity of the balance of our sanitation services amidst the aforementioned staffing changes. As the twice weekly food scrap routes comprise roughly 25% of all Village households, suspending this service is the least impactful of all other services provided by the Sanitation Division which include garbage, commingled recyclables and newspapers/pulp.

Other Village service modifications to date impacting the public include the closing or modified use of Village parks, playgrounds, and athletic fields. This decision was made in order to slow the spread of CoronaVirus cases and to promote recommended social distancing amongst people. It is imperative that residents maintain proper social distancing and do not congregate in groups at these Village facilities. There are a total of 23 Village Parks and public spaces impacted by these changes which are all identified with details on the reduced usage for each, in a Village press release issued today. Please check the Village website under the Corona Virus page for this press release. Additionally the Parks and Recreation page on the Village website includes this information. Please note that the Police Department patrols will be checking these sites regularly.

Finally, I would mention that the Human Resources Director has drafted a COVID-19 policy for Scarsdale employees which provides a road map on how to handle these personnel issues related to the virus as they arise. This policy has and will continue to serve us well.

There will certainly be more to report in the weeks ahead. Thank you.”

Mayor Samwick noted that staff has been very busy and there has been a lot to adapt to in a short time, and they have done an exceptional job.

Village Manager Pappalardo stated that he also had some comments on the Budget.

“In response to the CoronaVirus Pandemic and its current and potential budgetary impact on Village operations and emergency services, the Village Treasurer and I have reviewed current fiscal year expenditures and revenues and projected final estimates through the 4th quarter ending May 31, 2020. Through this effort, as the Mayor mentioned, we identified a total of \$505,000 in various departmental .400 contractual and other accounts, and \$750,000 in various Non-Departmental accounts for a total of \$1,255,000. An additional \$185,000 is anticipated in certain departmental personnel service lines for a total anticipated savings of \$1,440,000.”

A Village Board resolution on tonight’s agenda recommends that these funds be transferred to a contingency account to fund potential COVID –related emergency services. Any unspent funds on May 31st would fall to the unassigned fund balance which totaled \$8,058,156 as of May 31, 2019. Based on projections, this anticipated FY19-20 fund balance would offset the loss of Village revenues through the end of May related to the situation we are in.

Additionally, the Manager and Treasurer also reviewed the FY20-21 Tentative Budget and amended the 5-year Capital Budget and Plan by deferring certain projects to future years resulting in a decrease in the General Fund transfer to Capital of \$300,000. An additional reduction of \$40,000 in the General Fund transfer to the Central Garage Internal Service Fund is also recommended in this resolution as the Internal Service Fund has adequate Fund Balance to cover the budgeted expenses.

The reductions in the transfers to the Capital Budget and Central Garage would be placed in the aforementioned Contingent Account for COVID-19 related expenses during the FY20-21 Fiscal Year.

As detailed in tonight’s resolution to the Board, an additional \$1.7 million in Fund Balance Assigned for Transfers to Capital could be redirected to the 2020-2021 budget. Of that \$1.7 million, \$1.45 million would be eligible for debt financing. That would be the \$450,000 that we have budgeted for the Hutchinson Stormwater Project and the \$1 million that we have budgeted or have an assigned fund balance for the Heathcote Road Bridge rehabilitation.

The \$1,440,000 identified in the FY19/20 budget, the \$340,000 in Capital and Internal Service fund expense moved to contingency and the \$1.7M in previously assigned capital projects total roughly \$3.5 million. A review of our budgetary situation at the end of the first quarter of 2020-2021 could lead us to additional reductions in departmental budgets.

A similar situation occurred during the 2008-2009 budget. That year, we identified \$1,631,450 in anticipated revenue shortfalls from nine major accounts representing 3.4% of the budget. We also identified reductions in departmental expenses in order to offset the revenue shortfalls. The actions taken included carrying open positions which impacted salaries, overtime, health and dental insurance and pension. Additionally, each department was provided a target to reduce spending for materials and supplies.

As we did in 2008-2009, we would look to transfer the departmental reductions into a contingent account, which could remain frozen if there is no recovery in revenues, or re-appropriated by the Board if the economy begins to recover by the end of the fiscal year.

The amount and distribution of the departmental reductions would be determined by the Village Manager similar to the process in 2008-2009. I only give you that as a benchmark as a similar situation that occurred back then with the recession and the market crash. That worked out well, so we are looking to do something similar this time around

Thank you.”

Mayor Samwick stated that is evident from the Village Manager’s comments, the Village does have financial flexibility and that is an important element of what we do on long term planning as we have conservative budgeting and we make sure that we work very hard to deliver services efficiently.

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Mayor Samwick thanked Village Manager Pappalardo for his report and then requested any comments from the Trustees at this time to go over their budget related comments. He stated that Trustee Arest has been the Board’s point person on the budget, so he asked him to address this first.

Trustee Arest stated, “As the Mayor has stated, we understand the gravity of the situation we are all faced with and recognize that our focus must be on public safety, continuity of essential services and prudent fiscal planning in the face of difficult times and incredible uncertainty. Our economy is virtually frozen and facing severe challenges that are rapidly evolving. I am personally distraught over the impacts to our economy but more importantly to the displaced workers and small business owners who are feeling it the most. Scarsdale will not be immune to the economic impacts of COVID-19 and we must come together as a community as much when this is over as we have during this incredibly difficult time. This also means that we as your Village Government need to ensure that we are prepared to have our budget and our approach to drafting it reflect the time we are in.

So what are we doing as a Village?

We started acting immediately. Not only have we been working on COVID-19 preparedness for weeks, we have also looked at what we can do immediately to this year’s budget and the next, and I will not repeat all that the Village Manager just went through, but I think it gives people an idea of all of the hard work that goes on behind the scenes to make sure that we are as prepared as we can be.

Candidly, we are in a difficult predicament as to next steps. We have four hurdles before us that make immediately reevaluating the entire budget infeasible. First, we are in the middle of a public health crisis and state of emergency. Our priority has been and needs to continue to be the health and safety of our community. And that leads me to the second hurdle, availability of staff. Our department heads and their teams along with the Village Manager’s Office are working considerable hours ensuring that we can keep essential

services running, and that the men and women that perform these services are able to do so safely and hopefully remain healthy. Third, NY State law requires us to hold a public hearing on the tentative budget as the Mayor mentioned, on or before April 15th and we must have our budget approved prior to May 1st. Lastly, we face unprecedented uncertainty. And as uncertainty mounts, so do the number of permutations of possible impacts to our budget.

So what does that all mean?

This Board is fully aware of the hard work that will be needed. We know that many, many hours of budget meetings and revisions are to come. It is very likely that with staff, we as a Board and we as a community will need to reassess every service and every project. We will also have to reexamine how we plan to pay for them possibly using additional borrowing as well as using our fund balance. In other words, we know that substantial cuts could become necessary.

We must immediately begin to layout out a roadmap for a process to ensure that we remain focused on the fiscal responsibility that we are known for. One that not only evaluates various scenarios and funding sources but that has an integral role for this Board and also a concrete plan for the community's voice to help guide us throughout. Such a foundation should not only instill confidence in our community that we have a path forward but will put us in a position to make it happen as soon as we have a better understanding of what comes next and what the various ramifications of living as we currently are will have. With more certainty will also come much better information. This is far too important to rush out of panic or fear. This needs to be a deliberate process and the community can be assured that we, the Board and staff, fully understand that austerity measures must be our modus operandi at this time and into the foreseeable future until a revised budget can be crafted.

I do not want to spend too much time going over individual budget line items as I have been doing myself over the past week but I do want to highlight that just Sales Tax, Traffic and parking fines, parking meter fees, building permit fees, our share of mortgage taxes collected along with Interest income were expected to account for \$8.37mm, or over 14% of the revenues relied on in the tentative budget. How much of this revenue might we lose?

Of course, those are only some of the revenue categories that will be affected and do not include other expenses that are in some way correlated to the health of the economy, such as our pension costs, or the health of our staff with health insurance costs, nor does it go beyond the short-term implications of what our new reality may look like. Unfortunately, what we can all be most certain of is that the original assumptions we relied on when working through the 20-21 budget are no longer correct.

The challenge tonight and in the coming days, as I view it, is determining what to do with the Tax Levy. Our property tax levy accounts for roughly 69%, or \$41.2mm of our \$59.4mm budget. Once a thorough reevaluation of this budget is conducted it will result in adjustments to some combination to our five main levers: Number 1 - reduction in services,

2- reliance on debt, 3- use of unassigned fund balance, 4- a greater reliance on the tax levy and, 5- looking at ways to increase other revenues.

In a perfect world, I would announce on this zoom meeting right now that I could not support any budget that does not freeze or reduce the tax burden on our community. I have participated in too many Village budget meetings to know that Boards and Village Staff work extremely hard to minimize unnecessary increases. All options will be on the table as we modify the FY 20-21 budget but will the changes that the community will accept be enough without some increase this year?

I am also cognizant that the decisions we make today will directly impact the ones that will need to be made in next year's budget as well as years to follow. We have critical infrastructure needs and must be careful to protect our tax base and the ability of Scarsdalianians to live here now but also must not be shortsighted to think that people want to move to communities with malfunctioning sewer and water lines or roads that seem to have more holes than smooth surfaces. There are only a fixed number of line items that can be paid for with debt and we do not have an unlimited fund balance to use.

I should note that the current budget already depends on over \$1mm from fund balance specifically for tax relief. I am concerned that lowering the proposed increase could make a difficult situation that much worse and require a spike in our tax rate next year. We need to be very careful about balancing our commitment to addressing the current situation with a long-term view protecting Scarsdale. We have already started austerity measures and are ready to work with the community to make tough choices. Let's do this prudently, let's do it responsibly to come out of this stronger and I'd like to thank the Village Manager and Treasurer for your leadership on this and the entire Board for what is going to be a lot of hard work ahead, but I know we'll come out better for all of us. Thank you."

Trustee Lewis: "Thank you, Mayor. COVID-19 has changed the world, and our economic and fiscal trajectory.

In the past week the NYS Comptroller, the NYC Comptroller, and the Citizens Budget Commission have issued fiscal warnings and revised projections. Rating agencies have already put certain municipal issuers on watch list for downgrade. The municipal bond market, as well as the corporate bond markets, are pricing a high degree of stress.

Acknowledging we have entered a new operating environment, we will need to more dynamically manage our budget for the foreseeable future. This means more working sessions, I believe, and a focus on developing a range of scenarios for consideration.

I believe we need a sensitivity analysis of our revenue stream to economic decline, guided by our own historical data as well as data from publicly available sources.

We should be able to develop a best case, worst case, and mostly likely economic and fiscal scenario. By developing these scenarios and a decision tree that allows us to map how we will react to a divergent set of outcomes, we will be better prepared to revise the budget moving forward.

By relying on a sensitivity analysis of our revenue streams, developing scenarios and decision trees, we will increase the probability that our response to changing circumstances is strategic and not reactive.

With input from our neighbors who are engaged deeply in markets, finance, and planning, we increase the chance that our Village will navigate these challenges with the attributes we value intact, and our sense of community strengthened.

Working together, we can build a new chapter in our Village's proud history of collaboration between neighbors and arrive in a safe harbor of better times.

I am thinking tonight of everyone who is sick or suffering in anyway at this time. Please know my thoughts and prayers are with all of my neighbors who are experiencing financial stress, personal challenges (health or otherwise), and the anxiety of living through a crisis the likes of which we have never seen. Thank you."

Trustee Veron stated, "I want to add my voice to my colleagues'. First and foremost, I want to tell our residents that we care deeply about your health and wellbeing and want you to be safe. We also want to extend our sincerest gratitude to everyone on the front lines - medical, first responders, and those providing essential services. These are difficult times for everyone, but I have complete confidence that we will absolutely bounce back.

There's no doubt - this Board is keenly aware of our fiduciary responsibility to you, our residents. We prepared the 2020-2021 budget in a very different environment and now given the COVID19 outbreak, we must reexamine our plans, focus on what is absolutely essential, and set aside reserves to manage through the uncertainty. At this juncture, we're all guessing at how this pandemic will continue to unfold and how long it will last. What we do know now is that our underlying assumptions must change. We cannot count on our revenue projections, and we will need to make prudent expense decisions. Like we're all doing on a personal and professional level, the Village will run scenarios, planning for the worst but hoping for the best.

Tonight, we're taking an important first step. Our action marks the beginning of a process that will be informed by new data, experience and analytics. It is not business as usual; however, emergency planning is not new to the Village. In record speed, the Village staff has already turned around a proposal to designate funds from our 2019-20 Budget for emergency relief and has also identified capital and other projects that will need to be deferred. Since February, Village staff has been diligently recording COVID19 expenses and has kept abreast of developments at the County, State and Federal level. I am confident that together we will manage through. This Board will meet as regularly as needed; we will seek your input, and we will do whatever it takes to protect your health, safety and general welfare."

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Public Comments

At this time, Mayor Samwick opened public comment; stating that this is the first time the Board meeting is being held via Zoom.. He reminded everyone that given this format and the potential number of people that may be involved, the first public comment session comments will be limited to three minutes.

Robert Berg, 32 Tisdale Road, thanked the Mayor and the Board for their work in keeping the Village functioning as best as possible during these trying circumstances. He stated that the ramifications for the residents of the Village are horrific, from both a health and economic perspective. Few residents will emerge unscathed, experiencing economic hardships. No one can predict how long it will be before an economic recovery is underway, nor how strong an economic recovery will be. The situation is far worse than the 2008-09 financial crisis. The slight modifications to the tentative Village budget and the capital deferments that the Mayor and Village Manager mentioned this evening are simply insufficient. He stated that an emergency Village budget meeting must be convened and figure out how much more substantial budget modifications must be made in the next fiscal year. This means budget cuts and shared financial sacrifices by Village residents and Village employees alike. This must be a very conservative budget that reflects our current economic reality and what the residents can actually afford to pay.

As a first step, Mr. Berg stated that he urged the Village to reduce projections for non-property tax revenues for next year by \$5 million. He felt that some of the projected revenues are wildly overstated, such as sales tax revenues, mortgage tax, building permits, parking permit fees, Justice Court fines, etc. He stated that he thinks half of them would not materialize because of deteriorated economic conditions. The budget has to be cut by \$5 million at least to fill that budget gap. Taxes would have to be raised to compensate for that; substantial cuts need to be made to the expense side of the budget. We have to engage with the residents to decide which cuts to make, it has to be a group effort. Everyone has to pitch in and make shared sacrifices.

Mayor Samwick stated that it is agreed that this is unprecedented and that it is a severe and very rapidly moving economic environment that we are dealing with. People don't know how things are going to play out yet. The Village has a responsible first step that has been put forth; we will continue to be diligently involved with this, and always, the public will be very involved. Every single meeting regarding the budget will be a public meeting. At every meeting there will be a public comment period – we want to hear from the residents. This is a collaborative group effort; we are all using our best judgement and will continue to do so.

Mayra Kirkendall-Rodriguez, Fox Meadow Road, thanked Village Manager Pappalardo and Deputy Village Manager Cole for reinstating public comment for this meeting. She thanked Village Clerk Conkling for her work last week with fulfilling requests for absentee ballots.

Ms. Kirkendall-Rodriguez noted that the past 3 weeks have been incredibly difficult for millions around the world. She cited several instances of people facing different hardships due to this current crisis, and these people live right here in Scarsdale. She discussed the median income in Scarsdale and the expenses that need to be subtracted from that income. She stated that of those people that earn less than the median income of \$250,000, the average is \$146,000.

Twenty-five percent of Scarsdale households earn less than \$150,000. There are some that earn less than \$20,000 per year. She urged the Trustees and Village personnel to look carefully how median incomes and property values progress downward from the crisis. It would be useful to hear concretely what the Village proposes to do for the residents. She stated that she knows that Village personnel work very hard and that she is a fan of Village Manager Pappalardo, Deputy Village Manager Cole and Village Clerk Conkling; they have all been very attentive. She said she was concerned that Trustee Arest said that there were ‘behind the scenes’ activities because there is a Sunshine Law, so she urged the Board that they inform the residents of what precisely they are doing in terms of making changes to the Tentative Budget because from what they saw on Friday, nothing has changed. All of those revenue assumptions have to be changed.

Mayor Samwick stated that everything the Board is talking about is available on-line; nothing is done outside of that. The most significant piece of what is being proposed this evening is actually with respect to the current fiscal year and really is a result of the Village Treasurer and the Village Manager taking quick and decisive action to freeze non-essential spending and looking to aggregate funds that are available in this current budget that can be immediately directed toward the COVID-19 impacts that they are going to face. As a number of Trustees have already indicated, as well as the Village Manager, this is a rapidly evolving situation; they will be meeting with a greater number of regularity. There is the capacity to make adjustments after the adoption of the Village Budget, unlike School Districts, who have to obtain a vote from the public in order to adopt their budget. The Village has to work very hard to balance what is a rapidly evolving situation where it can quickly respond as has been done appropriately up to this point.

Mayor Samwick stated that there are three pillars to the work they are doing right now. Number 1 is the health, safety, and welfare of residents and employees; number 2 is delivering essential services, and number three is fiscal responsibility – not necessarily in any order – but those are the three things that they are focused on.

Trustee Arest stated that the Village is modifying the 2019-20 budget tonight; the Village has that ability and that is exactly what they intend to do and take it seriously. To the comments made by the previous speaker, most of what he was referring to was the hard work that the Village Manager did ‘behind the scenes’ – most residents are not at Village Hall watching what staff is doing at all times. He stated that he hoped that we as a community come together, just as we have during this very serious pandemic that is impacting all of us. He hoped that everyone could come together on this budget, because he thought that although not everyone agrees on timing or process, they want to do what is right by everyone and they want to do this collaboratively with the community and with the Village staff – they want to do it the right way. They don’t want to rush it out of panic and fear. However, what he really hoped for everyone is that they don’t want to make this political and that we don’t use ulterior motives to make something out of nothing. We all want what is best for Scarsdale; he stated that he looks forward to working with everyone.

Robert Harrison, 65 Fox Meadow Road, congratulated the Board on using Zoom this evening to conduct the Board meeting. He urged the Mayor to go back to allowing 5 minutes per speaker during public comment.

Mr. Harrison congratulated the Mayor and the Board, and Village Manager Pappalardo and the staff for the tremendous work they have done over the past week or so on the current budget to try to see where they can save money.

Mr. Harrison stated that the Scarsdale Inquirer had contacted him for names of any seniors for an article they were doing on seniors in the community and the work he has done in helping some of them seek reductions in their property taxes. He noted one property owner who had a property tax increase of 9.4% from 2018 to 2019. He didn't know why she had this increase; he was going to try to research this to try to help her. He wasn't sure if it was related to the residential STAR exemption; however, he was shocked at this increase. He stated that he brings this up because a number of residents could be under tremendous pressure, particularly the senior residents. 56-57% of Scarsdale residents do not have children in the school system; the community tends to be an older community and past their peak earning years. He stated that we have to do everything we can and he added that he felt the Village was sensitive to this. He added that he hoped that the School Board would continue to decrease their budget, noting that they came down to 1.5% increase from 3.5%.

Yingyong Chen, he thanked the Mayor and the Board for giving the residents an opportunity to comment this evening. He stated that he felt everyone appreciates the hard work that was put into revising the budget. He stated that it might be beneficial if the Village has a few scenarios to work with in terms of the budget increases. In this manner, discretionary and nondiscretionary expenses can be prioritized.

Mayor Samwick noted that a lot of what Mr. Chen stated is echoing what Trustees Lewis and Arest spoke to regarding scenario planning, and that is absolutely what they will be doing for the coming weeks and months; this is their first step right now. The Board feels that this puts them in good footing for the time being, but there is clearly more work to do.

As there were no further comments, Mr. Samwick closed the public comment session at this time.

Trustee Liaison Reports

Trustee Veron reported that "We all know that local businesses are reeling from the economic impact of COVID19. And it is no different here in Scarsdale. But we are also incredibly heartened by the outpouring of support shown by our residents and the Herculean efforts by businesses to keep going. I'd like to highlight three:

1. [ScarsdaleLocal.com](https://www.scarsdalelocal.com). As some of you may have seen on social media and as broadcast on the Village's new Twitter account @Scarsdalegov, a group of volunteers along with the Scarsdale Business Alliance put together a website listing 10583 businesses to make it easy for us all to connect and support them. If you're a 10583 business, you can add your information, and if you're a consumer seeking to do what you can, please visit [ScarsdaleLocal.com](https://www.scarsdalelocal.com). From gift cards, to FaceTime appointments to meal deliveries, our businesses are trying to keep going, and your shopping local is vital for their survival.

2. Essential Services: Groceries and supplies are essential for all of us, and a lot of residents are asking. Today I connected with Frank at DeCicco's, and he asked me to share the following update:

I want to give you the details, because I keep getting the questions.

Regarding product availability:

- Paper products seem to be coming in on a more regular basis now and we do have a supply on the shelves.
- Rubber Gloves are in full stock
- Hand/Wipes and Sanitizers are coming in in VERY limited quantities. We have asked customers to limit these purchases to 2 per customer.

We are lucky to have a good relationship our vendors and they are working very hard to get us the "essentials" as quickly as they can.

Regarding Phone Orders/E-Mail:

- We are receiving a lot of requests for food delivery which we have always done, but it has become very hard for us to keep up with the demand. We are looking for more help. We are staying late, even through the night, to get as many orders out as we can. These orders are time consuming, and we are running about 1 ½ - 2 days out.

Food Bar/Prepared Meals:

- We had decided to close our food bar and have our chefs' focus on hot ready-to-go meals, but then when local restaurants were forced to do only take-out/carry out, we didn't want to push "Hot Meals." We still have ready-to-go meals in our refrigerated case.

Hours:

- We are opening our doors at 7 am for seniors and those immunocompromised to give these customers a chance to shop before our official opening.
- We are closing our doors at 7 pm Monday - Saturday and 6 pm on Sunday to give our staff time to restock the shelves.
- We have hired an outside cleaning service to clean and sanitize in addition to the cleaning and sanitizing measures we have put in place for our staff during the day."

Trustee Veron thanked Frank for the important information.

Trustee Veron continued with her report:

3. “It is very important for Scarsdale to know that there is real coming together in the business community. We had a previously scheduled meeting with merchants, property owners, the Scarsdale Business Alliance, and government set for tomorrow, and we will use that time to discuss by Zoom immediate needs. There is a true sense of partnership and a willingness to do what it takes to ensure that Scarsdale businesses persevere.

And finally, after listening to the Mayor’s comments this evening, I wanted to add one more liaison report - in the spirit of looking forward to better times, the Arts Advisory Council and the SBA met this weekend over zoom to continue planning for our second annual Scarsdale Music Festival scheduled for September 12, 2020. I’m going to remain positive that social distancing will be in our rear view mirror, and we will all come out in force to celebrate.”

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Trustee Ross stated that he was going to report on the Fire Department; however, he does not need to do that because the substance of his report was covered in the excellent and very broad ranging comments that Village Manager Pappalardo made earlier this evening. Therefore, he stated that he will forgo his report.

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Trustee Crandall stated, “I am the Village Board Liaison to the Scarsdale Village Senior Citizens Advisory Council. Many of you have offered to help our at-risk older residents. The best thing you can do is to call or leave a note for your neighbors. If you run an errand for them, please remember to take care not to spread the virus: leave groceries outside, wash your hands, etc. You know what to do; please be careful.

Today I reached out to the United Way of Westchester and Putnam to see if they could use any volunteers for their extensive nonprofit network. President Tom Gabriel responded that “...people can’t volunteer right now...Social distancing is requiring people to stay at home...”. He further stated, however, that monetary contributions to local nonprofits are the best way to help those most impacted. So of course, I think immediately of our Scarsdale Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Scarsdale Edgemont Family Counseling, The United Way, Feeding Westchester, and others. So if you can, please do what you can.

Scarsdale Senior Citizens: Please know that we have systems in place should you need help: 1. Aging in Place Coordinator Maryellen Saenger can be reached by calling Scarsdale Edgemont Family Counseling at (914)723-3281 or by email at msaenger@SFCSINC.org 2. Scarsdale does have a Meals on Wheels program. They serve residents in the 10583 zip code regardless of age or income. Call (914)723-4342 for more information. Their website is www.MOWscarsdale.org. 3. The R.U.O.K. program is for Seniors or disabled residents who live alone. It is a daily automated call. If you are okay, you simply pick up the phone. More information is on the Village website at www.scarsdale.com or you can call Police Officer Steve Gassler at the Police Department. The number is (914)722-1200. There is no charge for this service.

If it was difficult for you to write down any of those numbers or email addresses, you can reach out to me on my cell phone 914-874-3779. It is always nice to talk to people and I don't mind. Good luck everybody, we are with you and we wish you all the best."

Mayor Samwick stated that the Board is with everyone and wishes everyone the best – very well said. He added that we can also donate blood as there is a need for that right now. Also, if anyone knows families in need of food, the Westchester Food Pantry on Clearview in Elmsford is distributing food to any Westchester resident tomorrow between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

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Trustee Waldman reported as liaison to the Scarsdale Edgemont Family Counseling Service, stating that she has been in touch with Jay Genova. The Scarsdale Edgemont Family Counseling Service, the Scarsdale Youth Community Services Project and the Aging in Place Initiative are all operational. Although the doors are closed, they are providing the same high quality of service via tele-health, using a HIPA compliant video platform. They are providing:

- for individual and family counseling services, counseling services are being provided for all existing clients and families, although a wait list is in place for those requesting services. Existing or prospective clients should call Scarsdale Family Counseling Services at 914-723-3281.
- For the Scarsdale Youth Community Services Project, the five community youth outreach workers are available to middle school and high school age youth and families for individual, family, and group support. Parent support groups will resume beginning Monday, March 23rd via group video conference. Guidelines for providing structure for children, managing anxieties, and being vigilant about teen alcohol and other drug use is being distributed and is forthcoming. Community prevention coalitions such as the Scarsdale Drug and Alcohol Task Force and Scarsdale Safe Coalition will all resume meetings in virtual activities this week. Community members are encouraged to contact Youth Outreach workers via email.
- The Aging in Place coordinator, Maryellen Saenger has been in close contact via telephone with Scarsdale's most cherished residents, our seniors. Delivery services of essential items are being coordinated; well checks are being provided as necessary. Existing or prospective clients should reach out to Ms. Saenger at 914-723-3280.

The Scarsdale Family Counseling Service Board of Directors has decided to reschedule their 100th anniversary celebration. The new date will be October 8, 2020. More information is forthcoming.

Trustee Waldman next reported as liaison to the Advisory Council on Parks, Recreation and Conservation (PRC). She encouraged residents to sign up for the following programs that have been postponed as of now, but registration is open – indoor tennis lessons at Harbor Island, Lake Isle via Sport time Tennis, platform tennis at Brite, men's platform tennis leagues, adult open gym basketball and total body fitness.

Additional programs that residents are being encouraged to register for are all summer day camp registrations, pool permits, tennis programs, youth softball league, introduction to wildlife rehab, running club, movement and mindfulness, cheerleading, outdoor tennis programs, and all August summer camp programs. All of these programs can be found on the Village’s website. All of these programs are expected to run and registration is open.

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Mayor Samwick added that for County Social Services, the WJCS offers counseling services as well.

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Trustee Arest

Trustee Arest reported on the statements of expense and revenue for the various funds of the Village for the first nine months of fiscal year 2019-2020.

General fund appropriations were 70.54% spent as of February, 2020 as compared to 71.80% in 2018-2019.

General Fund Revenues other than property taxes are \$12,931,623 through February 2020 compared with \$12,609,632 in the first nine months of last year. This represents an increase of \$321,991 from 2018-2019. Overall revenue from Special Assessments and Delinquent Tax collections increased \$36,783. Gross receipts taxes are down \$35,600. Sales tax receipts increased \$365,400 reflecting the increase in the County Sales Tax rate that took effect in August. Building Permit revenue (included in License and Permit category) increased \$190,000 from last year related to a large receipt. Again, overall, (inclusive of building permits), License and Permit revenue is up \$209,100. The largest impacts in the Insurance Recovery and Equipment sales of \$200,500 are in the reimbursement for special details which is up \$53,400 from last year and the receipt of over \$94,100 from Con Edison for paving reimbursement. Parking revenue is flat. Investment earnings declined \$69,100 reflecting lower rates and longer maturities. While Recreation revenue improved \$9,700, Departmental Revenue declined \$88,200 since 2018-2019 was impacted by a late snow reimbursement and there were significant purchases of food recycling materials and disposal fees. Mortgage Tax dropped \$279,700, Court fines are down \$134,100 and State aid is down \$138,200 as New York State has changed the timing of the AIM related aid to the end of the fiscal years (Town and Village). Revenue from property rentals is up \$29,400.

The actual collection of Village taxes through February, 2020 is at 99.58%. This is down 6 basis points from last year’s collection rate.

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Before reading the resolution, Trustee Arest stated that as most residents unfortunately remember, a motorist drove into the traffic pole to the light and not only knocked it down, but also damaged the anchors which involved more work to replace the structure. There is a very

long lead time on that item, so a temporary was implemented. He stated that the community should thank not only everyone in DPW who oversaw this, but the Police Department who had to make sure everyone was safe at that intersection during that time. He especially thanked everyone because this did happen over the Holiday season. The purpose of this resolution is to meet requirements for RFPs and competitive bidding. This was an emergency, so it was rightfully excluded from those requirements. The company involved handles most traffic signals in Westchester County.

Trustee Arest noted that insurance proceeds will help reimburse the Village for the cost related to that repair, which is important as we need it more than ever.

Upon motion entered by Trustee Arest, and seconded by Trustee Crandall, the following resolution regarding Emergency Traffic Signal Repair – Intersection of Popham Road and Scarsdale Avenue was approved by the vote indicated below:

- WHEREAS,** on December 23, 2019, a motorist struck the traffic signal pole located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Popham Road and Scarsdale Avenue, damaging it beyond repair; and
- WHEREAS,** Verde Electric Maintenance Corp., 89 Edison Avenue, Mount Vernon, N.Y. 10550 (Verde), the only local contractor with the requisite equipment and emergency availability, was contacted to remove the damaged equipment and remedy the public safety hazard; and
- WHEREAS,** due to the significant lead time necessary for a new traffic signal pole to be delivered, Verde and the Department of Public Works staff worked together to provide temporary intersection control; and
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to New York State General Municipal Law (GML) 103-4, regarding emergency circumstances impacting public health, safety and welfare, the Village contracted with Verde on a time and material basis to make the repairs; and
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to Section 3.5 of the Village Internal Control Policy, if an emergency purchase is made that exceeds statutory bid limits, such as the emergency services described herein, a resolution identifying the emergency and authorizing the purchase must be prepared for approval by the Village Board; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** pursuant to New York State GML 103-4 and Section 3.5 of the Village Internal Control Policy, the Village Board herein confirms that emergency repairs were necessary to protect public health, safety and welfare and recognizes and authorizes, nunc pro tunc, the Village Manager's emergency procurement for the traffic signal repair at the intersection of Popham Road and Scarsdale Avenue completed by Verde Electric Maintenance Corp. 89 Edison Avenue, Mount

Vernon, N.Y. 10550 at a cost of \$80,120.70, with the cost of same being charged to A-3120-Admin-RCDS 400-474 Traffic Signals.

<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Trustee Arest	None	None
Trustee Crandall		
Trustee Lewis		
Trustee Ross		
Trustee Veron		
Trustee Waldman		
Mayor Samwick		

Trustee Arest stated that in regard to the next resolution, he did have prepared comments; however, he noted that the Village Manager did a great job in discussing this earlier in the meeting.

Upon motion entered by Trustee Arest, and seconded by Trustee Crandall, the following resolution regarding Fiscal Year 2019-20 Budget Amendments and Fiscal Year 2020-21 Tentative Budget Adjustments was approved by the vote indicated below:

WHEREAS; in response to the Corona Virus COVID-19 Pandemic and its current and potential budgetary impact on Village operations and emergency services, the Village Manager and Village Treasurer have reviewed current Fiscal Year 19-20 expenditures and revenues and projected final estimates through the fourth quarter ending May 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS; based on this analysis it is prudent to transfer funds from identified Departmental and Non-Departmental accounts where year-end balances are anticipated, and place in a newly created Contingent account for COVID-19 related expenses; and

WHEREAS; transferring these funds at this time for COVID -19 related emergency services recognizes and provides resources necessary to manage this emergency, while assuring that any balances at the end of the current fiscal year will be added to the General Fund unassigned fund balance which totaled \$8,058,156 as of May 31, 2019, or roughly 14% of total General Fund expenditures; and

WHEREAS; the Manager and Treasurer also reviewed the FY 2020-21 Tentative Budget, and amended the Five Year Capital Budget and Plan by deferring certain projects to future years resulting in a decrease in the General Fund transfer to the Capital Fund of \$300,000; and

WHEREAS; the FY20-21 Tentative Budget was further modified by reducing the General Fund Transfer to the Central Garage Internal Service Fund by \$40,000 as said Fund has adequate Fund Balance to cover the anticipated Fund expenses; and

WHEREAS; the reductions in the transfers to the Capital Budget and Central Garage have been placed in the aforementioned Contingent account for COVID-19 related expenses during the 2020-21 Fiscal Year; and

WHEREAS; the Village Board and staff previously reviewed and concurred on assigning a portion of the available FY18-19 fiscal year audited close-out General Fund Balance for certain capital projects yet to be completed totaling \$1,700,000 which includes \$1,000,000 for the Heathcote Bridge Rehabilitation Project and \$450,000 for the Hutchinson River Flood Mitigation Project. Both of these long-term non-reoccurring infrastructure improvement projects could be unassigned and funded through short-term debt issuance should additional funds be needed for COVID-19 related matters during FY20-21; now therefore be it

RESOLVED; that the Village Board of Trustees herein approves the adopted Fiscal Year 2019-20 budget amendments identified in the March 20, 2020 memorandum from the Village Manager, attached hereto and made a part hereof; and be it further

RESOLVED; that the Village Board of Trustees herein approves the adjustments to the Tentative Fiscal Year 2020-21 Tentative Budget as identified in the March 20, 2020 memorandum from the Village Manager, attached hereto and made a part hereof; and be it further

RESOLVED; that the Village Manager and Treasurer will continue to closely monitor both FY19-20 and FY20-21 actual expenses and revenues and continue to report to the Village Board on a monthly basis or more frequently as required.

AYES

Trustee Arest
 Trustee Crandall
 Trustee Lewis
 Trustee Ross
 Trustee Veron
 Trustee Waldman
 Mayor Samwick

NAYS

None

ABSENT

None

Regarding the following resolution, Trustee Arest stated that as Mayor Samwick mentioned earlier, a public hearing must be held for the Fiscal Year 20-21 Budget on or before April 15th. There also needs to be adequate notice provided in the official newspaper.

Upon motion entered by Trustee Arest, and seconded by Trustee Crandall, the following resolution calling for a Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Tentative Budget was approved by the vote indicated below:

WHEREAS, pursuant to New York State Village Law §5-508 (3), a public hearing must be held on the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Tentative Budget on or before the fifteenth day of April, with notice of such public hearing published in the official newspaper; and

WHEREAS, a copy of the Tentative Budget may be available for public viewing in the Village Clerk’s Office, subject to Village Hall emergency operating hours, with an [electronic copy](#) always accessible for public review on the Village Treasurer’s page of the Village website at www.scarsdale.com; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Trustees herein schedules a public hearing for Tuesday, April 14, 2020, at 8:00 PM in Rutherford Hall in Village Hall to receive comments on the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Tentative Budget filed on March 20, 2020, with the potential for public comment to be received remotely in the event of restricted public access to Village Hall; and be it further

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

<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Trustee Arest	None	None
Trustee Crandall		
Trustee Lewis		
Trustee Ross		
Trustee Veron		
Trustee Waldman		
Mayor Samwick		

Trustee Arest added that in the language of the Resolved, unless there is a change, the Board has full intent to continue using this technology and receive comments from the public live at the public hearing.

Trustee Lewis

Upon motion entered by Trustee Lewis, and seconded by Trustee Crandall, the following resolution regarding Awarding Renewal of Preferred Sources Agreement – Village Properties, Applications, and Special Services was approved by the vote indicated below:

WHEREAS, New York State's Preferred Sources were statutorily created to advance certain social and economic goals, with all State agencies, political subdivisions, and public benefit corporations required to purchase approved products and services from Preferred Sources in accordance with NYS Finance Law, Article XI, Section 162; and

WHEREAS, Groundskeeping & Lawn Maintenance is a Preferred Sources offering by New York State Industries for the Disabled (“NYSID”) through their eligible lawn care service provider, Alternative Earthcare Tree and Lawn Systems, 1 Jem Court, Bayshore, NY 11706; and

WHEREAS, on March 26, 2014, the Village entered into a one-year Preferred Sources agreement with the NYSID for landscaping-related services, including such tasks as fertilization, aerating, seeding and other organic applications for turf, having renewed that agreement for each successive season, most recently 2019/20, in response to competitive pricing and quality work performed; and

WHEREAS, Village staff have now negotiated a one-year renewal agreement for the 2020/21 season for \$49,900, which is the same fee as it has been since 2015; 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 Sources agreement with NYSID in the amount of \$49,900 to provide the scope of services identified in said agreement for a one-year period, commencing April 01, 2020, and ending on March 31, 2021; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the scope of services identified in the agreement will be performed by Alternative Earthcare Tree and Lawn Systems, 1 Jem Court, Bayshore, NY, 11706, acting as an authorized affiliate of 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, where sufficient funds are available.

AYES

Trustee Arest
Trustee Crandall
Trustee Lewis
Trustee Ross

NAYS

None

ABSENT

None

Trustee Veron
Trustee Waldman
Mayor Samwick

Before reading the resolution, Trustee Arest called attention to the supporting memorandum dated March 13th from Brian Gray, Superintendent of Public Works to Village Manager Pappalardo. There is a lot of additional detail in this memorandum.

Upon motion entered by Trustee Lewis, and seconded by Trustee Crandall, the following resolution regarding Awarding VM Contract #1259 – Grounds Maintenance was approved by the vote indicated below:

WHEREAS, grounds maintenance services on 35 Village properties is provided through contractual services, with the most recent contract, VM# 1247 with Landscape Concepts, having been terminated by the Village Board of Trustees during the Village Board meeting on February 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on February 14, 2020, the Village advertised for proposals under VM Contract #1259 – Grounds Maintenance, and on March 10, 2020, the date of the bid opening, six (6) sealed bids were opened with the lowest responsible bid received from A-Plus Landscaping and Design, 227 Battle Avenue, White Plains, NY 10606 in the amount of \$140,000 for a two year contract term (\$70,000 annually); and

WHEREAS, Village staff contacted A-Plus Landscaping and Design to discuss their submission, checked references, and performed a site visit to inspect the company's equipment and confirmed their competence and ability to perform the required contractual work; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that VM Contract #1259 – Grounds Maintenance, is herein awarded to A-Plus Landscaping and Design, 227 Battle Avenue, White Plains, NY 10606, in the amount of \$140,000 (\$70,000 annually) subject to availability of adequate budget appropriations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Village Manager is hereby authorized to execute VM Contract #1259 – Grounds Maintenance, on behalf of the Village of Scarsdale with A-Plus Landscape and Design; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the costs of VM Contract #1259 – Grounds Maintenance be charged to the following accounts based on the allocation of work:

A-7020-PARKS-MAINT-400-499
A-1490-HWY-PARKS-400-499
L-7410-FAC-GRDS-400

A-9990-HUMSV-SVAC-400-483
 EWS-8310-DSTRB-OP/MT-400-499
 ER-2000-POOL-POOL-400-499; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this contract may be extended annually by the Village Manager for three additional one-year periods subject to the availability of adequate budget appropriations in accordance with the annual consumer price index provision provided, with all other contract terms and conditions unchanged.

<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Trustee Arest	None	None
Trustee Crandall		
Trustee Lewis		
Trustee Ross		
Trustee Veron		
Trustee Waldman		
Mayor Samwick		

Before voting on the above resolution, Trustee Arest requested a clarification from the Village Manager. He noted that these resolutions authorize the Village Manager to execute these contracts and hopefully life will go back to normal sooner rather than later. However, if normality doesn't return sooner, he inquired if the Board also gives the Village Manager authority to renegotiate or at least defer these contracts so the Village is not expending monies for fields they may not be using.

Village Manager Pappalardo stated that once he signs the contract, if there is a problem down the road where the services are not needed, then that would have to be a discussion with the vendor. If the Village is not planning to do the services, they should not go out to bid in the first place.

Trustee Arest stated that he has no problem authorizing this and giving the Village Manager the authority to do it; however, he asked Mr. Pappalardo if he could delay in signing with them until there is more clarity.

Village Manager Pappalardo stated in terms of the ground maintenance contract, he would have to check with the Recreation Superintendent. In this particular incidence, the answer would most likely be yes because it is providing grounds maintenance, and it is equipment the contractor already has. If you had a situation where a contractor had a long lead time to order supplies and goods, which could have a bearing on whether or not he could do that. In this case, he didn't think that would be an issue, but he stated that he would have to talk to the Recreation Superintendent about it.

Village Manager Pappalardo stated that the Village needs to do this work if the Village is going to maintain its fields and have the programs in the spring. He stated that he felt the Board should adopt the resolution. He noted that the Village usually has to procure

insurance and bonds, which takes approximately a month before the contract is signed. He again stated that he would have this discussion with the Recreation Superintendent before the contract is signed.

Mayor Samwick stated that per Village Code, there are some standards for mowing and things of that nature and that is what this contract contemplates. There are also some health implications from not mowing and maintaining the grounds. This is likely something the Village would want to proceed with under almost any scenario.

Trustee Arest agreed with Mayor Samwick and thanked him for that clarification.

Upon motion entered by Trustee Lewis, and seconded by Trustee Crandall, the following resolution regarding Awarding VM Contract #1260 – Furnish and Deliver Water Meters was approved by the vote indicated below:

- WHEREAS,** the Village of Scarsdale Water Department receives, pumps, treats, and distributes potable water to approximately 5,800 accounts, consisting of both village residents and residents of Eastchester Water District #1; and
- WHEREAS,** it is critical that all meters are functioning properly to account for all water usage in the Scarsdale Water System, as well as support efforts to transition to monthly water billing; and
- WHEREAS,** the bid solicitation for VM Contract #1260 – Furnish and Deliver Water Meters was published on the Village of Scarsdale website, in the Scarsdale Inquirer, the New York State Procurement site, Bidnet, and distributed directly to two known meter vendors; and
- WHEREAS,** on the bid opening date, Tuesday, March 10, 2020, three sealed bids were received, as summarized in the attached bid tabulation, with the lowest responsible bid received from Rio Supply, 100 Allied Parkway Sicklerville, NJ 08081, in the amount of \$66,900 based upon estimated quantities and specified unit pricing for required sizes and quantities; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** that VM Contract #1260 – Furnish and Deliver Water Meters, be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, Rio Supply, 100 Allied Parkway Sicklerville, NJ 08081 for an estimated total expense of \$66,900 based upon projected quantities and specified unit pricing, which is within the budgeted appropriation; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** that the cost of same be charged to the Water Enterprise Budget Line EWS-8310-DSTRB-OP/MT- 400-424; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Village Manager is hereby authorized to execute VM Contract #1260 on behalf of the Village of Scarsdale with Rio Supply, 100 Allied Parkway, Sicklerville, NJ 08081, and to undertake administrative acts as may be required pursuant to the terms of the Agreement.

<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Trustee Arest	None	None
Trustee Crandall		
Trustee Lewis		
Trustee Ross		
Trustee Veron		
Trustee Waldman		
Mayor Samwick		

Trustee Veron

Upon motion entered by Trustee Veron, and seconded by Trustee Ross, 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 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 \$21,740,217, inclusive of furniture and shelving, 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 - \$18,724.40; 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: \$18,724.40 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 \$18,724.40 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.

Written Communications

Village Clerk Conkling reported that eleven (11) communications have been received since the last regular Board of Trustees meeting. All written communications may be viewed on the Village's website at www.scarsdale.com.

- A letter from the Arbor Day Foundation naming and recognizing the Village of Scarsdale as a 2019 Tree City USA.
- Two emails from Ivy DeDianous including responses from the Mayor regarding her concerns about holding the Village Election during the Corona Virus outbreak and her suggestion that the Village encourage absentee ballot voting.
- Two emails were received from Mayra Kirkendall-Rodriguez – one in which she expresses her concerns about the appointment of members to the Board of Ethics, and another regarding the Mayor's Open Letter to the Chinese Community. Responses from the Mayor to both emails are included.
- An email from Jon Mark and Dara Gruenberg, Co-Chairs of the Scarsdale Citizens Non-Partisan Party, expressing their gratitude for the postponement of the Village Election to safeguard the health of the residents.
- An email from Richard Novitch thanking Mayor Samwick for the Open Letter to the Chinese Community posted on the Village's website.
- An email from Michael Seymour regarding postponement of the Village Election; a response from the Mayor is included.
- An email from Avital Soldatenko with her family's offer to help and support Scarsdale residents that are at risk from the Corona virus. A response from Mayor Samwick is included.
- An email from Xue Su expressing appreciation for the Mayor's Open Letter to the Chinese Community, including a response from the Mayor.
- An email from Han Zhou regarding the Corona Virus presentation on March 10th.

* * * * *

Public Comment

Mayor Samwick opened the second public comment session, noting that four minutes were given to speakers during the first public comment session. At this point, he would like to give six minutes to anyone who has comments to average out the normal time limits given to speakers at Village Board meetings.

Robert Berg, 32 Tisdale Road, reiterated that it is important for the Board to develop a budget for the next fiscal year in the next few weeks that reflects the historically unprecedented economic times. The Village should not make minor modifications to the tentative budget with an eye to making further modifications as the next fiscal year progresses. Scarsdale residents are hurting now and any eventual recovery will not be fast because the economic destruction is too great. A substantial number of Scarsdale residents won't be able to pay their property taxes this year. The Board has to cut into muscle with this budget. He stated that he told the School Board the same thing at their Zoom meeting last night. Village employees have to share in the sacrifice here. Residents have been very generous to the employees over the years and now we need their help confronting this crisis. There are major issues to deal with, such as whether or not the summer camps will be open this year. He asked if there were fixed costs for summer camps and the pool. No one knows if the health risks are going to be satisfied enough to be able to have the summer camps this year.

Mayor Samwick agreed that these are unprecedented times which does require immediate attention.

Robert Harrison, 65 Fox Meadow Road, asked what the cost is for the Village to use the Zoom meeting application.

Village Manager Pappalardo responded that the Village has a 30-day free trial to utilize Zoom.

In regard to the budget, Mr. Harrison stated that certain items will have to be deferred, such as the 2% pay increase for employees for the year. He also noted that he felt that the School District should freeze salaries for the next 12 months. These are very difficult times and we all need to share in the sacrifice.

Mr. Harrison questioned whether the Village could refinance outstanding debt. When everything settles down, he felt the Village should look into this. He stated that he also brought this up with the School Board.

Mr. Harrison questioned why all of the tennis courts are locked and the nets are down. He stated that there are some memos posted at the courts by the Village stating that the courts were closed in compliance with Federal, State and Local guidelines as a result of the global pandemic. He wanted to know who ordered the tennis courts to be closed.

Village Manager Pappalardo stated that the Village is erring on the side of public safety with the COVID-19 virus. He stated that they do not want any public gatherings at all. The passive and solitary recreational use of open facilities and spaces is authorized, maintaining social distancing. All of the tennis courts, playgrounds, and paddle courts fell into the category of public gathering places. People can use the passive parks, walk on the streets, and on the sidewalks safely. He stated that the Village needs to be serious about taking these kinds of measures to try to slow down the curve of infections from the virus.

Mayor Samwick responded to Mr. Harrison concerning his comment regarding refinancing the Village's debt. He stated that he spoke to the Village Treasurer about this approximately two weeks ago, which she looked into. He stated that there are strict limitations on refinancing debt such that for the most part any refinance debt that the Village issued would be taxable, not tax-exempt debt.

Village Treasurer McClure stated that she has been in contact with the Village's bond advisors. The Village is very limited – there is only one issue that has the potential for refinancing. Given the volatility in the market, the changes from day to day in the bond market could leave the Village in much worse condition than it is now. If the bond market settles down, they will be in touch with us because they had already started their analysis before the Village contacted them. They looked at the issues in November, February and again in March. This will continue to be monitored.

Mayor Samwick reminded everyone to respond to the U.S. Census inquiry; he strongly urged everyone to fill out their Census forms regardless of your age, citizenship status or anything of that nature, there is no risk in filling out the Census. The information is of critical importance for the allocation of Federal dollars.

Trustee Veron responded to Mr. Harrison's comment's regarding the use of Zoom. She stated that the Arts Advisory Council met via Zoom this weekend, and noted that she is attending a Library Board meeting on Thursday via Zoom. She thanked all the hardworking residents, who in the midst of this stressful time are pushing their volunteer commitments forward with the Village and are dedicated to ensuring that their work is seen through and leveraging the technology.

There being no further comments, Mayor Samwick closed the second public comment session at this time.

Future Meeting Schedule

- *Tuesday, April 14, 2020* – 8:00 PM – Village Board Meeting – It is anticipated that this meeting will be held via Zoom

Mayor Samwick stated by the time of the next meeting, Trustee Veron will become the longest serving Trustee in the history of Scarsdale due to the extension of her term. He stated that the Board is happy to have her for as long as they can.

Mayor Samwick again thanked Village staff, the first responders, the health care workers – their work is critical in delivering essential services, in keeping us healthy and safe – and all of this is done with risk today. It is greatly appreciated by Village residents, and he offered a hearty thank you.

Mayor Samwick stated that these are unprecedented times, and the Board wishes all the residents and employees the very best, and to be well.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:23 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Conkling
Village Clerk