

**PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
April 14, 2020 6:00 PM**

Present

Mayor:	Robert Corby
Trustees:	Lili Lanphear Frank Galusha Dan Keating Renee Stetzer
Building Inspector:	Steven Lauth
DPW Superintendent:	Zack Bleier
Treasurer:	Mary Marowski
Recording Secretary:	Dorothea M. Ciccarelli

Deputy Mayor, Lili Lanphear, stated that she will open the meeting because the Mayor is not present. She began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Lanphear stated that she will begin the meeting by reading the following statement, which is a statement of the NYCOM recommendation:

“The Board of Trustees of the Village of Pittsford is holding this regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting via GoToMeeting because of the applicable sections of Governor Cuomo’s Executive Orders 202.1-202.5. An agenda for this meeting has been made available via the Village’s website and Facebook page. This meeting will include a regular business meeting and two public hearings. The public may comment via GoToMeetings using the chat function. All comments should include their name and address. Public microphones will be muted during portions of tonight’s meeting while the board works through the agenda items. However, please note that public microphones will be unmuted at specified and announced intervals to allow for public input, both with regard to regular agenda items and to allow the public to provide input during the public hearings. Each speaker will be limited to two minutes. Additionally, written public comments can be sent during tonight’s meeting and through chat as well. Public comment received prior to tonight’s meeting will be made a part of the record of this meeting. Additional public comment may be provided to the Village by phone, at 585-586-4332, email, at villageclerk@villageofpittsford.com, or by mail, written comments may be mailed to Village Hall, 21 North Main Street, Pittsford, NY. Draft meeting minutes will be available within two weeks of tonight’s meeting. Tonight’s meeting is being recorded, and will be available at a later time.

Trustee Lanphear stated that at this time, she will ask each of the Trustees if they have a disclosure regarding any of the items that will be discussed at this meeting for a conflict of interest. Trustee Lanphear stated that she will not participate in any conversations regarding Skanex’s potential contract, because Skanex owners are personal friends of hers. The other Board members indicated that they had no conflicts of interest to declare.

Motion: Trustee Lanphear made a motion, seconded by Trustee Galusha, to open the meeting.

Vote: Lanphear – yes, Galusha – yes, Keating – yes, Stetzer – yes. Motion carried.

Trustee Lanphear stated that the next order of business is the Building Inspector’s report.

BUILDING INSPECTOR’S REPORT

The Building Inspector stated that things are pretty slow right now. He has been going around the Village and patrolling, and he has warned a few people in regards to close quarter jobs, but he has not had to shut down

PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
April 14, 2020

any jobs. He is cataloguing all the homes in the Village, so we have a current record of where every residence sits.

Trustee Keating asked Mr. Lauth whether he was receiving fewer calls than usual during this time period. Mr. Lauth stated that phone calls are down, but that he still receives calls and emails regarding ongoing projects.

DPW REPORT

Mr. Bleier reported that the DPW is still operating with two staff per day, alternating days. They have been focusing on spring cleanup around the Village park areas, the Village office, DPW facilities, and sidewalk plow damage repairs, brush pickup, sewer calls, and catch basin maintenance. He stated that they are all doing their best to get the work done while maintaining a safe distance from one another. With the current work restrictions for non-essential workplace, contractors are not open for selling our plants and trees at this time, so there will not be any spring trees this year. He further explained that at January's Trustee meeting, he proposed hiring Skanex under the Emergency Purchases Clause Procurement Policy to line the sanitary sewer on Stonegate Lane, which was approved, but after talking to Skanex's technicians, they advised the work be done in warmer weather. He stated that the sewer is not in an emergency state, but given the successful pipe work that Skanex has done for the Village in the past, he would still like to bring them in to do the work. Their current quote to do the work is just under what was estimated. Kenyon Pipeline Inspection is comparable in price.

Trustee Galusha stated that the Board is aware of the sanitary sewer problems on Stonegate Lane. At that point, the Village brought in Skanex under the emergency provision of the procurement policy. Tonight, we're asking you to approve a proposal from Skanex to complete the job by installing 596 feet of cured in place pipe. This is something that Skanex is very experienced in. The Village also received a proposal from Kenyon Pipeline Inspection, LLC. They were \$300 more than what Skanex was, and we decided to go with Skanex, not only based on the price, but based on the very good experience that we've had with them. We're very confident that they can do the job well. So, with that, I'm proposing that the Board approve the proposal from Skanex to install 596 linear feet of sanitary sewer, CIPP, cured in place pipe, at a price of \$35,760.

Trustee Keating stated that he was aware that there were problems with the residences on Stonegate Lane, but asked whether this was planned for anyway or whether it is directly related to that situation.

Mr. Bleier explained that this is a reaction to the backup that happened to a residence on Stonegate Lane. Because it has been an ongoing problem over the years, it was determined that it would be a best solution to try to limit the amount of backups in that system. So, this is a direct response to that, but it is something that should be done.

Trustee Lanphear asked whether the sewer fund will be covering part of this project, and Trustee Galusha stated that the sewer fund will cover all of it.

Trustee Stetzer asked if the work will begin while we're still under this pandemic stay-at-home order. She further questioned whether the residents should be warned and what precautions the team will be taking as they do the work.

Mr. Bleier stated that the work is considered essential work, so they are allowed to do the work. Once the contract is signed with Skanex, they will go through and notify all the residents on the street what they're going to be doing and how it's going to disrupt their lives for a short period of time. And once they're done with the job, which shouldn't take more than a day, depending on the weather, they will go around and let the residents know that they're allowed to use their water. It will shut their sewers off for about 3 or 4 hours per section.

Trustee Lanphear stated that Trustee Galusha has made a motion, seconded by Trustee Keating.

Vote: Lanphear – yes, Galusha – yes, Keating – yes, Stetzer – yes. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
April 14, 2020

Trustee Lanphear stated that next on the agenda is the Treasurer's Report.

Ms. Marowski stated that the General Fund is for \$24,422.80, and the Sewer Fund is for \$1,292.80. In a review of those vouchers, she called the Board's attention to voucher #585, which is to General Code Publishers for the new code books for \$8,279.92, and voucher #607, to SRF for the South Street Traffic Calming for \$1,680, and voucher #600 for Skanex for the initial Stonegate sewer issue for \$1,200.

Motion: Trustee Galusha made a motion, seconded by Trustee Lanphear, to approve the abstract of unaudited vouchers dated 4/14/20 in the amount of \$25,715.60.

Vote: Lanphear – yes, Galusha – yes, Keating – yes, Stetzer – yes. Motion carried.

Ms. Marowski stated that the next order of business is the outstanding attorney bills.

Motion: Member Keating made a motion, seconded by Member Stetzer, to approve Zoghlin Invoice 338 and Zoghlin Invoice 368 and MCCM Invoice 112331 for immediate payment.

Vote: Lanphear – yes, Galusha – yes, Keating – yes, Stetzer – yes. Motion carried.

Ms. Marowski stated that the next item in the Treasurer's Report is the status report for the books for March 2020.

Motion: Trustee Lanphear made a motion, seconded by Trustee Galusha, to approve the fund transfer, as presented by the Village Treasurer.

Vote: Lanphear – yes, Galusha – yes, Keating – yes, Stetzer – yes. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION AGREEMENT

Trustee Lanphear questioned whether the Community Choice Aggregation Agreement is a time-sensitive issue. Mr. Turner explained that it may not be time-sensitive, but it is essential. He explained that this is a contract between Joule, Roctricity, and the Village to set up this Community Choice Aggregation program. If it's approved, the next step will be an energy services agreement with an energy supplier selected by Joule. So this is the first step. If we don't do this, then we can't do the next step, and then we will not be able to get the energy deal that we're looking for. He further stated that that's why it's essential, essential especially in this time when there's been a downturn in people's income.

Motion: Trustee Galusha made a motion, seconded by Trustee Keating, to allow the Mayor or the Deputy Mayor to execute the Community Choice Aggregation agreement.

Vote: Lanphear – yes, Galusha – yes, Keating – yes, Stetzer – yes. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF STEVE LAUTH AS FIRE MARSHAL/BUILDING INSPECTOR

Trustee Lanphear stated that the next item on the agenda is the appointment of the Building Inspector, Steve Lauth, as Fire Marshal/Building Inspector, which would be a new job description.

Motion: Trustee Lanphear made a motion, seconded by Trustee Galusha, to appoint Steve Lauth as Fire Marshal/Building Inspector for the Village of Pittsford.

Vote: Lanphear – yes, Galusha – yes, Keating – yes, Stetzer – yes. Motion carried.

Board members congratulated Mr. Lauth.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

Trustee Stetzer stated that Mayor Corby and Supervisor Smith have been communicating about the issue of social distancing, and she wanted to discuss responsibilities the Village has, particularly for Schoen Place and the canal path. She further stated that the area gets really crowded, and people are concerned about keeping a safe distance. Ms. Ciccarelli stated that Mayor Corby dropped off signage last week, and it was passed on to

PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
April 14, 2020

the DPW to be put along the right-of-ways, and along the canal path as well. Mr. Bleier stated that he installed some signs along the canal path, along Schoen Place, and Remembrance Park. He stated that there are a few out there in the areas that people tend to congregate, and the DPW will be adding more in the next few days.

Mayor Corby joined the meeting at this time 7:05 PM.

Trustee Lanphear stated that the Village received a letter from the National League of Cities. The letter is requesting that the Village be a part of any financial package that the federal government will be offering. She stated that, we, as a Village, would like to make our voices heard for any federal funding that might be available. She asked that the Trustees review the letter, and if all are in agreement, the letter will be signed and sent to our Congressperson.

PUBLIC HEARING TO AMEND SPECIAL USE PERMIT - PITTSFORD PUB

Trustee Lanphear stated that this is a public hearing regarding the amendment to the Special Use Permit for the Pittsford Pub. They had previously requested to use their patio for a special event. Since that time, the Coronavirus took place, so he's asking for an extension. She explained that what we would like to do at this time is to open the public hearing, and adjourn it to a meeting in the future.

Motion: Trustee Lanphear made a motion, seconded by Mayor Corby, to open the public hearing, and to adjourn the public hearing to April 28, 2020 at 7 pm.

Vote: Corby - yes; Lanphear - yes, Galusha - yes, Keating - yes, Stetzer - yes. Motion carried.

Motion: Mayor Corby made a motion, seconded by Trustee Lanphear, to open the public hearing for the budget.

Vote: Corby - yes; Lanphear - yes, Galusha - yes, Keating - yes, Stetzer - yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2020-21 VILLAGE BUDGET

The Mayor presented a power point presentation of the 2020-2021 tentative Village Budget.

Motion: Mayor Corby made a motion, seconded by Trustee Lanphear, to open the meeting for public comment.

Vote: Corby - yes; Lanphear - yes, Galusha - yes, Keating - yes, Stetzer - yes. Motion carried.

The Village Clerk read into the record the following comment:

To the Village Board of Trustees:

I am writing to express support for the tentative budget that is being presented this evening. The following facts helped me to understand why the tentative budget being presented tonight was approved by the Board of Trustees in a 4-0 vote on March 17th:

- The increase proposed is .396 cents per thousand. Average cost of a house in the Village is \$265,000, so that would be an increase in taxes this year of \$103.35 for that household.
- It was mentioned by Board members in at least one meeting that of the 539 villages in our state, 389 of those villages have a higher full-value tax rate per thousand than Pittsford Village.
- Other than the possible loss of revenue from Monroe County sales tax this year, the financial problems that are being addressed by the proposed increase in taxes aren't related to COVID-19 - they are a result of an increase in costs over the years (including operational costs and those required to respond to lawsuits against the Village) without corresponding tax increases, which resulted in our General Fund becoming depleted to a point where that issue needs to be considered in this year's budget. Because of this it is unlikely that a funding source that opens up due to COVID-19 would be available to us to avoid a tax increase this year.

PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April 14, 2020

- Cutting staff on the DPW or in Village office staff would result in a decrease in services, and this idea has not been seriously considered when it has been brought up on the Board. Villagers tend to appreciate plowed sidewalks and debris pickup, and there are other essential functions required by State law that are done by office staff including our Clerk and Treasurer. In the many meetings I've observed there has not been a viable proposal presented for what would be cut that would lead to a significant reduction in staffing costs.
- The proposal that was discussed in budget meetings to cut staffing costs by outsourcing part of the role of the Treasurer goes against recent recommendations by our Village's auditor. We are also not able to completely eliminate that role based on State law.
- Trustee Keating, who has been publicly critical of this proposed budget, was not present at most of the nine budget meetings held this year. In those meetings, budget line items were scrutinized in detail in attempts to identify places where budget could be cut. Trustee Keating was the only Trustee absent when the tentative budget was approved in a 4-0 vote.

As David Ferris recently wrote to Trustee Keating, "Two years ago you voted against the budget but offered no alternative plan. Last year you were not present for the budget hearing and did not vote, but later said you would have voted for no tax increase, again with no plan offered."

I believe that Trustee Keating's consistent, public pressure on the Board over the years for an unreachable level of austerity has been a significant factor in why we must now raise taxes in the midst of a crisis. I am glad to see that the other Board members have taken a different approach as indicated by their approval of the tentative budget, and I hope that they continue on that path by adopting the proposed budget this evening.

Justin Leitgeb, Volunteer Member, Pittsford Village PZBA Village Resident, 6 Stonegate Lane.

Trustee Keating stated that since he was called out by name, he wishes to respond to the letter. He stated that, to be clear, the vote by the board was to bring the budget to the public hearing; the vote is not an approval of the budget, that doesn't happen until we vote to implement the budget. That's an important distinction. He further stated that he proposed many solutions: not hiring open positions, not back-filling positions that we don't currently have. He concluded by stating that, this year or prior years, he's proposed many solutions to the budget problems.

Mayor Corby stated that the Board did go through and evaluate all the proposals to see if they were viable. Some of them were; some of them weren't. He further stated that the Board was concerned that if we shortchange the DPW crew, we would create unsafe working conditions for the crew, which would cause a problem.

- Len Parker, 46 Rand Place. My question is looking for alternative sources of revenue in addition to the proposed increase in taxes. I didn't hear any discussion or studies done on ways creatively we might build up greater tax revenue from commercial operations by being attractive to commercial operations, and then once here, to succeed. There seems to be a large turnover, so I'm worried about a two-part problem: more coming that are suitable for the Village atmosphere, and then their financial success, because their success is the only way that it will aid our coffers.

Mayor Corby stated that over the last two years, the Village did the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code change, in order to update our Codes to identify what our niche is. Retail business throughout the United States, even before the current crisis, was in a freefall largely because of Amazon and the migration to online retail. It's a very difficult segment of the economy right now. And entertainment retail, obviously, is part of the mix of what works in the Village, and hopefully, when this crisis is over, that will come back. We do have a new microbrewery opening in Northfield Common, in the near future, but the whole reason for doing our Comp Plan and Zoning Code change was to make sure the Codes we have on the books were a streamlined process that protects what needs to be protected, but also works for the needs of the Village, and what we anticipate the needs for the Village will be in the future. We think we've done a lot in the Village, by creating a

PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
April 14, 2020

destination on the canal and on Main Street, which will continue to pay dividends in the future. Compared to any other Village in Monroe County, we have the highest occupancy rate in the County. And that is because we're a unique locale, people like to come to the village and walk around. We know there's a growing preference for walkable communities with the traditional character that the Village has.

Trustee Keating stated that to go further on the question, there are two large commercial properties that are undeveloped, one at 75 Monroe and the other the barns at Schoen Place, so it's up to us, as a community, to be an attractive partner for people who want to develop those responsibly. That's another area where we can make some progress.

From David Ferris, 27 Monroe Avenue, Pittsford April 14, 2020

Dear Village Board of Trustees,

I want to thank you for your tireless and thoughtful efforts to develop the Village's budget for the coming year. As a former Village Trustee, I understand the process, challenges and complexity of determining a budget. I attended several of the budget workshop meetings and watched the videos of others. At some meetings I was the only resident present. It is disappointing to me that some individuals criticize the decisions of the Board but don't attend meetings to learn the facts.

The proposed budget increase I understand is 9.9%. This is equivalent to less than \$109 per year and \$9 a month for the average household assessed at \$265,000. I reviewed various drafts of the budget and the final proposed budget.

The Trustees carefully considered multiple options. Among these were proposed staffing cuts in the Department of Public Works and the office staff that Trustee Keating suggested. The Board considered these reductions and listened to input from the Director of the Department of Public Works and office staff. It was determined that such cuts would severely impact the level of service needed and expected by our residents. A cut in the DPW would significantly inhibit the DPW's ability to discharge its duties, including the ongoing maintenance of the Village's infrastructure. Since the Village is nearly two hundred years old, there are capital needs to maintain the infrastructure. To not timely address these capital needs would be a breach of the Board's fiduciary duty as Village stewards. Following extensive discussion over several meetings, all members of the Board agreed that these positions should not be cut. I applaud these decisions by the Board.

Trustee Keating suggests that there be no tax increase and an austerity budget. This is an austerity budget. Having reviewed the budget carefully, I do not find frivolous or extra expense items that should be cut.

The most likely place to cut would be capital projects and equipment. For example, repairs to roads, sidewalks, sewers and lighting would be pushed back. The costs of these projects would only increase. The value of equipment being traded in would decrease and the cost of new equipment would be higher in the future. Postponement of capital projects does not make them go away.

No tax increase would result in a revenue loss of approximately \$80,000 for both this year and each subsequent year. To replace a two-year revenue loss of \$160,000 in the budget next year to fund capital projects would require a tax increase of at least 20% before any other expense items annual increases. This could result in a tax increase next year of upwards of 30%. This is not responsible planning in my estimation. Our budget needs to reflect the fact that we have an aging infrastructure. However, it is this infrastructure that underpins the Village character and lifestyle. I therefore endorse the proposed budget and thank the Board members for taking seriously their responsibilities as stewards of our Village.

Sincerely
David Ferris

Trustee Keating stated that he will address this letter. The budget meetings were scheduled without consulting all five of the trustees. And the budget meetings were scheduled at 4:30pm, which did not work for Trustee Keating's work schedule, so he did not attend several of them. He did attend others, but made it clear to the Trustees that 4:30 didn't work for him. So the other Trustees decided to keep the meetings at 4:30, knowing that he couldn't attend them.

PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
April 14, 2020

Trustee Keating stated that somebody anonymously asked him to ask this question: Is there a way to levy some kind of tax on long-term unoccupied buildings?

Mayor Corby stated that he's attended a number of NYCOM training sessions on that issue, and it's a problem that many municipalities deal with, and there's no real good tool to deal with it. But he doesn't think you can assess a property because it's vacant.

Mr. Turner stated that he doesn't think there would be a basis in the tax law to do that. The issue of if they're vacant, and then become in disrepair, we can do something about that, but we're not going to get any revenue because we'll only get back what we spend. He stated that he doesn't see a justification for differentiating between occupied and unoccupied property, in terms of the tax rate.

Caller: Justin Vlietstra, 19 Boughton Avenue. Just one thing I wanted to address to the Trustees. There's been a lot of talk of all the legal bills, and I think it's a little bit mischaracterized, because they all get lumped together, and everyone thinks it's all lawsuits. But, there's also the cost of just conducting regular business, reviewing applications, and there's a lot of mention of the high fees associated with the 75 Monroe Avenue project, and various sources were clinging to that, but a good chunk of that was actually reviewing it and doing the work that the Village is required to do – not litigation. I'm wondering is what is being done to kind of bring some of that under control. I understand last year, there was an enormous amount of work that went into Zoning Code updates, and I don't know what is being allocated or what fees are being used for in all the boards, but it looks like the Trustees are spending \$100,000 on just regular business or legal fees. One thing that could help out quite a bit is in contracts that we get for these services to either enter fixed bid contracts, which are not likely to balloon, or to at least clarify what services can be performed, and what services can't be. I don't know how many of the contracts actually spelled that out, but there's some potential opportunities there to make sure unnecessary services don't get done, and obviously, a lot of good work needs to get done, we just want to make sure that it meets what's most needed.

Caller: Alysa Plummer, 66 South Main Street. I want to thank the Board and the staff for their diligence and really working hard on this. I just think this is a moment in time, including the pandemic, but, for our Village, we're here right now. I think we have to raise the taxes, I support the budget, I think the Board has worked really long and hard on it, and I don't see any other real strong alternative at this point, other than to recognize exactly where we are right now financially, and what's needed for our Village, and I really do appreciate Dan's comments about the large picture of taxes for everybody. We have our County taxes, our Town taxes, as well, but on a percentage basis our Village taxes really are not the big sticking point. We really get a lot of bang for our buck, there's a lot of good stuff that's being done in the Village. I do not see any other alternative other than what this Board and the staff have worked out.

Caller: John Kitchura, 5 Stonegate Lane. Village Trustees, Mayor Corby, I'll first start off by saying that I recently moved to the Village in October of last year. I'll say first, thanks for your effort and time, I'm sure this is a thankless job sometimes, and maybe even tonight. But, with that, let me move on to some of my comments. First, I have no opinion on the tax increase, I have only lived here since October, however, I do want to say that I take no issue with the increase. And then a couple comments: one comment, this is just based on my own skim of court dockets and legal papers that have been filed, I can say that your legal costs seem to be out of control. I think there's a pattern and practice of increasing legal costs throughout the years, and what I would attribute that to is an absolute failure of risk management. I think it's shocking that there is not a risk management committee, not some way to mitigate this, it doesn't seem that any action of that sort is taking place. And by some of the court issues I've seen, failure to hold open meetings, I think is just an atrocity. But I think all together that all falls under a failure of risk management. I think together the Trustees need to put together a plan of action in a way to mitigate that in the future because that's a tremendous expense for the Village, and it's something that should be under control. And you should think to outside advisers in setting up the committee. And the only other thing I want to note, our tax dollars pay for a lot in the Village, and that's the reason we want to live here, we want to live in a place that has a walkable downtown, with a beautiful canalside, and little microbreweries to go to. We pay up for that; that's one reason for increasing taxes, but with that, I think you need to take an eye toward the pandemic that has kind of crippled the economy throughout the United States and the world, so certain things I think you need to wait on. You mentioned a Kabota and a new plow, those are things that I just don't think look good from a public

PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
April 14, 2020

perception point. While you can still keep in place the things that we all enjoy in the Village, which is tree service, pickup, and the other things that make the Village unique and wonderful, which is why we pay up for taxes. So, I think there's a balancing act to be had there, for you to take into consideration. And then lastly, it seems to everybody, to all the Trustees, that there is an importance on matching tax revenue with our budget. I think it's fair to say it's probably important for everybody show up and be prepared for these meetings in the future. So with that, thank you for the opportunity to speak.

Mr. Bleier commented that with aging equipment comes the probability of failure when we need it, so it's more of a preventative maintenance type of situation. The work we do is rough on the equipment, and it's never a guarantee that things are going to go out and come back. It happens all the time where the equipment breaks down. I guess it depends on where we want our time spent most: on repairing equipment, spending money on repairing the equipment, or actually getting services done.

Trustee Galusha added that one of the most notable services the Village offers is snow removal, and to have equipment that is highly functional, that doesn't rip up lawns, is very important, and as we all know we do get a lot of snow around here, and this piece of equipment that we're buying is reliable; we have done the research on it, and we'll be able to clear sidewalks better than we have been. We're trying to save money by buying a reliable, used vehicle that can be used by our DPW, effectively.

Caller: I appreciate all of your comments, and it all makes sense. I just think you're missing my overarching comment, which is that you have a problem of optics. You're sitting here talking about, how the Village needs a machine to better plow the sidewalks, as if this year, our sidewalks weren't plowed good enough. And so, what I'm trying to stress upon you, is that you need to take into consideration the totality of the circumstances, which is we have a global pandemic, and you have families in the Village that may or may not be struggling, and you certainly have businesses that are struggling, and you just need to take into consideration that while you have a perfectly good machine, because you pitched this machine as being efficient, I'm just saying that you need to pay attention to optics, and consider that as you move forward with the budget.

Mayor Corby stated that it's something we should take a look at.

Email from David Marshall, 67 South Main Street:

For many of the reasons already discussed, I strongly support the budget as presented and discussed this evening. I firmly believe tax revenue increases are required to maintain village services and to provide ongoing legal support to our public boards.

Furthermore, while each resident's total tax burden may be worth noting, it is inappropriate. The town and school boards are responsible for their budget and tax burden. Should residents disagree with those board's taxation and services provided, they can move to elect different school or town board representatives. To date, that has not occurred due to the quality of services received.

I support the budget as proposed and sincerely appreciate all of your efforts to determine each resident's willingness to contribute additional funding for our services and in support of the ongoing, yet diminishing, legal fees.

Sincerely,

David Marshall

Trustee Keating pointed out that one in ten Americans over the last three weeks filed for unemployment. You just translate that to the Village, and in a Village of 1600 people, that's 160 people that are now unemployed that weren't three weeks ago. The Village could get a little more creative, as the caller said, from an optical standpoint, as well as from a functional one, as to where we might cut.

Caller: Ann Binstock

PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
April 14, 2020

I just want to say that I appreciate all the work that has gone into planning this budget, but I couldn't let this moment pass without expressing once again that I am deeply disappointed in our Village's ongoing legal bills, and this Board's inability to resolve the lawsuits related to the 75 Monroe project. As we continue to face these expenses, I want to challenge this Board to resolve these lawsuits related to 75 Monroe this year. For the past few years, I've been hearing this story that we are close to resolving the issues, and the legal bills won't persist, but we have yet to see a solution with a clear path forward. Resolution doesn't seem to be happening. I want this Village to be able to focus on the business of delivering needed services to Villagers. Residents are tired of this hanging over our budget, our operations, and our community's reputation, and I want to challenge you to do the work this year, in 2020, to once and for all resolve 75 Monroe.

Mayor Corby asked about the next steps. The Village Clerk reminded the Board that they have a budget meeting scheduled for Thursday April 16th, if they would like to continue review of the budget.

Trustee Stetzer stated that when the Board voted to bring this budget to a hearing, the world had not shut down yet in this area. Four significant things have happened since the Board voted to move this budget to hearing: we're now anticipating a greater loss in sales tax; the property tax assessments have been rescinded; we're anticipating decreased federal and state funding in light of the pandemic, and we don't even know what aid, if any, will be available to Villages like ours; and many of our residents have lost their jobs, have been furloughed, or have had their incomes reduced in some way, and our local businesses are experiencing great loss. She further stated that Board members haven't been able as a board to discuss this, so she is not ready to vote to approve.

Mr. Lauth reported that an executive order came down from Governor Cuomo today in regards to all essential people that are in the public have to wear a mask.

Trustee Keating stated that he had a meeting with Lloyd Theiss, from the Highlands of Pittsford, and they need masks for their residents. He stated that he put a fundraiser up on our site and raised a little over \$800, and they need about another \$100 to be able to make this a reality. He's hoping that people will donate to this worthy cause.

Mayor Corby stated that since the Board already has a meeting scheduled, the Board will meet again on Thursday April 16th at 4:30 pm.

Motion: Mayor Corby made a motion, seconded by Trustee Lanphear, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Corby - yes; Lanphear - yes, Galusha - yes, Keating - yes, Stetzer - yes. Motion carried.