

1 VILLAGE OF GREENPORT

2 COUNTY OF SUFFOLK : STATE OF NEW YORK

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3 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

4 2024-2025 TENTATIVE BUDGET HEARING

5 -----x

6 Old School House

7 Front & First Streets

8 Greenport, NY, 11944

9 April 11, 2024

10 6:00 p.m.

11
12 B E F O R E:

13 KEVIN STUESSI - MAYOR

14 MARY BESS PHILLIPS - DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEE

15 PATRICK BRENNAN - TRUSTEE

16 LILY DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON - TRUSTEE

17 JULIA ROBINS - TRUSTEE

18
19
20 ADAM BRAUTIGAM - VILLAGE DEPUTY TREASURER

21 CANDACE HALL - VILLAGE CLERK

1 (The Meeting was Called to Order at 6 p.m.)

2 MAYOR STUESSI: I'd like to make a motion to
3 open the 2024-2025 Tentative Budget Hearing. Today
4 is April 11th. May I have a second, please?

5 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Second.

6 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Second.

7 MAYOR STUESSI: All in favor?

8 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Aye.

9 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Aye.

10 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Aye.

11 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Aye.

12 MAYOR STUESSI: Aye. Motion carries.

13 Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

14 (Pledge of Allegiance)

15 MAYOR STUESSI: Please be seated. All right.

16 Welcome to our Budget Hearing. I'm very excited to
17 have our Deputy Treasurer, Adam, here this evening,
18 who's done a great job preparing everything. With
19 that, I will turn it over to you to walk the Board
20 and the audience, those here in person and anybody
21 watching, through high level review of the budget,
22 and then we will discuss a few of the funds and then
23 take any questions.

24 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Great. Thank you,
25 Mr. Mayor. I'm going to start with the first bullet

1 point, the discussion of the Tax Cap Limit. As I go
2 through and summarize these, if anyone feels they
3 need to interrupt and ask me a question, feel free to
4 do so.

5 Starting with the discussion of the Tax Cap
6 Limit. The tax cap is based on the growth rate
7 factor, which tells us how much we can go over last
8 year's collected taxed. This budget implements a
9 4.94% increase over last year's. We will not be
10 piercing the tax cap, mostly due to an increase in
11 potential revenue, which I'll be discussing shortly.
12 The tax cap limits the amount that the Village can
13 increase the tax levy by.

14 Regarding the Tax Rate Change, bullet point B,
15 the tax rate change is based on the assessed values
16 and what we're trying to raise. This budget
17 implements a 4.37% rate change, down from almost 17%
18 last year. This is based on a formula, that's how
19 this calculation is reached.

20 The Total Spending Increase: The total
21 spending increase for the new fiscal year is
22 approximately 5%, which is down from 8.76% from last
23 year's spending.

24 An overview of the General Fund: One of the
25 bigger changes to the new budget in the General Fund

1 this year is the debt service, which was paid off
2 last year. This year we're able to use those extra
3 funds for other implementations within the General
4 Fund, such as hiring a grant consultant, allotting
5 more funds to repair our campground, and to allot
6 funds to repair and replace general equipment, as
7 well as help offset the increases in goods and
8 services that we're all familiar with.

9 The Fire Department: The biggest change in the
10 Fire Department budget is also the new debt service
11 that they accrued to fund the new ladder truck.
12 Luckily, prior to the new debt service, the Fire
13 Department in this past previous year was able to
14 update the roof, the kitchen, as well as the bathroom
15 and the handicapped ramps. Funds that were used to
16 complete those upgrades last year will now go towards
17 the new debt service for the new fiscal year.

18 Relating to parks, over at the marina, as I'm
19 sure you're all familiar with, there's a lot of work
20 to be done. We were able to secure a grant to assist
21 with that. In addition, the marina repair and
22 maintenance lines have been increased to ensure
23 there's a safe stay for the boaters and the
24 sightseers on foot.

25 McCann's Campground and the Carousel: This new

1 fiscal year will bring new rates to our Campground
2 and our Carousel, and with the additional revenue, we
3 can help improve the quality of the structures and
4 the grounds at both the Carousel and at the
5 Campground.

6 Potential New Revenue Sources: Projected to be
7 the largest new revenue source is the parking meters,
8 as the Village plans to enact a pilot program on
9 Front and/or Main Streets. It's my understanding
10 that the details are still being discussed and more
11 information is to follow relating to this pilot
12 program for the parking meter revenues.

13 In addition to that, we'll also see new revenue
14 from the Mini Railroad, as well as an increase in the
15 Building Department fees.

16 Moving on to the Enterprise Funds. First, I'm
17 going to discuss the funds individually based on
18 expenses, and then I'll move into the revenues.

19 So for the Electric Fund expenses, besides
20 usual purchases just for operating expenses, we're
21 expecting a delivery of two new bucket trucks for the
22 Light Department. After speaking with Doug Jacobs,
23 who's the head of our Electric Department, he says we
24 can expect one of those trucks as early as July,
25 which he's very excited about.

1 Water Expenses: Again, besides the usual
2 purchases needed to keep it operating efficiently, we
3 will be doing an analysis on vehicles, such as age,
4 lifespan, etcetera, with the hopes of purchasing a
5 new work truck. Some of you may be familiar with the
6 current work truck. It's long overdue for a new
7 one, so.

8 The Sewer Expenses: For the Sewer Expenses, we
9 have major upgrades that are needed at our sewer
10 plant. These have recently been reviewed, and the
11 current plan is to bond to cover the funds for these
12 repairs. It mostly involves a new screw pump at the
13 sewer plant, which is a major upgrade.

14 Moving on to the Revenues for the Enterprise
15 Funds. Now the revenues tie directly to bullet
16 points D and E, Potential for Increase in Revenues
17 for All and the State of the Rate Study. All the
18 enterprise funds will see an increase in revenue. A
19 small percentage of that revenue will simply be
20 because of an increase of demand. Of course, we're
21 going to be selling more water, more electric,
22 processing more wastewater. The rest of the increase
23 to the revenue will be because of an increase to the
24 rates.

25 While the rate study is still being finished

1 up, we have gotten some clarity regarding these new
2 rates. As it stands, we do not foresee an increase
3 in the electric rate.

4 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Adam, going back to the
5 sewer from the --

6 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah.

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- rate study, will we be
8 able to move forward on that, because we have to
9 change the code. Will we be able to move forward on
10 that starting in June --

11 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Before the --

12 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Before we can get into July?

13 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes, yes. The
14 plan is to have it way before that, way before the
15 meeting in May.

16 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. So we should have
17 something in April's Work Session?

18 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes, I'll have
19 something in April's Work Session.

20 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay.

21 MAYOR STUESSI: They got preliminary numbers
22 last week --

23 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Right, and then they --

24 MAYOR STUESSI: -- and they're finalizing that
25 portion of it.

1 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Correct,

2 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay,

3 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Correct. I'm

4 sum -- I'm working on summarizing it now to present
5 it to the Board.

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay.

7 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Excuse me, where
8 was I?

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Sorry.

10 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: No, that's okay.

11 As it stands, we do not foresee an increase in
12 the electric rates. The water rates may go up
13 slightly just to cover inflation, as the cost of
14 water being provided has increased. Now, the --

15 MAYOR STUESSI: On that subject --

16 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah.

17 MAYOR STUESSI: -- I literally just received a
18 letter from Suffolk County suggesting that rates are
19 going to go up effective January 1 as well.

20 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Okay.

21 MAYOR STUESSI: So we'll need to -- I'll
22 circulate that to the Board, and we'll need to,
23 you know, add that in for next year --

24 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Sure.

25 MAYOR STUESSI: -- to take a look at it.

1 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Sure.

2 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Do you know when we do the
3 true-up to the water meter data?

4 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah, it's done --

5 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Is that soon?

6 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: It's done
7 quarterly. February, April, May. June is the next
8 one. June is the next one.

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay.

10 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: I'm sorry. Okay.
11 So water rates may go up slightly just to cover the
12 inflation rates, and the cost of the water we provide
13 has increased.

14 The sewer rates are going to be the most
15 affected. We do see an increase in the sewer rates
16 to help offset the costs of the major repairs that
17 need to be done. This increase will assist in the
18 payment of the debt service, should we process --
19 should we, should we proceed with the bonding, as
20 well as an increase to the operating costs associated
21 with running and owning our own wastewater treatment
22 plant.

23 Any questions on the Enterprise Funds or
24 General Fund overviews?

25 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Going back to the sewer

1 bonding --

2 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Uh-huh.

3 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- we have the EFC, which is
4 a set figure every year for the sewer. Is there
5 another bond here that we have? Oh, the sanitary
6 pump.

7 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Correct.

8 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay, which is relatively,
9 relatively new. Okay. And then the EFC one is a
10 fixed asset, 59,200, that's an annual.

11 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes, that's
12 interest rate.

13 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. So those are the only
14 two bondings that are right there?

15 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: For the sewer
16 plant, yes.

17 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. All right.

18 MAYOR STUESSI: And I will only add the caveat
19 that, obviously, we're in the sewer study right now
20 that everybody is aware of, and we expect to have
21 more on that back in the next 45 days. You know, the
22 hope would be that once we get to that, we can then
23 utilize it to go out for additional State and/or
24 County support for some of the other infrastructure
25 beyond just what Adam's talked about, replacing, you

1 know, pipes at pump stations, and other things that
2 need to be done as well.

3 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Is that part of the emergency
4 funding that you're talking about, Mayor?

5 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, yep.

6 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: So I believe
7 Mayor Stuessi wanted to comment on the emergency
8 funding, and the long-term infrastructure listed on
9 the agenda tonight.

10 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. If -- I can open it up,
11 if anybody else has any other questions on the budget
12 thus far before I go into those, and then I'll be
13 glad to take public comments before we go into it as
14 well. Lily, did you have any other questions?

15 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I mean, I talked to
16 Adam, so we can recap. Just I --

17 MAYOR STUESSI: Please.

18 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: The Dances in the
19 Park line, which are like Arts and Culture, I
20 suggested taking that out, because Friends of
21 Mitchell Park is taking that over monetarily.

22 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. So just to be clear for
23 the Board and for the public, historically, that was
24 something that the funds passed through the Village.
25 We've been given advice of Counsel that that is not

1 something that we should be managing directly. And
2 so the Friends of Mitchell Park has very graciously
3 agreed to manage collecting the funds and then
4 disbursing the funds to the bands and technical
5 services as part of that.

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: But that line item wasn't
7 always used. It was used for other events in the
8 park, because when the Greenport Improvement
9 Committee was in functioning motion, that was part of
10 their line item. And plus --

11 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Yeah. I wasn't
12 saying we should take the line item out forever.

13 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, I --

14 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I was just saying
15 we should zero it for the --

16 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No, I think you need to
17 leave the money there just in case you have some
18 issues. You have the music license you have to pay
19 for, which I don't think Friends of Mitchell Park are
20 going to pay for.

21 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: They are, they are
22 going to pay for that.

23 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. Everything needs to go
24 in front of the Village and run --

25 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I mean, it was the

1 money.

2 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: So --

3 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: The money that was
4 in there was money that we were raising, and we're
5 not going to be raising that money, so it's going to
6 equal that. Like there's a, there's a line in there
7 for the -- what was coming in, and then there's a
8 line of what was going out.

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: All right. But --

10 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I'm not just saying
11 zero them both out.

12 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: But let's go through it
13 while we have it on the table. Who's paying the
14 bands?

15 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Friends of Mitchell
16 Park.

17 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Who's going to cover the
18 insurance coverage? Basically, you're stating that
19 the Friends of Mitchell Park are now running the
20 Dances in the Park?

21 MAYOR STUESSI: Correct.

22 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: So what insurance certificate
23 are we getting from them? This is now -- it was
24 always a Village -- a joint effort between everybody.

25 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I know. It's still

1 kind of a joint effort, because it's in the park.
2 But I don't mean -- as far as I knew, insurance
3 wasn't part of the budget, like last year we weren't
4 paying a specific insurance.

5 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, you're changing it
6 from what it originally was, because it was always
7 dealt -- it was always a Village function that was
8 divvied up among the different line items. I think
9 it would be better to leave --

10 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I think it was just
11 the one line item.

12 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Would they be umbrellaed,
13 then, under the Village policy, is that what it was
14 before?

15 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: They were umbrellaed under
16 the Village policy.

17 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: It currently --
18 yeah, it currently is.

19 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah.

20 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I would just think we have
21 it there, it's not affecting the budget. If we need
22 it for something that comes up for Dances, or
23 something comes --

24 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: But --

25 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- you would have the

1 funding.

2 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: But the funding in
3 there is that we were --

4 MAYOR STUESSI: The issue is the money is not
5 coming in.

6 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Right. We were
7 getting money from places, and we're not going to be
8 getting that money. So it's not a question of money
9 that was --

10 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: So then it -- so then the
11 Friends of Mitchell Park are going to be giving us a
12 Mass Assembly Permit to run Dances in the Park?

13 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I did ask that
14 question and I am not sure about that, because a --
15 for a --

16 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: That's part of the --

17 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: If Tai Chi does,
18 then maybe, like maybe so.

19 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I think there's some
20 questions that need to --

21 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. Maybe we should talk
22 about that next week in the Work Session with Legal
23 here as well, since all of this is being done at the
24 advice of Counsel.

25 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Yeah.

1 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Was --

2 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: My only other --

3 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Oh, go ahead.

4 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: No.

5 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: No. Was your point that
6 there was income added, associated expense --

7 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Yeah.

8 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: And so they --

9 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes.

10 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: -- they balanced out --

11 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Yes.

12 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: -- whether we change the
13 budget or not.

14 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: It's not going to
15 be, right.

16 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Adam was saying it
17 was actually good, because that brings the budget
18 down slightly. I mean, it's like not a huge amount.

19 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: The total amount.
20 The percentages remain the same.

21 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: It's \$18,000 or
22 something, so it's not -- you know, but it -- yeah,
23 it cancels itself out.

24 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: The bottom line
25 would be altered, obviously.

1 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Yes.

2 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: But the percentage
3 of it would remain the same.

4 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Yes. My only other
5 question was the -- which we discussed, too, like
6 involved trash cans, and I just --

7 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah, we can
8 discuss that.

9 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: And it increased,
10 and my guess was that it was trash cans, which I
11 think was great.

12 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: So I believe
13 Mayor Stuessi's plan was to replace a certain
14 percentage of the trash cans every year over the
15 course of five years, that way we're -- every year
16 we're getting a new -- 20% new cans, and then after
17 five years, we would go back to the original 20% that
18 we replaced and replace those as well. So every five
19 years, essentially, we're cycling through the cans
20 and getting new ones, which is --

21 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Are we getting the BID to
22 help us with those?

23 MAYOR STUESSI: Well, so that's the issue --

24 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Right.

25 MAYOR STUESSI: -- is the original agreement

1 with the Business Improvement District was they were
2 going to fund pari-passu, equal to our contribution,
3 and the BID is now stating that they don't have funds
4 to do so this year. So unless something changes, we
5 would be looking at it by ourselves.

6 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: I see.

7 MAYOR STUESSI: So I'm hopeful in the next BID
8 meeting that maybe something has changed, but --

9 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I remember a while
10 ago --

11 MAYOR STUESSI: -- I doubt it.

12 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: -- that they were
13 talking about those trash cans that like compacted
14 and recycled.

15 MAYOR STUESSI: Oh, I've had --

16 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: And I know those
17 are really expensive, but --

18 MAYOR STUESSI: I have had no less than eight
19 different meetings with the Business Improvement
20 District discussing trash cans and mapping them, and
21 it was only within the past couple of weeks that they
22 now said that they don't have funding to contribute.
23 So I'm hopeful they find some funding source, because,
24 obviously, that would be helpful in replacing them.
25 And, you know, we're in pretty bad shape with the

1 quality of the trash cans throughout the Village,
2 and, you know, they're wearing out quickly.

3 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Julia, how long ago was it
4 we did that joint with the BID?

5 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Probably about five or six
6 years ago, maybe a little bit longer.

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: So that's --

8 TRUSTEE ROBINS: And we originally got those
9 cans from Jamestown, the contractor up there, the
10 ones that were green and small. But now, actually,
11 we have four different styles of cans in the Village.
12 So I think maybe we as a Board should decide which
13 style can we want to continue with going forward,
14 you know, and that will be it, so that when you're
15 replacing them every year, you're bringing them
16 in-kind, you know, the same.

17 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. And so that was the work
18 that's been done to date with the BID, was reviewing
19 different types of cans. And, at this point, I'm
20 going to bring it in front of our Board to review,
21 and we'll make the decision ourselves, you know, and
22 maybe the BID will decide to participate.

23 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah. The big belly thing,
24 they pretty much went against that.

25 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: We can't have it.

1 TRUSTEE ROBINS: It was too big for our
2 sidewalks and it was expansive.

3 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: There was a discussion about
4 that, and when they did the -- when they did the --
5 trying to figure out where to put it, we ran into not
6 enough room, that it's taking up too much sidewalks.
7 The Town of Southold had it down at Love Lane, but I
8 don't think I've seen it as of late, I think it's
9 been taken out.

10 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah. I haven't even seen
11 them in Mattituck, which is where they had a couple
12 of them.

13 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, that's at Love Lane in
14 Mattituck, that's where it was.

15 TRUSTEE ROBINS: In Love Lane?

16 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: So I think it's kind of gone
17 its wayside, I think.

18 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah.

19 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: That's all I have.

20 MAYOR STUESSI: Patrick?

21 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: I had a question about the
22 General Fund appropriations. That includes a BID
23 special assessment?

24 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes, correct.

25 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: What does that mean?

1 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Well, the Village
2 collects funds from the property taxes of those
3 involved in the BID, so they could have their own
4 funding when they need to purchase something.

5 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: We're the pass-through.

6 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: With a -- we're
7 the pass-through, yes.

8 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: We're the collecting agent.

9 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes. So it's --
10 if you're a, if you're a member of the BID district,
11 there's an additional line item on the property tax
12 bill to contribute to the BID. We collect all those
13 funds and we put them in a separate account, and then
14 we actually forward a check to the BID directly for
15 those funds to collect it, so we're a pass-through.

16 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Okay. Because I saw an
17 expense line for BID, right?

18 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Exactly, yes.

19 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: So it passes through?

20 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes.

21 MAYOR STUESSI: Historically, that's been paid
22 once a year?

23 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Twice

24 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No, twice a year.

25 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Twice --

1 MAYOR STUESSI: Twice.

2 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: -- it's taken, yes.

3 TRUSTEE ROBINS: The bulk of it is the initial
4 payment, and then the residual is --

5 MAYOR STUESSI: Would it be more helpful to pay
6 it quarterly instead of twice a year?

7 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: If they would find
8 it useful, I'm happy to do so.

9 MAYOR STUESSI: I mean, for -- on our behalf.

10 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Not particularly, no.

11 MAYOR STUESSI: No?

12 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Either way it works.

13 MAYOR STUESSI: Okay. So then by State Law it
14 can be paid quarterly or twice a year.

15 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: I see, I see.
16 Well, a lot of it depends on, you know, how much is
17 in there.

18 MAYOR STUESSI: Uh-huh.

19 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: It depends, so I
20 don't have to, you know, cut them a check for a
21 couple of hundred dollars or a thousand dollars,
22 versus another check six months later for the
23 remaining 50, or something along those lines.

24 MAYOR STUESSI: Uh-huh.

25 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: So I try to even

1 it out throughout the year. But quarterly can
2 definitely be done, if wanted, but it's --

3 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: But I'm not sure their
4 budget is going to -- your budget's not really set up
5 that way. If I remember correctly from years past
6 with the BID budgets, and, Julia, you might correct
7 me, they're looking forward to that July, end of
8 July, beginning of August, where they get the bulk of
9 what's come in, because that's how they operate, and
10 then the rest of it is the dribs and drabs that kind
11 of make up for when they have their own shortfalls.
12 But their budget this year, I don't think we've seen
13 it yet, have we? Did you get a copy of the budget
14 from them?

15 MAYOR STUESSI: No, we haven't.

16 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Just the amount?

17 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah, I just
18 calculated the amount, correct.

19 MAYOR STUESSI: I sent an email requesting a
20 copy of it.

21 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Just put in 50,000, right?

22 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes.

23 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I don't want to get into it,
24 that's okay. They're supposed to present it to us
25 for you to do your budget.

1 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: I see.

2 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Because -- yeah, okay,
3 that's all right, it's not a big deal.

4 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: So a special assessment is
5 not property taxes, per se, that's what we're calling
6 that?

7 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Right.

8 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Gotcha. Okay. And then the
9 other question I had was just understanding the
10 difference between the tax rate -- tax rate change
11 and the tax levy increase, right? So the tax rate
12 change is 4.3, and the tax levy is 4.9. So the
13 difference is in what, an increase in the set value
14 throughout the Village, would you say?

15 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: That's partially
16 it, yes. Yes, that is it. So the tax levy is the
17 difference of this year's taxes versus the last
18 year's tax levy. But the tax rate is calculated on
19 our assessed value, versus what we're trying to
20 collect, what we're trying to raise through taxes.
21 So there is -- they are, they are related, but it's
22 not a tit-for-tat, they don't equal, per se. But the
23 calculations are both in there, where they would --
24 yes.

25 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: The tax, the tax rate goes

1 on what we have to raise by taxes.

2 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Right.

3 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Which is you take the total
4 appropriations, less estimated revenues, less your
5 appropriated reserves, less your appropriated fund
6 balance, and then that equals the amount that has to
7 be raised by taxes.

8 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: So like what -- so
9 when residents are asking, "How much are my taxes
10 going up," it's which of those numbers?

11 MAYOR STUESSI: Well, you have to remember that
12 we're only a very small piece, so, you know, a
13 larger chunk would be --

14 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: No, I know. What's
15 the rate, I'm saying. I know.

16 MAYOR STUESSI: -- the school district and then
17 the Town.

18 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Just the Village tax.

19 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, the tax rate changes.
20 On the front sheet here --

21 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Right.

22 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- it says that we're going
23 up 4.37.

24 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Right.

25 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Okay.

1 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: That's it.

2 MAYOR STUESSI: Just on the Village portion.

3 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Yes, I know.

4 MAYOR STUESSI: Not overall.

5 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Gotcha.

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And if you go to this front
7 sheet for the General Fund here, it gives you those
8 numbers that I just told you that comes out. Years
9 past, because of the tax cap, we've been able to --
10 you're allowed to carry over, what is it, a certain
11 percentage?

12 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes, it --

13 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: But we didn't carry it over
14 this year.

15 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: We did not carry
16 over.

17 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: We used everything this year.

18 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes.

19 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Sometimes years past when
20 this happened, is the previous administration would,
21 would have put aside some of that funding and would
22 hold some back, which would sometimes lower the rate,
23 but it made the budget really tight. And that --
24 last year, that's what we did when you decided to
25 raise -- it went up what, 150,000?

1 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Correct.

2 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: So I guess I'm not totally
3 clear on this. To the extent that the levy is
4 increasing faster than the rate is because of the
5 underlying value of the assessment of the property?

6 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: So the assessments
7 within the Village are increasing.

8 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yes.

9 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Which means we
10 can, we can collect the same percentage, but we
11 receive more funds.

12 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: More funds.

13 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah.

14 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Right. Thank you. And then
15 what -- my next question is about the budget
16 appropriations. So there's a big increase in the
17 Water Fund. It's not a lot of dollars, it's just a
18 large rate percentage change. So what's that about?

19 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Most of that stems
20 from -- originally, the Water Department was almost
21 like a subsection of the, of the Road Crew, after
22 which we had assigned essentially a Manager to the
23 Water Department, and his title was changed to the
24 Manager of the Water Department. This individual
25 previously had been paid majority from the General

1 Fund, and only slightly from the Water Fund. Now
2 that he is in charge of the Water Department, he's
3 solely an employee of the Water Department. His
4 salary now comes straight out of the Water Department
5 completely.

6 MAYOR STUESSI: So while there's been no change
7 to his actual wages, other than the cost of living
8 adjustment we did last year, the entire allocation of
9 the salary is now in the Water Department, as opposed
10 to being shared between two different departments,
11 and we had to do this in order to be in compliance
12 with State regulations.

13 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Okay.

14 MAYOR STUESSI: The State requires us to have
15 somebody under the Water Department, and historically
16 the Village did not.

17 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: And that's shifted away from
18 what, the General Fund?

19 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes.

20 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yes, the General Fund. It
21 would come out of the --

22 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes.

23 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- Road Department.

24 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Correct.

25 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: If you look at the spread

1 sheet for the payroll on the back of the budget, if
2 you were to look from last year's to this year's, you
3 would see the difference of the split between that
4 position. It would -- it's similar to our salaries
5 are split 30/30/30 --

6 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yes.

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- across. The person
8 that's in the Water Department probably -- I think if
9 you remember, he was like 40/60.

10 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Okay.

11 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Forty was Water and 60 was
12 in the Road.

13 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Okay.

14 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And then --

15 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Great. And then my other
16 question was what is the reference, what is the -- in
17 the tax cap calculation pages, what is the Tax Limit
18 Exhausted line?

19 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah.

20 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: What does that mean?

21 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah. So I have
22 that. So the percentage of the tax limit exhausted,
23 which is currently 10.22%, that's based on a
24 five-year average full valuation of all the
25 properties in the Village. Legally, the Federal

1 Government allows us to collect \$14 million in one
2 tax year. We're only collecting 1.4, approximately,
3 million dollars in the tax year, therefore, we're
4 exhausting 10% of what we could legally collect, if
5 needed.

6 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Okay.

7 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Is that based on our population?

8 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: No, it's based on
9 the value of all the properties.

10 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Oh, okay, all right.

11 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: It's all the
12 properties combined.

13 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Okay, great.

14 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I mean, we have the
15 equalization rate that comes in from the State.

16 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Correct, yes.

17 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: That affects us, the --

18 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes. Yeah, that's
19 included in the calculation of the, of the valuations.

20 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: That's what I thought, okay.

21 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Which went down
22 this year, which is good.

23 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yeah, I know, because, you
24 know --

25 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: And my other questions were

1 about specific line items, and I know you just, you
2 just touched on them.

3 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah.

4 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: And you touched on them a
5 little bit. So there's like -- the lines I called
6 out were the ones that were -- there was nothing
7 budgeted last year, so these are new sources of
8 revenue, I think that's what you're talking about.
9 Parking violations was one of the ones that's gone
10 from zero to --

11 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Fifty.

12 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yeah, I don't remember what
13 it was.

14 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yeah, it's 50.

15 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Well, we had, we
16 had the parking meter revenue, that went from zero to
17 50. The parking violations, those are when like we
18 write parking tickets.

19 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Right.

20 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Now last year we
21 had -- we collected low revenue in our parking
22 violations because of staffing shortages. This year
23 we do have budgeted to hire more people in our
24 Code Enforcement Department, which will greatly
25 increase our parking violations revenue.

1 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Right.

2 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: So that's --

3 MAYOR STUESSI: And that 50,000, your point is
4 an estimate on what we believe we'll bring in in the
5 first year for the --

6 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: For the meters, yeah.

7 MAYOR STUESSI: -- parking meters.

8 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: But the parking
9 violations, parking meters, the parking violations
10 specify to like tickets and stuff, parking tickets.

11 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yeah. No, I get that.

12 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Oh.

13 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: And so what I wanted to hear
14 was what you just said, is that your assumption is
15 based on more staffing, right?

16 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Correct, yes.

17 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Okay. And then the Village
18 Clerk Collection Fee, same thing?

19 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah, I can
20 elaborate on that. That one, that's a really hard
21 one to project, it can be weather-dependent. Last
22 year we had very few yard sale permits and public
23 assembly permits. We did have some, but much lower.
24 And we also didn't have any film permits, which bring
25 in a lot of revenue. This year specifically, it was

1 mostly just FOIL requests and notary fees, so that's
2 a hard one to predict. As I said, it can be
3 weather-dependant as far as yard sale permits and
4 public assemblies go.

5 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: So it was based on prior
6 years, like --

7 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes.

8 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yeah.

9 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes.

10 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: And then the parking meter
11 you just spoke about, so that was a \$50,000 plug.
12 And the Mini Railroad revenue, is that based on the
13 last time we discussed this?

14 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah.

15 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Based on their pro forma?

16 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Right. So that
17 one's based on four hours a day, twice a week, which
18 is the latest that I had gotten from Mayor Stuessi.
19 That's also budgeted based on 60% rider occupancy.
20 But yes, yes, it's four hours a day, twice a week, is
21 the current projection.

22 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Right. So that's the low,
23 the low figure, right?

24 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Correct.

25 MAYOR STUESSI: That's what the Rotary was

1 comfortable with us opening with relative to,
2 you know, their knowledge and experience with the
3 train.

4 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Okay.

5 MAYOR STUESSI: And then to his point, the 60%
6 load factor on the train is based upon assuming
7 butts in seats.

8 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Right. And some of that
9 might be also weather-dependent as well, because if
10 it's raining, we're not running the train.

11 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Well, I think that sounds
12 good and it's conservatively low and --

13 MAYOR STUESSI: Well, I'm hopeful it's not like
14 last summer, where it literally rained every single
15 Saturday.

16 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah.

17 MAYOR STUESSI: In which case, you know, our
18 estimates are slightly high.

19 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yeah.

20 MAYOR STUESSI: So we felt like it was a fair
21 assumption.

22 TRUSTEE ROBINS: We're not trending well in
23 2024.

24 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. Fortunately, Saturdays
25 seem to be doing better, so we're going to hope for

1 summer rain midweek.

2 (Laughter)

3 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah, right.

4 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: And then, likewise, on the
5 expense of the Mini Railroad is also based on that
6 same calculation, we could use the staffing for that?

7 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah. So the
8 Mini Railroad, again, based on four hours a day,
9 twice a week, the largest expenses is obviously wages
10 and insurance. The third, the third highest expenses
11 is just repairs needed for the train and the grounds.

12 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Okay. And then the Tree
13 Committee, how does -- a bump up, also?

14 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah. So, in the
15 past, the Tree Committee has received \$12,000.

16 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Grant.

17 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Right. They
18 usually would apply for a grant, a yearly grant for
19 \$12,000 to help fund that. Due to an increase in
20 tree removals last year, I did increase the budget
21 this year, partially based on it being underfunded in
22 the past, and also the higher costs associated with
23 the tree removals.

24 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. And so last year we had
25 to go into other departments to pull money out in

1 order to cover under-budgeting for the trees, and
2 most of it was due to tree removal in different
3 spots.

4 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Okay. So it's 20,000 this
5 year, some of it --

6 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: It currently is
7 20,000, yes.

8 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Right.

9 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Do you factor in that we also
10 get a 50-50 grant, I think, from NYPA for trees?

11 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. So that's, that's
12 effectively the budget. So the \$12,000 is really
13 \$24,000 --

14 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Right.

15 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Oh, yes.

16 MAYOR STUESSI: -- for the trees.

17 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Right.

18 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Right.

19 MAYOR STUESSI: Whatever the number is we spend
20 on trees, we get double that.

21 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Uh-huh.

22 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Okay. So it's based on
23 looking back at last year's costs being higher,
24 running higher, it's not based on like some new tree
25 projects or something?

1 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: No, not particularly,
2 just the cost of increased goods and services.

3 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Okay.

4 MAYOR STUESSI: I will say I have had a
5 conversation with the Tree Committee as recently as a
6 couple of days ago, and the hope is that we're able
7 to more than double the potential funding, because
8 there are a some grants out there.

9 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yeah.

10 MAYOR STUESSI: And that's one of the things
11 that's going to be on the grant list, to try and get
12 some funding for it, because there's certainly a lot
13 of places that we can plant more trees, and so the
14 more money we're able to get, the more we can plant,
15 obviously.

16 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yeah. That's great. Thank
17 you so much.

18 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Thank you.

19 MAYOR STUESSI: Mary Bess, did you have any
20 questions before we go to Emergency Funding?

21 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Legal Contractual. Adam, I
22 see that you put in a 150,000 this year, because
23 we -- now that's just primarily for our activity,
24 that line item, which is one for -- one for 2400?

25 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Correct, yes. I

1 believe --

2 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: There's a split for Planning
3 and Zoning?

4 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: There is, they
5 have their own.

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: They have their own?

7 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: They have their
8 own, yes.

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay.

10 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes.

11 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And have we adjusted that
12 for the current year, Adam, for the --

13 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Not for the
14 current year.

15 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: You need to adjust that,
16 correct? I'm a little bit confused. We need budget
17 mods, do we not?

18 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Let me check. I'm
19 sorry.

20 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And the website, I'm
21 assuming that's because we're going to update it.

22 MAYOR STUESSI: Yes.

23 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And computer hardware, is
24 the game -- is the plan to be purchasing new cameras,
25 is that what that's also for? I'm sorry, I won't

1 talk.

2 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: No, that's okay.
3 For the cam -- for the -- yes and no. The initial
4 cost of the software for the cameras will be a
5 capital expense, because they're not included in the
6 budget. Some of the smaller expenses such as the
7 physical cameras themselves and so forth, I did
8 include them in the line items for software and
9 hardware.

10 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And does this include the
11 firehouses as well, or is this just the Village?
12 Does this include the marina?

13 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Oh, yes, all of it.

14 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: The marina, the sewer --

15 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Oh, yes.

16 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- the plant?

17 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah, the marina,
18 everywhere.

19 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And the Fire Department?
20 Because I think they put money in their budget for
21 cameras, that's why I'm asking.

22 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: I believe the
23 total count on the cameras that I was provided did
24 include the Fire Department cameras as well.

25 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. I just want to --

1 okay. And we're anticipating buying some new
2 computer equipment?

3 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes. I believe
4 the Clerk's Office is in need of some new computers,
5 which was budgeted in the General Fund

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And that's -- do we still
7 have to buy all of that through Artilus?

8 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: We do, we do have
9 to buy that through Artilus.

10 MAYOR STUESSI: And so I had shared with you
11 the other day, Mary Bess, we're looking at the
12 contract, and the intent is to rebid it to Artilus,
13 along with some others as well.

14 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: To answer your
15 question --

16 MAYOR STUESSI: And then for everybody else who
17 may not be aware, the cameras in the Village have
18 been nonfunctional for more than a year now, and so
19 we need to replace them in every single venue.

20 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: It's just like
21 security cameras?

22 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes, correct. To
23 answer your question, Trustee Phillips, the Zoning
24 and Planning legal expense line was increased.

25 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: It was increased?

1 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes, it was.

2 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. Because I -- they
3 have some big projects. Okay.

4 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah. They
5 should, yeah.

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yeah, because --

7 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: It was increased
8 substantially.

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay.

10 MAYOR STUESSI: And then, obviously, tracking
11 is important, too, which we're trying to do a really
12 good job with, because a lot of those expenses are
13 reimbursable directly by the applicant.

14 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Right, right. No, that was
15 my next question, because this --

16 MAYOR STUESSI: But anything that we're able to
17 put directly on the applicant, we're making sure that
18 we do.

19 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And signage, I see we've
20 upped that to 15,000. We're going to be redoing a
21 lot of signage this year?

22 MAYOR STUESSI: Not as much as I would like.
23 My worry is the number is probably half of what it
24 should be. It's significantly more than last year.
25 But a perfect example is the crosswalk signs we have,

1 the five that we purchased last year exhausted the
2 total sign budget for the year. We've been wanting
3 to purchase four more for the other crosswalks and we
4 just don't have the money in the budget. And so the
5 goal is to purchase more of those, so we have them on
6 each the crosswalks, and then additional signage to
7 replace the ones that exist for parking and other
8 things as part of the plan that Julia's committee had
9 suggested for different locations that used to have
10 parking lot signs. And then the hope, too, is that
11 some of the additional funds we might get from paid
12 metered parking will help support additional signage
13 within the downtown district as well.

14 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: What was last year's budget
15 for signs?

16 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: I believe it was 5
17 or 6,000, and we -- I believe we did -- had to do a
18 budget mod to refuel it to around 7 or 8, and this
19 year I put 15 in there.

20 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Is that for pedestrian the
21 crossing?

22 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: All of the above,
23 yeah.

24 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah.

25 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yep.

1 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Okay.

2 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Out of curiosity, I know
3 it's an off question, but it's time for painting
4 lines again. We have a lot --

5 TRUSTEE ROBINS: That's in there, isn't it?

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- to paint around here.
7 Did we increase that by anything? Because we never
8 painted lines last year and they are definitely --

9 MAYOR STUESSI: No, we did paint lines.

10 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Did we paint lines?

11 MAYOR STUESSI: There was a significant amount
12 of work done last year.

13 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And they didn't last very
14 long.

15 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: If that comes out
16 of the Roads and -- the Roads budget --

17 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Roads, yeah.

18 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah.

19 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: -- that's funded,
20 that is funded.

21 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay.

22 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. And so the other thing
23 to keep in mind too, Mary Bess, is as part of the
24 bonding that we've talked about for a lot of the work
25 on Adams and the parking lots, that would include --

1 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay.

2 MAYOR STUESSI: -- repainting all of those, too.

3 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. That's pretty much it
4 for me.

5 MAYOR STUESSI: Julia, did you have anything?
6 I know that you connected with Adam briefly.

7 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah. No. I think that I
8 just -- you did mention the Carousel, and I know that
9 there's going to be increased revenue coming from the
10 Carousel, because we're doing a rate increase there.
11 There is -- and you said, you know, we'll deal with
12 some of the expenses related to it. Does that
13 include the infrastructure? Because we have an issue
14 with bluestone paving around the whole area of
15 Mitchell Park. Are we anticipating that kind of
16 revenue coming in from the rate increase?

17 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Well, based on the
18 rate increase, I believe we're projecting over 15%
19 increase. So depending on the costs associated with
20 the bluestone and so forth, it could be done, yeah.

21 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah, yeah. I mean, I know
22 Rick has done some estimates already and he has some
23 recommendations on it as well.

24 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Oh, great.

25 TRUSTEE ROBINS: But --

1 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Okay. I can --

2 MAYOR STUESSI: Well, so, if you want to jump
3 into that, I mean, that's a long-term infrastructure
4 item.

5 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Right.

6 MAYOR STUESSI: And so the cost of redoing all
7 of the bluestone in the park is going to be somewhere
8 north of \$150,000. What we're looking to do this
9 summer is to do some patches in spots where we're
10 missing stone, and fix some overly loose ones. And
11 then the goal would be, as part of long-term planning,
12 find some funding to literally redo do all of it,
13 because what's happened is, just due to, you know,
14 age and lack of maintenance, they're separating from,
15 you know, how they were put in, and so it's, you know,
16 getting progressively worse. And it's not really
17 something we can fix. We need to, you know, pull all
18 of it up and replace it.

19 And so, you know, I think at a certain point,
20 we're going to look at what we want to do as part of
21 that. You know, one could make the assumption that
22 it would cost less to do stamped concrete, but that's
23 a very different look. And so, you know, my hope
24 would be that we're able to find funding to help us
25 replace it in-kind with bluestone again, and keep

1 that very natural look as part of it, and then do
2 other work with, you know, borders and other things,
3 too. Anything else, Julia?

4 TRUSTEE ROBINS: No. You know, we're waiting
5 on the rate study, and I don't think that, you know,
6 that -- and that -- I did have a question, actually.

7 The Water Department, the sampling of the
8 water, we have two locations in the Village. Are we
9 doing those samples ourselves and then send them into
10 a lab for analysis, is that how it's done?

11 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes, absolutely.
12 Yeah, Steve Rutkowski, the head of our Water Department,
13 he handles this.

14 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Okay, he does it.

15 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes.

16 TRUSTEE ROBINS: And then you send it over
17 the lab?

18 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes, they do.

19 TRUSTEE ROBINS: And that's a monthly thing. I
20 know there's some new things coming on about PCBs, I
21 think.

22 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: PFAS.

23 TRUSTEE ROBINS: PFCs, right?

24 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: PFAS.

25 TRUSTEE ROBINS: PFAS, yeah. The Suffolk

1 County Water Authority is going to be testing for
2 that now, you know, because, apparently, there are
3 towns, I don't think we're one of them, you know, but
4 there are levels that you can't exceed, you know. So
5 I don't know if that's going to --

6 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: I have read that
7 as well.

8 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah. I was just reading
9 about it in Newsday. Yeah, Newsday had a big article
10 on it.

11 MAYOR STUESSI: And it's a new thing being
12 mandated.

13 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah, yeah. So, okay, that's
14 it for me. Thank you.

15 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Any other
16 questions before we continue on the Enterprise Funds
17 or the General Fund?

18 MAYOR STUESSI: Okay. So just real briefly in
19 regards to emergency funding. I know we've talked
20 about the sewer and the stormwater. Our consultant
21 is in the midst of doing the survey of the entire
22 infrastructure right now. We should have something
23 back in the next 45 days to give us further guidance.

24 Our new grant consultant is looking for that
25 and will incorporate it into this plan and report

1 that they're going to be sharing with us for,
2 you know, additional funding. This would be beyond
3 these couple of immediate items, including the screw,
4 etcetera, that he had talked about earlier that we
5 were bonding for.

6 The big issue is the bulkhead and the floating
7 docks in the marina that were damaged in a storm a
8 week ago. As everybody's aware, we're really
9 fortunate that we got the \$3 million in funding
10 towards the replacement of the entire bulkhead, which
11 the plan is to do that this fall and winter, but
12 there are -- I've walked with most of the Board now.
13 But there are things that have to be fixed
14 immediately, which includes a number of the floating
15 docks, which we are getting pricing on right now,
16 together with replacement of a piece of the bulkhead,
17 which is over by the Railroad Dock and the ferry.
18 And then we're looking to put some patches in some
19 other spaces, so that we're able to at least get
20 through the summer and early fall before we do the
21 major work.

22 We're getting all the costs on this right now,
23 don't yet know what the exposure is. I'm hopeful we
24 might be able to pull some funding from the State or
25 County for the emergency act that was done on that,

1 which will also help expedite the process for
2 permitting and getting the work done.

3 Hopeful, too, that we might be able to find
4 some funding to replace the wave wall, which used to
5 exist under the East Pier. We're going to take a
6 look at that as well. You know, we've had some
7 pretty significant waves coming in the marina that
8 likely would not have come through had a wave wall
9 been in place. But on the opposite side, you know,
10 it might have damaged the wave wall even more, but I
11 think a newer one should have been in good shape.

12 We've got a couple of buildings, I know I've
13 reached out to the Board on, that we need to look at
14 demolishing. We've got one of them completely
15 boarded up, that's the old water pump station over by
16 Monsell Trail, which has been broken into a couple of
17 times now. And the bigger one is the old Building 10,
18 which we now have removed the entirety of the ice
19 rink pieces. Those were, of course, sold to the
20 bidder, and that's all been removed from the building.

21 We have a fence which is closed and says,
22 "Do Not Trespass." We're going to do some things to
23 try and close off the rest of the building, but there
24 is going to come a point here where we're going to
25 need to look at taking the building down and filling

1 in the basement over there, and, you know, look for,
2 you know, something long-term. It hadn't been used
3 for years, other than for the storage of the ice rink,
4 and then a couple of the --

5 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Christmas.

6 MAYOR STUESSI: -- Santa displays for Steamboat
7 Corner. We're going to be moving those over to the
8 road barn.

9 On the longer term infrastructure, we've talked
10 very briefly about the paving at Mitchell Park. I'm
11 not going to go into any details on this. This is
12 going to come as part of some of the larger grant
13 building process. And so over the next several
14 months, in front of the Board we're going to bring a
15 number of things, and, you know, put a plan together,
16 which, you know, Adam is going to help on, too.

17 We also have our summer intern from last year,
18 Yan, coming back, who was at NYU. He's going to be
19 working very closely with the grants team as well and
20 Adam to build this program to bring in front of the
21 Board. And I'm sure the Board will have other items
22 that they're all aware of and feel are real critical
23 to look at as part of the longer term infrastructure
24 plan for the Village, which could include anything
25 from renovating Village Hall, which needs a good

1 amount of work, to, you know, building a new ice rink.
2 So we'll look at everything within the Village, and
3 try and put a plan together that's, you know, going
4 to, you know, last us over time.

5 With that, I'll turn it over to the public, if
6 there are any comments from our audience. Dinni or
7 Suzy, anything you'd like to ask? No? Yes?

8 MS. GORDON: Well, I'm just wondering about the
9 pump station, the Sewer Fund pump station expenses.
10 They don't seem to be going up. Am I --

11 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Are you looking at the page
12 where --

13 MS. GORDON: Maybe I've got the wrong page.
14 It's in the Sewer Fund expenses.

15 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Do you know the
16 line item? G.811 something?

17 MS. GORDON: Yeah, 8130.402 and 400.

18 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: 402 and 400.

19 MS. GORDON: And 203.

20 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: 402?

21 MS. GORDON: 81 -- 8130 and then 203.400 and
22 402. I'm just self-interested. I live next door to
23 it, it stinks, and I just wondered.

24 MAYOR STUESSI: So --

25 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: You're talking about the

1 pump station down at Sixth Street, Dinni?

2 MS. GORDON: Yeah. Is that --

3 MAYOR STUESSI: Your pump --

4 MS. GORDON: Isn't that what this is for?

5 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Maintenance of
6 pump stations.

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Maintenance of pump
8 stations.

9 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. So there -- we have some
10 pretty significant issues with a number of pump
11 stations. That's not budgeted right here to do work
12 on that we're doing THE sewer study for. And the
13 hope is to get some additional funding outside the
14 regular Village budget to do replacements at a number
15 of the pump stations, and then with pipes themselves.
16 And I will say the pump station down by your house is
17 one of the three that we're having the most trouble
18 with right now.

19 MS. GORDON: Okay. Thank you.

20 MAYOR STUESSI: So if for some reason we're
21 able -- we find that we can't get funding through
22 grants and other sources, we would need to bond for
23 it in order to get it fixed at a certain point.

24 MS. GORDON: Okay. Thank you.

25 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, it's the one by the

1 hospital near where Mary Bess lives, yours, and the
2 one by Claudio's, which are in the worst shape.

3 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And part of the problem with
4 that, and also the reason, when the high tides bouncing
5 in, it does --

6 MS. GORDON: Yeah.

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- it does cause issues.
8 And you -- those three spots are pretty close.

9 MS. GORDON: No. Yes, yes.

10 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Claudio's, Claudio's has had
11 a lot of --

12 MS. GORDON: The tide comes right up Sixth
13 Street.

14 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yeah. But those, those
15 are -- yeah, those are the trouble ones. The one on
16 Manor Place encompasses all the activity from Peconic
17 Landing. Yours gets most of the whole area, Fourth,
18 Fifth and Sixth Street, I believe, which is a big
19 area. And what was the other one?

20 MAYOR STUESSI: Claudio's.

21 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Claudio's.

22 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Oh, Claudio's. Well,
23 that's --

24 MS. GORDON: Yeah.

25 MAYOR STUESSI: But they've all sort of

1 outlived their life, is what the big issue is with
2 them, relative to the equipment. So there's a,
3 there's a plan to replace equipment.

4 And one of the other things that our Head of
5 the Sewer Department, Adam, wants to do is
6 standardize everything throughout, because then it
7 makes it a lot easier for replacement parts, too,
8 which is something that we're going to be working on
9 towards all of the lights in the Village, because,
10 currently, we have, if memory serves me correctly,
11 14 different --

12 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Poles?

13 MAYOR STUESSI: -- light fixtures, and about
14 eight different types of bulbs throughout the
15 Village. And we have a grant that we're working on
16 right now with NYSERDA in order to replace all of
17 them with one standard.

18 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Are those the smart lights
19 that regulate and give feedback and let us know when
20 they're out and all that?

21 MAYOR STUESSI: I don't know that we'll be able
22 to get funding for that, but, at the very least,
23 convert over to LED, which we've converted some. The
24 problem is there's different levels of LED.

25 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Right.

1 MAYOR STUESSI: And the few that have been put
2 in, there's been really bad feedback on how bright
3 they are. So we're testing some lower, lower rated
4 watts right now. Anything else? Suzy?

5 MS. DONOVAN: No. I -- you know, I think the
6 issues that I'm thinking of are probably more under
7 the long-term infrastructure piece. And without a
8 specific plan, which we really don't have right now,
9 I think just put in a plug for longer term thinking
10 in terms of the climate resiliency and adaptation,
11 because, otherwise, we're going to be in a position
12 where we're sort of continuously having to respond to
13 awful emergencies.

14 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, very good --

15 MS. DONOVAN: And I know you all are very well
16 aware of that. It's just --

17 MAYOR STUESSI: Very good point, and I would
18 welcome comment as we start, you know --

19 MS. DONOVAN: Exactly.

20 MAYOR STUESSI: -- delving into that plan,
21 sure.

22 MS. DONOVAN: Sure, yeah.

23 MAYOR STUESSI: And so a number of things that
24 we're going to be taking a look at with the --
25 You know, take a pump station, for example. Maybe

1 not just replacing all the equipment in it, but
2 potentially raising it up --

3 MS. DONOVAN: Right.

4 MAYOR STUESSI: -- as well.

5 MS. DONOVAN: Exactly.

6 MAYOR STUESSI: So we're working with the
7 hospital, by example, on a funding request that
8 they're putting into the State, that, hopefully, the
9 Board will -- I can't imagine the Board wouldn't be
10 supportive of, to move a lot of their equipment out
11 of the basement and above ground, and raise it up as
12 well in order to ensure long-term sustainability at
13 the hospital. There's going to be things that we're
14 going to need to look at --

15 MS. DONOVAN: Right.

16 MAYOR STUESSI: -- similar to that. I mean,
17 it's -- the hospital basement has water incursion
18 during low tide now --

19 MS. DONOVAN: It's, right, routine right now.

20 MAYOR STUESSI: -- which we've never seen
21 before.

22 MS. DONOVAN: Yeah, exactly.

23 MAYOR STUESSI: And I don't know -- you know,
24 those of you who live down -- the two of you, live on
25 Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Street, the dry wells that we

1 have in the ends of the street down there, which
2 originally were put in to take rainwater during heavy
3 rain and absorb it, at low tide with no rain, we're
4 seeing water bubble up in the streets.

5 MS. DONOVAN: Bubble up, exactly.

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, even the bioretention
7 that was done at the end of Manor Place, in the
8 beginning it receded a lot quicker than it is now,
9 and part of that is because of the higher tides that
10 are coming in.

11 MS. DONOVAN: Right.

12 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And our water level for low
13 tide is higher than it used to be, because we're at
14 the low point with the fish market and we keep track
15 under the dock, because that's when we know we have
16 to start moving things by the height of the water.

17 MS. DONOVAN: Right.

18 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And each storm that we've
19 had for this last year we've had to -- usually it's
20 two days before, we're now moving it to three to four
21 days, starting to move stuff up-ground. So there is
22 a big change in the creek with the water level, so I
23 could imagine in the bay it's even higher, so.

24 MS. DONOVAN: Right, yeah, that's just my
25 overall.

1 MAYOR STUESSI: Okay.

2 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I had one last
3 question.

4 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

5 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Which is under the
6 emergency funding, like the bulkhead, the marina, and
7 the demolition. Are those funded in here?

8 MAYOR STUESSI: None of that is funded.

9 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: So that's all from
10 grants?

11 MAYOR STUESSI: All of that is outside the
12 budget and --

13 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: And/or bonds or --

14 MAYOR STUESSI: We will see, yeah.

15 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: But, I mean, the
16 emergency stuff we're going to do.

17 MAYOR STUESSI: Well, we have to do it, but we
18 don't have the money for it. So my goal is to try
19 and find State -- immediate emergency State and
20 County funding for it. If we're unable to do that,
21 we're going to need to go to bond for it.

22 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Gotcha.

23 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Is that, any of the storm
24 related stuff eligible for FEMA grants? I mean, this
25 is --

1 MAYOR STUESSI: Potentially. That's why we
2 declared a state of emergency as part of it.

3 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Right.

4 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Okay.

5 MAYOR STUESSI: Not just to expedite permitting
6 to get any of the work done, but to help with funding,
7 etcetera.

8 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: So the expedited permitting
9 could include DEC on the --

10 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. Absolutely, yep.

11 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And the bulkhead project,
12 the Mitchell Marina bulkhead, we -- we're redoing
13 that study, correct?

14 MAYOR STUESSI: Yes. We're doing a modified
15 version, which, you know, they're coming back out
16 next week to take a look at again, and there's going
17 to be something else in front of the Board to sign
18 off on as of part of that.

19 TRUSTEE ROBINS: The same engineers, though,
20 that are coming up to do that?

21 MAYOR STUESSI: Pardon me?

22 TRUSTEE ROBINS: The same engineers that --

23 MAYOR STUESSI: For one piece of it, yes.

24 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Right, okay.

25 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

1 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: So the contract that we
2 just, or agreement that we just signed for the \$6500
3 a month for the grant, that's coming out of which
4 line items of --

5 MAYOR STUESSI: That's from several different
6 funds.

7 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah, yeah. So
8 those are coming out of all the Executive lines,
9 they're all Executive spending, so -- Executive
10 expenses. There's one on each fund, so it will
11 funded from every department, essentially.

12 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: For the \$6500?

13 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yeah, correct.

14 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And that contract starts
15 when, June 1st?

16 MAYOR STUESSI: April 1st.

17 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: April 1st.

18 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Do we have money to pay for that?

19 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: I was looking.

20 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Last time I looked -- yeah,
21 you and I can talk.

22 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: I think I found some.

23 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yeah, I think I found --
24 okay, never mind. Sorry. We were talking about that
25 earlier. But it is in this year's budget?

1 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Yes, it is.

2 MAYOR STUESSI: Yes.

3 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Oh, okay.

4 MAYOR STUESSI: Anything else?

5 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: Any questions?

6 (No Response)

7 MAYOR STUESSI: All right. With that, unless I
8 can keep the meeting open for 25 more minutes --

9 DEPUTY TREASURER BRAUTIGAM: No.

10 MAYOR STUESSI: -- so I win my bet with Candace.

11 (Laughter)

12 MAYOR STUESSI: I'll make a motion to adjourn.

13 Is there a second?

14 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Second.

15 MAYOR STUESSI: All in favor?

16 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Aye.

17 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Aye.

18 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Aye.

19 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Aye.

20 MAYOR STUESSI: Aye.

21 Thank you, everybody.

22 (The Meeting was Adjourned at 6:52 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

STATE OF NEW YORK)
) SS:
COUNTY OF SUFFOLK)

I, LUCIA BRAATEN, a Court Reporter and Notary
Public for and within the State of New York, do
hereby certify:

THAT, the above and foregoing contains a true
and correct transcription of the proceedings taken on
April 11, 2024.

I further certify that I am not related to any
of the parties to this action by blood or marriage,
and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of
this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
this 22nd day of April, 2024.

Lucia Braaten
Lucia Braaten