

From: Mayor <mayor@scarsdale.com>
Date: April 2, 2020 at 7:10:53 PM EDT
To: Scott Hirsh <rscotthirsh@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: I live in Town

Scott,

I hope you and your family are and remain well.

Thank you for your email.

The Village Board is very cognizant of not only the current state of our economy but also the very serious impact that COVID-19 may have on Scarsdale residents.

Our first step was to ensure that we had funds in place to cover our emergency response and expected changes to revenue and expense items in the short to medium term. The Village Manager immediately shifted Village operations into austerity mode. Specifically, non-essential expenses were restricted and \$1.78 million was re-allocated from: (i) the current year's operating budget, and (ii) the coming year's budgeted capital plan into a newly formed COVID-19 contingency account. The Village has identified an additional \$1.7 million of available funding sources that are available, if needed, as we continue to get more clarity about the fiscal impacts of this pandemic.

Of course, these are only initial steps. We agree that additional changes to the 20-21 budget may be necessary and intend to conduct several public budget work sessions as we get more specific information. Our intent, as always, is to seek to garner as much public input as possible to help determine the appropriate fiscal priorities and responses. For now, we will continue working under the principle that discretionary spending is suspended.

Our focus has been and will continue to be on our COVID-19 response and the health and safety of the community. But, please know that our austerity mindset will not be lifted until we have more clarity on the immediate and intermediate COVID-related impacts on our community and the Village 20-21 fiscal budget.

Please join us at our budget public hearing [on Tuesday, April 14th at 7pm](#) on Zoom or at any of the additional budget meetings we will hold in the coming weeks and months. As always, our meetings are open to the public and we welcome your input.

Be well.

Thank you,

Marc

Sent from my iPad

On Apr 2, 2020, at 5:45 PM, Scott Hirsh <rscotthirsh@gmail.com> wrote:

CAUTION: External sender.

Marc--

Sorry that I could not attend.

I run the upper right 12 states for Ameriprise. I am working daily from about 7:30am to at least 8:30pm. I need to make sure that I stay employed even though I will make a ton less.

I read some summary notes from the meeting. Seems to me that we better lower our budget and make some cuts. Even if we have a V shaped recovery, it is months off and the damage will be done.

I know you do not get paid to do what you do....or not much if you do. I know I would not do it. To that end, I appreciate all your effort. That said, now is the time to lead. Our municipality has gotten away with raising taxes for way to long to solve our problems. Because of this and because of SALT....add to it COVID 19 and the looming deep recession we face, our real estate values have been badly damaged. If we do not get control of our budget this will continue.

On a slightly separate note, I have 2 children (23 & 21) who graduated from SHS. I was remarried 12.31.20 and I now have a Freshman stepson. Relative to what we have had to do in the corporate sector, I feel the our supposedly "great" schools have not stepped up they way many of us had expected they should had in this crisis. They have all sorts of excuses. In my world, we are cutting comp by 25%++ and laying people off. A shame we do not do that with our schools.

Talk to you soon, Scott

On Sun, Mar 29, 2020 at 2:14 PM Mayor <mayor@scarsdale.com> wrote:
Hi Scott,

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Our first step was to ensure that we had funds in place to cover our emergency response and expected changes to revenue and expense items in the short to medium term. The Village Manager immediately shifted Village operations into austerity mode. Specifically, non-essential

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Please join us at our budget work session this Tuesday at 5pm on Zoom or at any of the additional budget meetings we will hold in the coming weeks and months. As always, our meetings are open to the public and we welcome your input.

Be well.

Thank you,

Marc

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 26, 2020, at 10:39 PM, Scott Hirsh <rscotthirsh@gmail.com> wrote:

CAUTION: External sender.

Mr. Mayor--

As you are no doubt aware, many of us in Town will make substantially less year over year. Some will lose their jobs. Many will have bonuses eliminated. In addition, our net-worths have been sheared by the recent market meltdown.

For that reason, this Village needs to consider substantial cuts to the village and school budgets. This is the time for fiscal responsibility.

What are your plans to control our spending?

Sincerely,
R. Scott Hirsh

7 Pinecrest Rd, Scarsdale, NY 10583

rscotthirsh@gmail.com<mailto:rscotthirsh@gmail.com>