From: Mayor

Sent: Saturday, April 9, 2016 11:24 AM

To: proscars@aol.com

Subject: Re: Letter To The Editor

Dear Mr. Harrison -- Thanks for your email.

Very truly yours, Jon Mark

From: proscars@aol.com proscars@aol.com

Sent: Friday, April 8, 2016 7:27 PM

To: Mayor; jmark58@aol.com; bill.stern@yahoo.com; dpekarek@verizon.net;

marc.samwick@verizon.net; carl@fingerandfinger.com; MJC49C@gmail.com; Steve Pappalardo

Subject: Fwd: Letter To The Editor

To: Mayor and Scarsdale Board of Trustees:

Based on the facts presented below in the Letter to the Editor we urge the Village Board to reduce the proposed Budget tax increase of 3.69 % by 1 % to 2 % by the application of more fund balance . Thank you.

The Scarsdale Taxpayer Alert Bob Harrison, Chairman 65 Fox Meadow Road Scarsdale, NY10583

914 725-0962 914 646-4054 (cell)

----Original Message-----

From: proscars <<u>proscars@aol.com</u>>
To: editor <<u>editor@scarsdalenews.com</u>>

Sent: Tue, Apr 5, 2016 4:25 pm Subject: Letter To The Editor

To The Editor:

Next Tuesday, April 12th is the last chance for the 5300 Scarsdale Homeowner taxpayers to protest the Village Board's proposed 3.69 % tax increase for the fiscal year starting on June 1st. Taxpayers must attend the Village Board meeting at 8 PM at Village Hall on Tuesday and speak out against the excessive tax increase during the public comment period or you can send a protest email to the Village Board at clerk@scarsdale.com.

The Village treasury has a latest audited fund balance of \$ 8.7 million of previously collected taxpayer dollars that represented 16.08 % of the total budget. The Board's stated policy is to keep the fund balance at 10 % to 15 % of the total budget . The Village is excessively hoarding taxpayer money in the fund balance earning almost no interest.

For the every \$ 384,000 of fund balance applied , the tax rate increase can be reduced by one percent. The Village Board could easily apply more of the fund balance to reduce the tax rate increase by 1 to 2 % and still be well within their own fund balance policy.

For taxpayer information the Village's budget has consistently had a year end close out surplus of \$1,000,000 or more that the budget in effect has a slush fund to be applied to capital items like roads or even to replenish the fund balance.

There is no need for a 3.69 % tax increase now. Once our taxpayers have a large tax increase above the inflation rate, that rate increase is built into the tax base and gets compounded in future tax rate increases. We must tell the Village Board that we are already taxed too much and we must reduce the proposed 3.69 % Village tax rate increase.

In addition there is currently a new drive by reval taking place in Scarsdale with the new assessments announced around June 1st. This reval is costing our taxpayers over \$ 245,000 plus costs. J.F. Ryan has told us that all assessments will change with his new computer model . With the weakness in high end property sales , it is likely that average and lower homeowner assessed properties will get a higher new assessment resulting in a higher tax bill for residents of lesser means and seniors on fixed incomes. Again we must protest the proposed 3.69 % Village tax increase !!!

We are available to answer any questions on the proposed tax increase and the implications of the new reval at 914 646-4054 and by email at proscars@aol.com.

Bob Harrison, Chairman Scarsdale Taxpayer Alert Fox Meadow Road