

1 VILLAGE OF GREENPORT

2 COUNTY OF SUFFOLK : STATE OF NEW YORK

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4 BUDGET MEETING

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7 Old Schoolhouse
8 Greenport, New York

9 April 8th, 2021
10 6:00 p.m.

10

11 Before:

12 GEORGE HUBBARD - Mayor

13 JULIA ROBINS - Trustee

14 MARY BESS PHILIPS - Trustee

15 JACK MARTILOTTA - Trustee

16 PETER CLARKE - Trustee

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19 PAUL J. PALLAS - Village Administrator

20 JOSEPH PROKOP - Village Attorney

21 ROBERT BRANDT - Treasurer

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1 MAYOR HUBBARD: Being 6:03, I'll
2 call this budget hearing to order.

3 (Pledge of Allegiance).

4 Okay. As everybody can see, we
5 have the tentative budget is here. We're doing a
6 public hearing tonight, we'll close the public
7 hearing, and we'll move forward at our April
8 regular meeting. The public will be able to
9 comment again if anybody hasn't seen it or if
10 there are any additional comments.

11 As I said at the meeting last week,
12 it is a very conservative budget. It's a minor
13 increase, 2.25 percent. When you look at the
14 bottom line of overall spending and everything
15 else, we actually are spending less money on the
16 overall budget between the funds we were spending
17 before.

18 The increase is pretty much all
19 just covering our union contract with raises and
20 benefits for employees. Besides that, we're just
21 going with the status quo trying to keep
22 everything to a minimum. We don't know yet, we
23 have been trying for the past day, to find out
24 this package, what the village would be entitled
25 to.

1 I worked on it, Paul worked on it,
2 we made phone calls, we called people in Albany.
3 And they really just don't have a number yet. So
4 there's no sense in taking -- trying to fill that
5 out when we just don't know if it's real or not.
6 So we have no idea.

7 So that could impact the budget
8 dramatically. The projects will wait until the
9 budget gets taken care of. The stuff that's
10 already in the budget will be there, but if we
11 wanted to, you know, a bond to do road paving or
12 additional stuff, the projects in the works,
13 equipment, renovation, a lot of that stuff is
14 already taken care of, ramps, donations, other
15 stuff. So we'll be able to continue with some of
16 that stuff. We had some big projects last year,
17 and borrowing money. We're still not going to be
18 in a position to do that without jeopardizing the
19 financial need of what we need to do. So we know
20 what we're going to need grants for.

21 So besides that, if the public has
22 anything to say, but they don't.

23 Does any of the trustees have any
24 questions for the treasurer or myself of where
25 we're going with this and where we're trying to

1 do?

2 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Are you still
3 waiting for the CHIPS amount?

4 TREASURER BRANDT: I believe we
5 just put another CHIPS submission in. No, we got
6 a reimbursement in February, I believe it was.

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay.

8 TREASURER BRANDT: But we have
9 another submission. That's for the May deadline.

10 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: May deadline,
11 but what about next year?

12 TREASURER BRANDT: I do have an
13 application that's actually on the CHIPS line,
14 it's 29, I think.

15 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Right but the
16 cut number.

17 TREASURER BRANDT: That is the cut
18 number.

19 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: That is the cut
20 number?

21 TREASURER BRANDT: That is the cut
22 number, yeah.

23 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. And the
24 other thing is: I know that we're hopefully going
25 to expand on our revenues with the carousel, but

1 come next winter, the ice rink. We didn't open it
2 this year, but do we have enough money to repair
3 what needs to be repairs? Or is that something
4 we're going to hold off and see what comes up.

5 TREASURER BRANDT: Let's hold off
6 on that one. Let's play it by ear.

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. Because I
8 do know --

9 TREASURER BRANDT: I didn't
10 intentionally put money in the budget for that,
11 other than the normal expense line.

12 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: That's what I
13 was asking.

14 TREASURER BRANDT: Any other
15 capital expenses, we'll cross that bridge when we
16 get there.

17 TRUSTEE CLARKE: But the ice rink,
18 though it affected cash flow, at the end of the
19 day, do we save money if we don't open it?

20 MAYOR HUBBARD: Yes. The ice rink
21 costs us money all the time, but it's a very good
22 thing for the community, for the children, and
23 everything else. So it's never going to make us
24 money. We're at the point now that the whole rink
25 and everything else, the equipment is old, it's

1 been taken down, stored, moved back and forth and
2 everything else. We're probably better off
3 looking at something with better technology and
4 more efficient equipment and everything else, and
5 just getting a new rink instead of trying to patch
6 this back together. Technology has gotten better,
7 things are better.

8 So if we're going to plan on
9 opening it, we can just look at -- Paul will get
10 prices and will work on that with Robert. Just
11 get a price so when we come to August, we can say,
12 you know, we're going to open up the skating rink,
13 we're going to meet COVID guidelines and
14 everything else, and then just bite the bullet in
15 getting the best stuff, get new machinery that
16 will be better served and will last us ten years.
17 I'm not sure exactly how old this stuff is.

18 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: 1999 maybe.

19 MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay.

20 TREASURER BRANDT: '98.

21 MAYOR HUBBARD: So it's 20 years
22 old. The manifolds and everything else, the guys
23 are picking it up, putting it in the truck,
24 putting it inside, it's been moved around a lot
25 and it's beat up.

1 So if we're going to do the ice
2 rink, which I think just for something to do in
3 Greenport during winter, we're really beyond the
4 point of trying to repair that. We really need to
5 look and just say, you know, this is going to be
6 "X" amount of dollars, and just go ahead and do
7 it.

8 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Can I ask Paul
9 Pallas a question on the ice rink?

10 MAYOR HUBBARD: Sure.

11 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Paul, one of the
12 things I've heard from experts, was that the
13 substrate is the cause of a lot of the problems,
14 not -- beyond the equipment, you know. So the
15 field that we're going on right now, is everything
16 in good condition there? That it isn't going to
17 compromise, you know, spending a lot of money on a
18 new installation?

19 ADMINISTRATOR PALLAS: I'm not sure
20 if they're referring to the wall, but there's
21 nothing underneath. It's what is there.

22 TRUSTEE ROBINS: It's concrete and
23 crushed stone, too, so.

24 ADMINISTRATOR PALLAS: It's all --

25 TREASURER BRANDT: I'd like to

1 point out that the water is self-levelling. So
2 any irregularities would be taken up on the
3 thickness of the ice once it's freezing.

4 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Right. I wasn't
5 sure if the temperature isn't freezing and --

6 ADMINISTRATOR PALLAS: No. We --
7 Rick Albanese has, over the years, learned a lot
8 of tricks that we didn't do in the past to bring
9 the ice up faster, and it has worked out.

10 One of the issues is just some
11 specific temperature, you know, so that's what it
12 is, operationally. Other than equipment, that
13 day-to-day stuff is weather, the temperature, and
14 sunlight.

15 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Thank you.

16 MAYOR HUBBARD: Thank you.

17 Any other questions on the budget?

18 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: The public
19 bathrooms. I see, if I'm correct, the 2,500,
20 7150.400 line is for the bathrooms here in
21 Mitchell park?

22 TREASURER BRANDT: That's for
23 supplies.

24 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: That's supplies?
25 Okay.

1 And I see we have increased our
2 refuse budget line.

3 TREASURER BRANDT: The answer is
4 yes.

5 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yeah.

6 TREASURER BRANDT: Has to be done.

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I know, just
8 wow.

9 I think that will do it.

10 MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay. Any other
11 questions?

12 (Negative response).

13 Okay. I'll offer a motion to
14 adjourn the budget hearing at 6:11.

15 So moved.

16 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Second.

17 MAYOR HUBBARD: All in favor?

18 (Chorus of Ayes).

19 MAYOR HUBBARD: Opposed?

20 (Negative response).

21 Motion carries.

22 Thank you all for coming.

23 (Whereupon, this proceeding was concluded.)

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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, SARA GALANTE, a Notary Public
in and for the State of New York, do hereby
certify:

THAT the within transcript is a
true record of the proceedings taken on April 8,
2021.

I further certify that I am not
related either by blood or marriage, to any of the
parties in this action; and

THAT I am in no way interested
in the outcome of this matter.

SARA GALANTE

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