

THE PITTSFORD MESSENGER

Town of Pittsford Community Report

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EARLY WINTER - DECEMBER 2006

Town Supervisor's early winter report

The Town Board and I recently adopted the 2007 Operating Budget, which is the culmination of a process that begins in June and is finalized at the beginning of November.

This year's budget is a no-frills economic plan that allows us to maintain the quality of our services while holding the line on taxes. The budget will result in a modest tax increase of 1.25%. To the average homeowner this will mean an increase of \$14.01.

Our budget success is a result of efficiencies and savings realized in employee benefits. The Town Board and I worked hard in this area, and we are proud that while many communities are struggling with the overall increases in benefits we have been able to hold down the escalation.

The 2007 Budget provides for a customer service initiative in the Library - opening the doors an hour earlier each day and providing additional staffing to meet the continued demands we are experiencing in this new facility. Both the number of people who visit the Library and the number of items being checked out have risen dramatically. We want to be sure to meet our library patron's needs.

The budget includes an increase of \$25,000 for road repair. Asphalt prices have gone up quite a bit, and we want to assure our ability to provide the annual maintenance necessary to a total of 100 miles of town roadways.

In addition, the 2007 Operating Budget establishes a \$50,000 reserve fund for building maintenance. These monies will be used in conjunction with

an annual Building Maintenance Plan to address the maintenance and upkeep of our public facilities.

The town's Strategic Plan states that "we will maintain financial efficiencies that assure the stability of town taxes and finances." To accomplish this goal, we keep an eye on the annual increase in taxes, we monitor the efficiencies and quality of our services and we keep the town on a pay-as-you-go basis for major expenses such as fleet replacement, office equipment, technology, road repair and now, building maintenance.

During the course of 2007 we will develop measurements for our major services so we can be sure we are running

as expected. We will also be initiating some customer surveys to determine your level of satisfaction with town services.

As always, I welcome your thoughts and ideas about the budget or any other matter concerning your town government. Please feel free to call me at 248-6220, send an e-mail note to bcarpenter@townofpittsford.org or stop by my office in Town Hall, 11 S. Main Street.



Bill Carpenter
Town Supervisor

Town seeks Citizen of the Year nominations

The Town Board is seeking nominations for Pittsford's 2006 Citizen of the Year. This award is presented annually to a Pittsford resident, volunteer or business person whose "hard work, generosity and dedication have improved the quality of life in our community." Nominees for Citizen of the Year must meet the following qualifications:

- He/She is a Pittsford resident, community volunteer or business person;
- He/She has made a significant contribution to the community in a volunteer capacity or in their field of endeavor.

Supervisor Carpenter said, "There are so many good people in this community who have generously shared their time and talent to achieve great things for Pittsford. This is an opportunity to recognize those individuals for their contributions."

Please submit written nominations to: William Carpenter, Supervisor, Town of Pittsford, 11 S. Main Street, Pittsford 14534 or e-mail bcarpenter@townofpittsford.org. All nominations must be received by 5PM Wednesday, January 31, 2007.

The nomination form can be downloaded from the town's Web site or picked up at Town Hall and the Pittsford Community Library.

www.townofpittsford.org

Emergency closings

In case of major weather events or other emergencies, tune into the following television and radio stations to receive information about facility closings and cancellations of meetings, programs and events:

- WHAM - 1180 AM
- WBEE - 92.5 FM
- WARM - 101.3 FM
- WROC - ch. 8 (CBS)
- WHEC - ch. 10 (NBC)
- WHAM - ch. 13 (ABC)
- RNEWS - ch. 9

Details will also be aired on Pittsford public access television ch. 12 and posted to the town's Web site at www.townofpittsford.org.

King's Bend Park lodge reservations

Lodge reservations for 2007 may be made at the Spiegel Community Center, 9AM - 4PM daily or mailed to 35 Lincoln Avenue, Pittsford 14534.

Lodge details and Park rules and regulations can be viewed on-line at www.townofpittsford.org. For your convenience, a lodge reservation form can be downloaded at the same Web site. Please call 248-6280 if you have questions about King's Bend Park.

Lodge Rental Rates

For residents:

- North Lodge \$125 (capacity 99)
- South Lodge \$100 (capacity 50)

NOTE: Non-resident rates are \$250/\$200 respectively.

Town services

Major services undergo measurement study

In 2005, the town developed a "functional budget" that groups all of the expenses associated with a specific service, to determine the bottom line cost of that service including salaries, expenses, capital and benefits. The resulting clarity of the cost of each service increases the effectiveness of determining quality and efficiency of the town's operation.

The next logical step is to design a measurement system for our major services which are: highway repair, yard debris collection, snow and ice removal, building maintenance, library, parks, recreation and sewers. Short term measures will provide managers with daily, weekly or monthly monitoring of service levels; long term measures will allow for semi-annual or annual review of overall effectiveness and efficiency of the actual service delivery.

The town's 8 major services represent 58% of the total 14.8 million dollars in operating and special district budgets, as the following numbers show:

- highway repair\$ 1,276,923.00
- yard debris collection\$ 1,089,292.00
- snow and ice removal\$ 1,414,650.00
- building maintenance\$ 766,694.00
- library\$ 965,962.00
- parks\$ 660,536.00
- recreation\$ 1,201,087.00
- sewers\$ 1,150,397.00

A future step in this process will be an Annual Report to the community. Using information gathered from the budgets and measurements, residents will receive a comprehensive review of town budgets and services with the goal of furthering understanding and appreciation for where and how tax dollars are being spent.

'Tis the season for SNOW and ICE

Winter is on its way and leaf collection will soon turn into snow removal. The Department of Public Works clears over 150 miles of town, county and state roads, keeping them safe and passable throughout the winter season. You can help us deliver the best possible service by keeping these helpful hints in mind:

Parking

Parking on all highways, including the shoulder of the road, is prohibited from November 15 - April 1. (Violators may be ticketed or towed.)

Road-side mailboxes

Proper installation will assist our crews in their efforts to steer clear of mishaps with our plows. Guidelines: 1) Placement should be 42" from bottom of the mailbox to the ground. At this height our plow wings will safely pass underneath. 2) Position your mailbox carefully in relation to the side of the road. Make sure it does not overhang the shoulder, pavement or curb.

Recycle bins and totes; sports equipment

All receptacles and sports equipment (particularly basketball hoops on wheels) should be kept several feet inside your driveway. Placing objects in the plow lane is dangerous for our crews and equipment and could be damaging to your belongings.

Salt and sand

Methods of melting snow and ice are effective to 15°F. Motorists are reminded that road conditions can deteriorate quickly when temperatures dip into the low teens. Please reduce driving speed accordingly. Safety first.

Town events



Monument unveiled on Veterans Day

The community's annual Veterans Day ceremony, sponsored by the Rayson-Miller American Legion Post, took on special significance this year with the dedication of the town's recently constructed Veterans Monument.

Hundreds gathered in the Port of Pittsford Park at 22 N. Main Street, the location of the new monument, to pay tribute to those who served in the American military and in particular to honor the 20 Pittsford veteran casualties from WWI, WWII and the wars in Korea and Vietnam.

In addition to the names engraved on the monument, nearly 200 personalized bricks have been placed by Pittsford residents, in honor of family members and friends who served or are currently serving in the armed forces.

Bricks will continue to be added to the monument's central viewing space. To find out how you can purchase a personalized brick, visit the town's Web site at www.townofpittsford.org. Order forms are available on-line and at the Town Hall. Please call 248-6221 if you have questions.



Christmas tree recycling

Following the holidays, the town's Highway Department will pick up Christmas trees that are not taken by residential disposal services.

Residents are asked to place trees curbside and remove plastic bagging. Please keep in mind that our ability to collect trees will vary according to weather conditions.

Christmas trees can be dropped off at the Highway garage, 60 Golf Avenue, from 7AM till dark, daily. Please stop in the office to get recycling instructions.

Register now for winter recreation

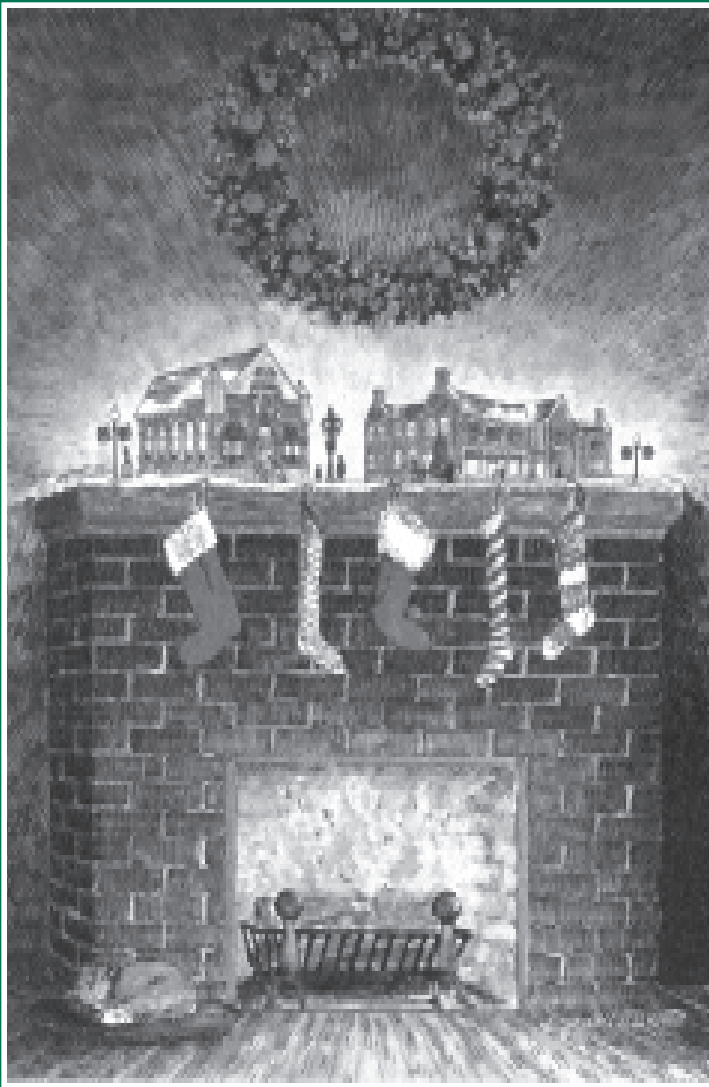
Sports and exercise, education and enrichment, classes for all ages and abilities are available at Pittsford Recreation. The winter session begins Monday, 1/2. A program brochure can be picked up at the Spiegel Community Center, Town Hall or Library, or viewed on-line at www.townofpittsford.org.

Get town news delivered on-line

News & Reviews, the town's weekly on-line newsletter, is a popular source of information about:

- community events
- programming/services
- board meetings
- breaking news stories

Enter your subscription at www.townofpittsford.org.



Happy Holidays!

*Supervisor Bill Carpenter
The Town Council
And Staff*



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