

June 2020

Dear neighbor,

Another June is upon us and, with that, annual Village property tax bills are being mailed out. Fortunately, this year we have been able to keep our tax rate flat at \$7.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

That good news is overshadowed by the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic which, in addition to the obvious public health danger, poses very real dangers for many municipalities and how they offer services. Revenue shortfalls have already resulted in sizeable furloughs for the City of Ithaca and for Tompkins County.

While we do anticipate a decrease in sales tax revenue for the Village, we have budgeted accordingly for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. We are hopeful that any economic hangover from business closures will be short lived, but the Village is as well positioned as possible to weather the storm. As “NY Forward” begins to un-pause various aspects of our lives, and if you are able, please support local businesses as they reopen.

Looking ahead, we continue to focus on our mission of sustainability for the Village, financially, environmentally, and in the provision of our services. Regarding environmental sustainability, we are in the very early stages of exploring how Village owned properties might be able to switch to fully renewable solar energy, while also reducing energy costs for the Village. This would truly be a win-win.

On the provision of services, the Village continues to be the primary provider of Fire and EMS coverage for fifty-six and 110 square miles of territory, respectively, between Cayuga and Seneca Lakes. The essential nature of these services that the Village provides has never been more in the spotlight than during the recent pandemic. Without the Village of Trumansburg, this entire coverage area would be without dependable life saving services as there would be no other department or agency able to pick up that slack. We are truly fortunate to have these Departments and we want to thank the men and women of the Trumansburg Fire Company and the Trumansburg EMS Department for their dedication and service.

Although the last few months have presented challenges we have not seen before, as a community we faced them head on with resolve and determination. From mask making, to helping those in need, to the support of local businesses, we have never been more proud of this community, and each of us is truly grateful to call Trumansburg home; and we have no doubt whatsoever that we will come out on the other side of this stronger than ever.

Your neighbors,

Rordan Hart, Mayor
Debbie Watkins, Deputy Mayor
Ben Carver, Ben Darfler, Keith Hannon, Trustees