

Savings for Pittsford Taxpayers and Some Seasonal Notes

Town Finances

The Town Board and I take seriously our duty as stewards of the town’s financial resources. You, our employers, hired us to do precisely that. Shortly after taking office in January I asked our Finance Director to review the status of all of the Town’s outstanding bond issuances, to identify opportunities for significant savings through refinancing. Given the current historically low interest rates, this seemed like a plausible possibility.

Our review disclosed an opportunity with the bonds issued in 2004 to finance construction of the Pittsford Community Library.

Of the \$9 million library bond issuance, bonds worth \$7.245 million were scheduled to mature between 2015 and 2034. This made them callable for refunding and reissuance at a lower interest rate, thus lowering the overall interest cost to the Town.

We initially projected savings of \$591,000. The refinancing is now complete and I’m pleased to report that the savings to Town taxpayers have exceeded expectations, amounting to \$684,107.

Crime Time

Summer brings a seasonal increase in crime in Pittsford each year, particularly thefts. The County Sheriff’s Department advises that most of the thefts that occur during summertime in Pittsford are crimes of opportunity. Please take care to close and lock your windows when you are not at home – not just windows on the ground floor, but also second story windows easily reachable by climbing a porch roof or something similar.

When you are at home and the windows are open, try to keep valuables out of sight from open windows. Unlocked doors or unlocked or open window, with purses, phones, wallets, computers, iPods in view from the windows offer a soft target to someone who’s looking for one. The same is true for cars.

Farmers Markets

Summer also is the time to enjoy fresh food from our farmers markets and farm stands. June 5th saw the inauguration of the Pittsford Village Farmers Market, on North Main Street at the Library parking lot’s west entrance. The Village Farmer’s Market is open each Thursday from 4 – 7PM and features a range of sustainably produced local products as well as entertainment and children’s activities. It’s been a splendid addition to our community.

The Pittsford Farmers Market at Colony Plaza continues as well. It’s open Tuesdays and Saturdays from 8AM to 2PM. Fresh flowers, fruits and vegetables are available.

Don’t forget our many farm stands, offering fresh local produce and reminding us of Pittsford’s agricultural roots.

Athletic and Recreation Initiative

We've added an additional, fourth, **public information meeting** for Tuesday, July 1 at 7pm in Town Hall regarding our **Athletic and Recreation Facilities Initiative**. The meeting will be part of our regularly scheduled Town Board meeting and will take place in the lower level meeting room. The meeting will include a review of the concept plans for the proposed Athletic Fields Improvement Project, a preliminary plan for the proposed Spiegel Community Center Restoration and Improvement Project, and financing details for the overall initiative, as well as provide an opportunity for public comment. If you have not already attended one of our public information meetings on this subject, I encourage you to attend. We value your input.

Should you have any comments or concerns on any town topic, please always feel free to stop in to Town Hall to see me, call me at 248-6220 or send a message to bsmith@townofpittsford.org. To stay up to date on Town news and events, visit our website www.townofpittsford.org and subscribe to our weekly eNews.