

00:00  
mark i we're not you're not taping it  
00:02  
are you jeff  
00:03  
oh it's it's headed there now okay so  
00:06  
sorry  
00:08  
so i can't give you a definitive answer  
00:10  
because who knows  
00:13  
could be yeah  
00:22  
all right i know we're up on youtube  
00:24  
kristen will give us a high  
00:25  
sign here if we're up on uh  
00:29  
um up on that website  
00:51  
i think it's a fancy occasion tonight so  
00:52  
i'm wearing a collared shirt  
00:55  
wow all right hey  
00:58  
we're up now thank you kristen  
01:02  
geez we didn't get the memo i'm sorry i  
01:04  
should have said everybody oh by the way  
01:06  
we're going  
01:06  
formal tonight  
01:13  
i did go to the dry cleaner today and i  
01:14  
thought wow i've been here in about six  
01:16  
months  
01:21  
i'm sure this jacket fits exactly the  
01:23  
same as it  
01:25  
so pandemic poundage going on  
01:43  
we're waiting for michelle caroline  
01:46  
caroline michelle  
01:47  
michelle okay  
01:50  
we're so i guess i got one minute yeah  
01:52  
we're good  
01:56  
hey we have a quorum we can pay the  
01:58  
bills that's  
02:00  
step one right  
02:16  
definitely into you know phase 1a can  
02:19  
you make it through phase 1a yes good  
02:20  
okay now move on everything else is cake  
02:48  
hi michelle we're streaming yep  
02:52

great hi all right michelle  
03:03  
we'll wait a couple seconds for caroline  
03:04  
she's coming on right now i can see her  
03:06  
great okay good  
03:13  
there she is  
03:17  
okay i think we have everyone um okay  
03:20  
i'd like to call the order the  
03:22  
monday february 8 2021 uh board trustees  
03:26  
meeting  
03:27  
um with the first order of business  
03:30  
being public participation  
03:32  
let me check  
03:37  
nothing's come in and i you know i  
03:38  
typically would bring up anything that  
03:39  
had come in  
03:40  
just in the past week or a couple days  
03:42  
certainly and nothing's come in  
03:44  
from public comment okay that sounds  
03:47  
good so the next one is to review  
03:48  
previous meeting minutes pages two  
03:51  
through six  
03:53  
you could take a few seconds take a look  
03:55  
at the minutes  
04:24  
okay any comments or i'll take a motion  
04:26  
on the minutes  
04:32  
i make a motion to approve the minutes  
04:34  
as uh posted on pages i believe it's two  
04:37  
through six in the packet  
04:39  
great thanks mary any second second  
04:42  
okay all those in favor we're seeing  
04:44  
five berries in your hand  
04:46  
any opposed extension okay that that  
04:49  
uh these minutes pass and are approved  
04:52  
and adopted  
04:53  
okay going to the financial report  
04:58  
and the treasurer's update pages 7 8  
05:01  
and through 13. so sharon sure  
05:04  
okay um there's nothing nothing too

05:07  
exciting happened in january there  
05:09  
really isn't um anything um  
05:12  
new or unusual to report for the month  
05:15  
or for the seven months ended january  
05:17  
31st  
05:18  
um we're still showing under spending in  
05:20  
most categories we're tracking it about  
05:22  
four percent under budget  
05:24  
um as of this point in time  
05:30  
uh i don't know if anybody has any  
05:32  
questions about any of the  
05:34  
any of the pages in the report happy to  
05:36  
try to address those or  
05:38  
call on tanya to help  
05:43  
i thought there was one issue i  
05:46  
noticed i'm trying to find again page  
05:48  
nine i think you've got a formula  
05:50  
problem  
05:51  
on your percentages um  
05:54  
something says the very last column in  
05:56  
blue has something at like 289 percent  
06:00  
is that right  
06:03  
[Music]  
06:04  
on page nine oh 280 i i see i see where  
06:08  
you're sitting  
06:09  
where that is yeah there's probably a  
06:10  
formula yeah i think there's a formula  
06:12  
thing  
06:13  
yeah in place in that column it's not a  
06:14  
big deal yeah okay  
06:17  
it may not be and the only reason i  
06:18  
would say that and we'll  
06:20  
sherry will investigate but i'm just  
06:21  
saying um that year i'm trying to think  
06:23  
back to that fiscal year  
06:25  
um we had anticipated a certain amount  
06:28  
of revenue  
06:29

and that so i think the interest we  
06:32 specifically increased last year in last  
06:34 year's fiscal year  
06:35 yeah the budget for that year might have  
06:37 been a lot lower than what we actually  
06:39 uh came in and actually there there's a  
06:42 hidden column in there  
06:43 i mean we can show it it just makes it a  
06:45 little bit more crowded and busy  
06:47 um but we could show the column um  
06:50 that indicates what the budget was for  
06:52 last year and then you could you know  
06:54 you can see the numbers comparing okay  
06:56 it's not a big deal it just i just  
06:57 thought it might want to you might want  
06:58 to double check your  
06:59 we'll double check that yeah okay thank  
07:01 you  
07:03 everything else looked fine to me though  
07:05 okay  
07:10 i'll uh you know obviously we're going  
07:12 to be talking about the budget  
07:13 under new business so i'll reserve any  
07:15 comments about that um  
07:17 okay at that time anyone else have  
07:20 questions on the financial report  
07:23 just more of a comment i learned i'm not  
07:25 sure if this is posted to the public at  
07:27 all but  
07:27 if people had questions about it i i  
07:29 learned something today that  
07:31 sometimes a check will be made out to  
07:33 the library  
07:35 on the warrants and that's a way of  
07:38 shifting money from account account so  
07:40 that's in case someone else saw that i  
07:42 wondered why a library made a check out  
07:44 to itself that's

07:45  
something i learned and it is this is  
07:48  
the the full packet is posted  
07:50  
up and available on the board of  
07:51  
trustees website  
07:55  
so that that check was made out to move  
07:57  
money from when i come to the next  
07:59  
yes exactly that sounds good just for  
08:02  
purposes of the recording  
08:03  
yeah particularly um we increased the  
08:07  
amount in the key bank account so we  
08:09  
took from the td  
08:11  
because we can't like transfer online in  
08:13  
between accounts from td to key  
08:16  
so we we wrote a check from td and  
08:18  
deposit it into the key bank account  
08:21  
so that's specifically that  
08:27  
uh okay i'm gonna step i'm gonna step in  
08:28  
the rabbit hole why can't we transfer  
08:31  
money between banks why can't we do it  
08:33  
electronically  
08:34  
we can but for a twenty five hundred  
08:36  
dollar check do you wanna pay a thirty  
08:38  
dollar  
08:39  
fee for a wire okay well then that's the  
08:43  
reason why we did it it's not that we  
08:44  
can't it's because it was because of  
08:46  
threshold okay great fees yeah  
08:53  
okay any other questions on the  
08:54  
financials  
08:58  
okay um personnel report no we do we do  
09:01  
need a vote on that  
09:02  
okay so i need a motion on the financial  
09:04  
report  
09:06  
look i'll second it  
09:09  
okay all those in favor see the five  
09:10  
hours in your hand  
09:12  
and you pose uh extensions okay motion  
09:16

carries so finance report is approved  
09:18  
personnel report  
09:20  
all right so the personnel report  
09:21  
there's actually no new actions to be  
09:23  
taken this month uh in another one of  
09:25  
those sort of surprising  
09:26  
um we haven't we haven't had any new uh  
09:30  
positions that i'm requesting to fill  
09:32  
no positions have been vacated in the  
09:33  
past month so what you see  
09:35  
are a number of positions that are  
09:37  
either in the process of being filled  
09:39  
you'll see there are two  
09:40  
library page positions that have been  
09:42  
hired this month you'll see them on  
09:44  
uh they're marked higher uh on that  
09:46  
personnel report  
09:47  
next month they'll be off this report  
09:49  
but this is the final that's the  
09:50  
completion of those positions  
09:52  
as they've moved from action requested  
09:54  
and into um your request to be filled  
09:56  
and then finally filled  
09:58  
so those two positions are um are now  
10:00  
filled which is great happy to have them  
10:01  
on board  
10:02  
helping us with the shelving keeping the  
10:04  
materials moving and the rest of the  
10:05  
positions  
10:06  
are either um we're pursuing filling  
10:10  
or are being you know held for now  
10:14  
um until we need to pursue  
10:18  
to pursue failing them as as the  
10:20  
business  
10:21  
increases  
10:26  
okay do we need a motion to accept the  
10:28  
personnel report not this month because  
10:30  
there's no actions there's nothing

10:32  
yeah nothing connections okay  
10:35  
any questions on the personnel report um  
10:38  
[Music]  
10:40  
hearing none go ahead  
10:43  
uh jeff the addition to the it  
10:45  
department  
10:46  
right that was last month i think  
10:50  
the the fill in the filling the it  
10:53  
yes clerk position yes okay that person  
10:56  
is up and running and  
10:57  
up and up and running yep we're super  
10:59  
happy to have lizzy on board and she's  
11:01  
uh  
11:01  
making a positive impact so that was a  
11:03  
reclass of a position  
11:05  
um from a technology assistant to  
11:09  
uh library clerk and she's doing great  
11:13  
okay great thanks  
11:17  
okay any other questions okay director's  
11:20  
report  
11:22  
all right so i there's a lot in there so  
11:24  
there's a lot of things that were sort  
11:26  
of  
11:26  
cooking and getting ready to go forward  
11:29  
and so  
11:30  
last month uh in january was the month  
11:33  
that a lot of that stuff started to come  
11:34  
to fruition  
11:35  
um the kindest matters is you'll see it  
11:38  
all through my report that's our sort of  
11:40  
month long and really we're going to  
11:41  
keep it going a little bit longer than  
11:42  
that  
11:44  
effort um to just uh remind our  
11:47  
community how much we appreciate them  
11:49  
and sort of try to engender kindness in  
11:51  
general  
11:52

across our communities integrated with  
11:54  
our social media  
11:56  
but also our um also with our uh  
11:59  
physical services you know putting  
12:01  
uh some surprises in uh uh books to  
12:03  
people  
12:04  
deliveries for homebound people uh just  
12:07  
putting some you know boredom buster  
12:09  
kits in with their regular  
12:11  
uh selection of books or audiobooks  
12:13  
whatever kind of materials they want  
12:14  
um some personalized notes and thank you  
12:16  
uh some trustees  
12:17  
are you know filling out some notes to  
12:19  
be included in those packets  
12:21  
just letting um our community know that  
12:23  
we care about them and that we are  
12:24  
interested  
12:25  
in their uh well-being so uh towards  
12:28  
that end  
12:28  
actually we were um you know delighted  
12:31  
to have uh some of the community members  
12:33  
return back and you'll see some of the  
12:34  
pictures in my report where  
12:36  
um they uh one of the community benefits  
12:38  
sent us flowers and a balloon  
12:40  
um and then you know we got some nice  
12:42  
cards from the community about about how  
12:44  
much they appreciate us being there for  
12:45  
them so that's just  
12:46  
um that's the kind of thing we wanted to  
12:50  
try to engender this month and i think  
12:51  
it's so important for people to try to  
12:53  
feel connected uh you know it's easy  
12:55  
to become disconnected from um other  
12:58  
people right now  
12:59  
it's very uh it's winter it's dark  
13:02  
and uh you know covered so it's just a

13:05  
good time to remember that  
13:06  
other people out there who care about  
13:07  
you and um you know that so that's  
13:09  
that will be running we're going to  
13:11  
extend that program the friends of the  
13:12  
library supported us  
13:14  
um you know we talked about this thing a  
13:16  
couple months ago it takes a while for  
13:17  
us to get things moving but this is one  
13:19  
of the things  
13:20  
that we were excited about the friends  
13:21  
co-sponsored a while ago  
13:23  
and um so we're just excited to see that  
13:25  
finally get moving forward so that's um  
13:27  
all throughout report there's more  
13:29  
details on that um  
13:32  
i wanted to talk about uh overdrive a  
13:35  
little bit  
13:35  
um i in my my written report i talk  
13:38  
about  
13:39  
uh request to libraries where our  
13:40  
patrons can look up  
13:42  
items that are on overdrive and not find  
13:44  
them there and request that the library  
13:46  
purchases them  
13:47  
so even with our population of about 28  
13:49  
000 people  
13:50  
compared to a lot of other much larger  
13:53  
population libraries our community as  
13:55  
you might expect  
13:56  
very very interested in uh telling us  
13:59  
what kind of items they might want us to  
14:00  
collect for the um  
14:02  
for the collection and we've been able  
14:04  
to purchase many of them in some cases  
14:06  
um we might have it in another service  
14:09  
so  
14:09

so we might or might not buy that one  
14:11  
but mostly um you know we try to  
14:13  
purchase what our community is  
14:14  
interested in because if one or two  
14:15  
people are interested in that chances  
14:17  
are someone else is going to be  
14:18  
interested in as well  
14:19  
so uh we are trying to keep that at a  
14:22  
one to four  
14:22  
hold the copy ratio so if there's four  
14:24  
holds on a particularly popular item  
14:26  
we'll buy another copy  
14:28  
um and then we can buy those additional  
14:30  
copies under this advantage program that  
14:32  
you've heard me talk about a few times  
14:34  
where uh bethlehem cardholders will get  
14:37  
the first  
14:38  
crack at those items through the hold  
14:39  
list after we exhaust our bethlehem hold  
14:42  
this they become available to everybody  
14:43  
else  
14:44  
in the system um but our patrons get the  
14:46  
first chance at all of the items we're  
14:48  
buying so  
14:49  
those two things combined our hold the  
14:51  
copy ratio and that advantage account  
14:53  
using that  
14:53  
um uh effectively and liberally we've  
14:57  
been a lot you know we were able to  
14:59  
make sure that our patrons are having a  
15:00  
really very good experience as far as  
15:02  
the electronic holds are concerned  
15:04  
um ideally in a perfect world i'd have  
15:06  
hold hold  
15:07  
wait be zero days right everybody  
15:09  
everything you want would be there  
15:11  
instantly  
15:12  
but that would be a very expensive world

15:13  
to live in we think that this is a  
15:15  
pretty good balance between making sure  
15:16  
that people get their things quickly  
15:18  
and being fiscally responsible with the  
15:20  
collection but you know obviously we are  
15:21  
shifting  
15:22  
a lot of money to those electronic  
15:25  
collections right now  
15:26  
because that is uh you know a big driver  
15:28  
of circulation  
15:29  
and uh we will continue to do so um  
15:31  
until things normalize and then they may  
15:33  
never normalize  
15:34  
back to where they were pre pandemic and  
15:37  
we will  
15:38  
load balance those things um we will  
15:40  
continue to load balance electronic  
15:42  
collections versus physical collections  
15:43  
as we move forward  
15:44  
so just thought it was on ample time for  
15:46  
us we've been  
15:48  
under a sort of pandemic paradigm for  
15:51  
almost a year now is a good time to just  
15:53  
circle back and remind everybody that  
15:54  
um you know these along with the other  
15:56  
new services canopy  
15:58  
and hoopla that were you know addressing  
16:00  
our our patrons needs through these  
16:02  
electronic waste and it's a significant  
16:03  
part of our circulation now it's a full  
16:06  
um full third of our circulation so  
16:09  
those are big numbers so i just wondered  
16:12  
i had a question  
16:13  
did i understand you correctly when you  
16:15  
said um with overdrive  
16:17  
if a patron attempts to check something  
16:19  
out and it's not in our  
16:21

quote-unquote library um  
16:24  
then does a box pop up and suggest they  
16:27  
make a  
16:28  
request that we buy it or they can yeah  
16:30  
they can they have to take an action to  
16:32  
say we  
16:32  
yeah we we we would request that you  
16:34  
purchase this item  
16:36  
into our collection and um you know and  
16:38  
then we'll one of our librarians  
16:40  
monitors those boxes and we  
16:41  
you know we get a number of them for  
16:42  
both audio books and ebooks and so we  
16:45  
will  
16:46  
make a judgment call sometimes  
16:49  
the item doesn't meet our uh even if our  
16:51  
patron requested it still doesn't meet  
16:53  
the  
16:54  
you know the collection development  
16:55  
policy we may not purchase everything  
16:57  
but um we do pretty good at getting  
17:00  
mostly what people are interested in  
17:02  
yeah okay thanks but it's a function  
17:04  
inside overdrive itself i think what you  
17:05  
were asking which is yes it lives in the  
17:07  
overdrive  
17:07  
um collection okay jeff  
17:11  
i was curious when you were talking  
17:13  
about like the one to four  
17:15  
ratio are you looking  
17:18  
at all patron requests or are you  
17:21  
focusing more on bethlehem patron  
17:23  
requests  
17:24  
just bethlehem requests it's not that  
17:25  
we're not interested we might look at  
17:27  
all requests yeah if we're trying to  
17:29  
judge over all the scope you know to get  
17:31  
out ahead of a pre-pub title

17:32  
and say how popular is this title going  
17:35  
to be how many copies do we need to get  
17:37  
um but mostly because those um there's  
17:40  
no delay with an electronic copy  
17:42  
so if you know with a physical book if  
17:43  
we miss our  
17:45  
guess and we under buy the popularity of  
17:49  
a book and wait for the holds to drive  
17:50  
that up  
17:51  
you can get behind and then there isn't  
17:53  
sufficient supply of that physical book  
17:54  
to get those in  
17:56  
to get those in quickly enough you still  
17:58  
have to order that book it takes a while  
17:59  
to be delivered  
18:00  
with an electronic book it can be  
18:02  
ordered pretty quickly so we try to get  
18:04  
a decent number in that make sure it's  
18:06  
in the collection available for a  
18:07  
request  
18:08  
and then we can let that hold ratio  
18:10  
drive um how many we purchase  
18:13  
in a very sort of a very rapid uh in a  
18:16  
very rapid way so when that starts to  
18:18  
explode  
18:19  
there's no wait time for delivery and  
18:22  
processing you know we can just  
18:24  
go in and say we need six more of those  
18:27  
so um  
18:28  
but we focus on bethlehem  
18:32  
when we're buying extra copies we're  
18:33  
focused on bethlehem cardholders  
18:35  
adam thank you and am i correct  
18:39  
just a scenario you've got a you've got  
18:42  
a book and  
18:42  
you know different uhls libraries have  
18:45  
it bethlehem has  
18:46

it and there's a weight there's just a  
18:48  
waitlist it's a popular book  
18:50  
um there's 72 holds and you have one  
18:53  
copy  
18:54  
right if i'm number 73 on the list but  
18:57  
i'm the only bethlehem person  
18:59  
i'm going to get that book first you're  
19:01  
getting the bethlehem copy first  
19:02  
if when we purchase it under that  
19:04  
advantage that's why we buy  
19:06  
the advantage copy so we we uh all the  
19:09  
libraries made a gentleman's agreement  
19:10  
where we don't buy advantage copies  
19:13  
unless there is already a copy that is  
19:16  
available to everybody across the whole  
19:17  
system at least one copy  
19:19  
that's just available to everybody on a  
19:20  
very egalitarian way  
19:22  
but once that's there then advantage  
19:25  
copies can be purchased and we would  
19:26  
purchase subsequent copies under that  
19:28  
advantage title and then  
19:30  
once a title is no longer in that  
19:33  
super uh popular status  
19:37  
there's no difference because there's no  
19:38  
hold time so so someone in westerlo  
19:40  
and someone in bethlehem you wouldn't  
19:42  
really have any different experience  
19:43  
it's going to be on the shelf  
19:45  
but while it's popular and new  
19:48  
then it makes sense that if we're buying  
19:50  
extra copies with our tax dollars  
19:53  
that they would go to our patrons first  
19:56  
okay but that's only when they're  
19:57  
popular well then that's actually  
20:00  
statistics  
20:03  
no and so if a book becomes repopular  
20:05  
that advantage title never becomes an

20:07  
unadvantaged title  
20:09  
it just from a practical standpoint if  
20:11  
you had  
20:12  
you know if we super popular book  
20:14  
libraries all across the system we have  
20:15  
15 copies of this book  
20:17  
um if nobody has them checked out  
20:21  
because it's two years down the road no  
20:22  
one cares anymore  
20:24  
then you put it on hold you're not gonna  
20:26  
put it at home you're just gonna check  
20:27  
it out it's gonna be up it's gonna be on  
20:28  
shelf instantly  
20:29  
but if it goes you know books re-become  
20:32  
popular which happens when the movie  
20:33  
comes out or something like that  
20:34  
it's still then as the whole cube builds  
20:36  
back up  
20:38  
um it would still go to bethlehem  
20:39  
patrons first okay those topics  
20:42  
so some things you know we do buy some  
20:43  
copies we have an obligation  
20:45  
to the system to buy a certain number of  
20:47  
copies that are just available  
20:48  
to everybody in the same manner and we  
20:51  
we absolutely meet that goal every year  
20:53  
and then the extra copies we buy under  
20:55  
the advantage so  
20:57  
it's a little complicated but i just  
20:58  
it's it's worth worth yeah is there like  
21:01  
a dollar amount each each library has to  
21:03  
spend or is it kind of like uh  
21:05  
uh like your taste and what or you know  
21:08  
you're you're not your taste but you're  
21:09  
buying power  
21:10  
that time is bigger than say most of the  
21:12  
system except for the other big ones so  
21:15

yeah do you have to contribute x capita  
21:18  
or is it  
21:18  
uh yeah there's a minimum there's a  
21:21  
minimum amount that we  
21:22  
all agree to purchase okay and it's  
21:26  
based on a formula that's really old  
21:28  
that's based on circulation of the total  
21:30  
collection when  
21:32  
much of the collection was purchased  
21:33  
with state money okay  
21:35  
um so that's still the case that still  
21:38  
there's state money that goes in to fund  
21:40  
a non-fiction adult part of this  
21:42  
collection uh that money still  
21:44  
flows in but the original that was the  
21:46  
nucleus of the original formula was  
21:47  
divided by use  
21:49  
and so you know each library had to  
21:51  
contribute a certain amount and then the  
21:53  
you know we all agree to purchase this  
21:55  
and that expands it about five percent  
21:57  
every year  
21:58  
but we meet our minimum purchasing  
22:02  
amount  
22:03  
in the month and a half you know uh  
22:06  
every year so we we we move right past  
22:08  
that  
22:09  
because i never meeting the needs of our  
22:12  
of our  
22:13  
patrons but it does set a floor and  
22:16  
assure that each of the library and  
22:17  
upper hudson if you're going to  
22:18  
participate in this system where we're  
22:19  
all exchanging items  
22:21  
um there is a there is an amount that  
22:23  
you have to contribute  
22:24  
okay and it's just an amount and then  
22:28  
the then the different libraries pick

22:30  
the books or pick it up  
22:32  
it depends on the size so some of the  
22:34  
very smallest libraries  
22:35  
um you know might have minimum  
22:37  
contributions to the collection  
22:39  
in the hundreds or low thousands of  
22:40  
dollars um they don't always have staff  
22:43  
that are  
22:44  
expert at selecting materials they can  
22:47  
offload that work  
22:49  
to the staff of the upper hudson library  
22:50  
system to select those materials for  
22:52  
them  
22:52  
okay they're the expert selectors we  
22:55  
we select our own materials because we  
22:57  
have librarians who are  
22:59  
good at selecting materials sure  
23:04  
okay so good question anyway okay so uh  
23:06  
that's uh e content uh there's a lot  
23:08  
going on there right now it's just it's  
23:10  
a heightened focus on this because again  
23:13  
it's one of our major service outlets  
23:14  
right now is e-content so we'll talk  
23:15  
about that  
23:16  
we can talk about stats on that if  
23:17  
you're if you're interested um  
23:20  
book bundles again in january put a  
23:22  
chart in my report  
23:23  
um we talked about book bundles this  
23:25  
january was the second highest book  
23:27  
bundle month  
23:28  
since we started doing book bundles way  
23:29  
back in july so  
23:31  
um you know august of of 20 was our our  
23:34  
still our highest number that was sort  
23:35  
of the  
23:36  
first second big month  
23:39

uh when we were still in curbside  
23:41  
service um but it's  
23:42  
uh you know this is um you know another  
23:45  
very high month for  
23:46  
for january which is you know good to  
23:47  
see that the service is being used and  
23:49  
again that educator bundle we've set up  
23:50  
three of those last month and that's  
23:52  
where we're specifically  
23:54  
looking at putting together curriculum  
23:56  
support  
23:57  
bundles for for teachers in the school  
23:59  
district who just need  
24:01  
you know a certain number of materials  
24:02  
to help them in their classes so we  
24:03  
still  
24:04  
uh we can produce those as well and that  
24:06  
could have worked you know didn't  
24:08  
teachers were certainly getting books  
24:10  
through the other book bundles before  
24:11  
but this one is sort of specifically  
24:12  
tailored to that so that's um  
24:14  
that's working now um  
24:17  
talk a little bit about digital our our  
24:20  
new york heritage digitization project  
24:22  
that continues on  
24:23  
uh we are getting close to the end of  
24:26  
our yearbook  
24:27  
um there are copyright issues with  
24:29  
yearbooks after 1981  
24:31  
so before 1981 the copyright issues are  
24:33  
simpler so  
24:35  
um you know we've done a lot of work on  
24:37  
digitizing those items and  
24:39  
and now we are after a decade of  
24:42  
volunteer work  
24:43  
staff time really getting to the point  
24:45  
where we're just

24:46  
keeping up every year um you know we  
24:49  
will digitize a copy to ensure that we  
24:51  
have an archival copy of the yearbook  
24:53  
but it will not be available um  
24:56  
on the web because that would violate  
24:58  
the copyright holder of the of the  
25:00  
yearbook itself  
25:01  
so we have it as a library we're allowed  
25:03  
to make an archival copy and we have  
25:04  
that  
25:05  
and then we index it so people can um  
25:07  
find  
25:08  
people in the yearbooks going forward  
25:10  
but that project it's really been a long  
25:12  
time coming a lot of people have done a  
25:13  
lot an incredible amount of work on that  
25:15  
it's just interesting for me to have  
25:16  
that project coming finally to its sort  
25:18  
of  
25:19  
steady state you know management part of  
25:21  
that of that project  
25:23  
and there's other collections that we're  
25:25  
uploading other items that we have the  
25:27  
tri-village directories  
25:28  
um those are being uploaded and put on  
25:30  
new york heritage so it's not just  
25:31  
available to  
25:32  
on the bethlehem website it's also  
25:33  
available statewide on the new york  
25:34  
heritage.org website so people who are  
25:36  
looking for genealogical resources will  
25:38  
find that there so we're contributing to  
25:39  
that  
25:40  
statewide collection as well and we got  
25:42  
a little  
25:43  
shout out from the capitol district  
25:44  
library council about the tri village  
25:46

directories and that's included  
25:47  
um you know from their twitter account  
25:49  
that's included in my director's report  
25:51  
um more kindness matters we finished up  
25:55  
the luminary program those were the  
25:57  
the the bags that we had lit up uh we  
25:59  
did some of that in december and then a  
26:00  
little  
26:01  
uh more of those nights in january so um  
26:04  
that came  
26:04  
um to its fruition it was uh they were  
26:06  
quite lovely especially on the nights  
26:08  
when there were  
26:08  
was in fact snow out there uh we put  
26:10  
them under the benches and it actually  
26:12  
looked um  
26:13  
it looked great so i was pleased to see  
26:15  
that  
26:16  
and then there's just a lot of new and  
26:17  
different programs that we're trying  
26:18  
there's uh some needlepoint uh  
26:20  
cross-stitch  
26:21  
uh programs that we're trying where  
26:22  
people can come pick the kids up at the  
26:24  
library take them home and then  
26:25  
participate  
26:26  
in a sort of zoom-like way like this  
26:28  
together as a way for people to do  
26:30  
crafts  
26:30  
we're just um trying to figure out what  
26:34  
it is that our community needs from us  
26:35  
right now especially over this winter  
26:38  
it's just nice to see that those uh the  
26:41  
planning for some of these programs is  
26:42  
starting to build and there's always a  
26:44  
slump in december  
26:45  
as everybody has lots of other things to  
26:47  
worry about in december besides the

26:48  
library so  
26:49  
it's just nice that some of those things  
26:50  
are starting to come come to fruition  
26:53  
so um the  
26:56  
we added the seed that we have new seed  
26:58  
starters we it's good to think about  
26:59  
spring we're getting back there the seed  
27:01  
library which was so poised to go last  
27:03  
year and really got  
27:04  
kind of wrecked last year by covid um we  
27:08  
purchased some seed starting kits those  
27:10  
are coming out and  
27:11  
we'll have those out shortly and  
27:13  
available for crest for the  
27:14  
through the library of things  
27:18  
put in a very uh detailed chart about uh  
27:21  
curbside pickup times you can see  
27:23  
the impact of going back to in-person  
27:25  
browsing on physical circulation i just  
27:27  
wanted to make sure we had a discussion  
27:28  
about that last month  
27:29  
i wanted to make sure that we were  
27:30  
giving you the data about the difference  
27:32  
in those items  
27:33  
in circulation so that's in there  
27:36  
and then we're working on a text-based  
27:40  
pickup service i don't think curbside  
27:41  
pickup is going away  
27:43  
anytime soon seems very very popular  
27:45  
with our people so  
27:47  
um we're working on a way where people  
27:48  
can pull up and text  
27:50  
to us give us their name and spot and  
27:52  
then they don't have to call us in on  
27:54  
the phone and i think a lot of people  
27:55  
will want that as opposed to calling  
27:57  
so it may well be that our call volume  
27:59

drops down um  
28:00  
much lower in in addition uh it saves us  
28:04  
this uh you know when uh mistakes can  
28:07  
happen when you're trying to understand  
28:09  
someone's last name  
28:10  
over the phone you know and so if you if  
28:12  
you're doing it in text  
28:13  
what spot are you in what's your last  
28:15  
name it's right there in text  
28:17  
we can look it up and uh and communicate  
28:19  
back and forth so that's uh we're  
28:21  
excited to get that  
28:22  
um that we have the possibility to get  
28:25  
that up and running pretty soon so  
28:26  
that's good  
28:28  
other than that just uh a little bit  
28:32  
so a lot of people like to text rather  
28:34  
than call  
28:38  
um and that's that other than the  
28:40  
statistics were down  
28:41  
uh circulation compared to this same  
28:43  
month last year pretty soon we'll be  
28:44  
coming in to sort of  
28:47  
covet and cover time uh you know we're  
28:49  
getting there now we're doing january  
28:50  
to january uh so we were down about uh  
28:53  
32  
28:55  
over january of last year just to try to  
28:57  
keep that benchmark and that's total  
28:59  
circulation physical  
29:00  
plus um uh electronic checkouts though  
29:03  
it's interesting to see the number of  
29:04  
interlibrary loan items these are  
29:06  
physical books that are moving around  
29:07  
the system  
29:08  
we're up 20 over last january so um  
29:12  
you know our people continue to be  
29:14  
absolutely monster requesters

29:16  
so this has always been we are always a  
29:18  
huge net borrower  
29:20  
of physical materials from across the  
29:21  
system that's always been true  
29:23  
and now it's even more so so we have um  
29:26  
you know so it's 20  
29:27  
up uh from last year it's always why do  
29:30  
you think that people are like uh  
29:31  
diving deeper into the catalog or well i  
29:34  
mean  
29:34  
look at it this way so when um  
29:37  
[Music]  
29:38  
right now the almost exclusively the way  
29:41  
that people  
29:42  
queue up an item to check it out is  
29:44  
through the hold request system  
29:45  
right so uh when we have in-person  
29:47  
browsing much  
29:49  
many things are checked out that don't  
29:51  
have anything you walk in on the shelf  
29:52  
and you go i'm interested in that i'm  
29:53  
gonna take that and take it home  
29:55  
right now that's not available so so you  
29:57  
um  
29:59  
just driving more items through the  
30:01  
request system and when you drive into  
30:02  
the request system  
30:04  
sometimes what people are gonna request  
30:05  
is gonna be in or or  
30:07  
our copy is checked out and so it's you  
30:09  
know maybe someone would have come in  
30:10  
the library and said oh  
30:12  
there's nothing here but there's a  
30:13  
another cookbook that's similar enough  
30:14  
i'll just grab the one right next door  
30:16  
right and now that you know now they  
30:18  
said i want this one item  
30:20

or this specific title one's coming for  
30:22  
them so i think that's  
30:23  
that's basically what it is it's just  
30:25  
that we're using the request system so  
30:26  
much more  
30:27  
but um it's just so interesting the  
30:29  
things that go down and go up  
30:31  
in this time that's one of those things  
30:33  
where the where the  
30:35  
statistics really go up and  
30:38  
on that circulation report which is on  
30:40  
page 22  
30:42  
you'll see speaking of numbers that  
30:44  
really go up  
30:45  
the e ebook use again up 60  
30:49  
total compared to last year uh e-audio  
30:51  
book up 38  
30:53  
um surprising that it's not up as much  
30:54  
as books but i think again people who  
30:56  
were using e-audio books last year are  
30:57  
still using e-audio books  
30:59  
now and um and then e-magazine use and  
31:03  
then streaming video  
31:04  
is almost unfair because we didn't  
31:05  
really i mean we'd started streaming  
31:06  
video last year but it hadn't been that  
31:08  
important  
31:09  
but the e-magazine use just continues to  
31:11  
go up as  
31:12  
upper hudson did the way they purchased  
31:15  
e-magazines this year through overdrive  
31:18  
really a lot more titles became  
31:19  
available one of which is the  
31:21  
economist  
31:22  
became available through overdrive very  
31:24  
popular title that we've never been able  
31:26  
to really get in a satisfactory way  
31:28  
electronically so that's now available

31:30  
through overdrive and there's a couple  
31:31  
other  
31:32  
of the sort of adirondack based  
31:35  
titles that are now available through  
31:36  
that as well there was we did a post on  
31:38  
facebook about that a little while ago  
31:40  
and it was  
31:40  
pretty popular so just sort of an nre  
31:43  
newsletter just letting people know that  
31:45  
we have some of these resources that  
31:46  
they have been wanting  
31:47  
now are available just because the world  
31:50  
has moved on and we've been able to  
31:52  
renegotiate some of those deals what are  
31:56  
we paying on average right now for an  
31:57  
ebook  
31:58  
and if you don't know off the top of  
31:59  
your head that's fine we can i i i don't  
32:00  
want to say but i want i will tell you  
32:02  
it's not the 42 discount that we expect  
32:06  
to get on any hardcover title it is at  
32:08  
least retail  
32:09  
and in many cases um four times retail  
32:12  
so  
32:12  
you know you'd say we might pay eighty  
32:15  
dollars for one copy of an electronic  
32:17  
book but even  
32:18  
that said when you look at cost per  
32:22  
circulation  
32:23  
of those items even at a higher item  
32:26  
they're still right in there  
32:27  
now when we tend to factor in cost per  
32:30  
circulation we also tend to factor in  
32:32  
all of the other things that go into  
32:34  
making uh that checkout happen when it's  
32:36  
a physical like  
32:37  
me and a bunch of other people in a  
32:39

building and you know he  
32:41  
you know gas and electric and all these  
32:42  
things that when we talk about cost per  
32:43  
circum physical items  
32:45  
it's probably not completely fair not to  
32:47  
factor that in for electronic items  
32:48  
because someone still has to purchase  
32:49  
them  
32:50  
manage that collection manage the  
32:51  
website but it's harder to kind of get  
32:53  
to that dollar amount so but there's  
32:54  
they do uh  
32:56  
they're in there it's about two dollars  
32:58  
circulation you know it's um  
33:01  
if it books 80 bucks and it's still two  
33:02  
bucks a circuit seems kind of reasonable  
33:04  
so right okay  
33:09  
and it's a third of our use so i would  
33:11  
love to be able to ignore it i'd love it  
33:12  
for it to be cheaper  
33:13  
you know people say oh you should  
33:14  
renegotiate your contract  
33:16  
no one cares what we're doing i mean if  
33:19  
new york public can't renegotiate their  
33:20  
new e-book prices you know uh you know  
33:22  
as a this is a it's a major issue  
33:25  
but um i am pleased overall  
33:28  
that as many of the items that were  
33:30  
interested are available  
33:32  
as opposed to previously when many of  
33:34  
the things we were interested just  
33:35  
simply weren't even available on me  
33:38  
so i don't like how complicated it is  
33:40  
and how many different deals there are  
33:41  
with all different publishers that is  
33:43  
annoying but  
33:44  
um the fact that they're available for  
33:46  
the public is still good

33:48  
yeah okay  
33:52  
and then i'm not going to belabor you  
33:54  
with the gas electric report um  
33:56  
our youtube and twitter impressions are  
33:58  
all there uh  
33:59  
and e-content continues as you guess to  
34:01  
be about a third of our total use so  
34:03  
it's still a  
34:04  
you know a major factor right now and  
34:08  
it will be interesting to see as the  
34:11  
pandemic subsides and i am still  
34:14  
banking on the fact that it is doing  
34:16  
exactly that  
34:18  
um how those numbers re-regulate  
34:20  
themselves and how they bounce back out  
34:22  
you know how many people will have  
34:23  
permanently moved to  
34:25  
downloadable e-audiobooks for instance  
34:28  
and  
34:29  
are not going to be interested again in  
34:30  
a physical cd audiobook  
34:33  
so we'll we'll watch those numbers as  
34:34  
they as they settle out  
34:38  
jeff i don't know if you saw today on  
34:40  
the local  
34:41  
social media page i would call it um  
34:45  
patrons were asking about printing at  
34:47  
the library and while there were  
34:49  
two comments on the thread that  
34:51  
suggested hey just call bethlehem and  
34:53  
they'll  
34:54  
they'll find a creative solution as we  
34:56  
know it they will  
34:58  
um the majority of comments for  
35:02  
you can't do it at the library go  
35:03  
somewhere else um  
35:05  
well i just wondered if that is  
35:06

something i know we we talked before  
35:08  
about  
35:09  
addressing that um if it's something the  
35:12  
library even if they're just planning to  
35:13  
do it maybe they could get out a coming  
35:15  
soon  
35:16  
email or or something to let patrons  
35:18  
know we're working on that  
35:20  
gotcha you bet so one of the things i'll  
35:22  
just tell you here  
35:23  
you heard it here first so the the  
35:25  
photocopier we plan um  
35:26  
so photocopying and printing are related  
35:29  
in most people's worlds and right now  
35:31  
are a little bit separated  
35:32  
in how libraries have to do them  
35:36  
so uh just they just are so  
35:39  
um the plan is we have the the  
35:41  
photocopier in the building that will  
35:43  
allow that photocopier we're going to  
35:44  
put it out in the vestibule  
35:46  
in between the two the inner and outer  
35:49  
outer doors of the library and make  
35:51  
those available  
35:53  
for people um we're still getting our  
35:55  
signage in place and saying  
35:57  
make sure you call the number because i  
35:58  
know people are going to need support  
36:00  
doing phone support for that is going to  
36:01  
be a challenge but we are willing to  
36:02  
accept that challenge  
36:04  
as well as putting out some tax forms  
36:05  
there in the vestibule  
36:07  
not exactly the happiest environment for  
36:09  
a piece of electronics but  
36:11  
you know hey we're gonna we're gonna run  
36:13  
it out and see what happens  
36:14  
as far as printing is concerned um you

36:17  
know it's harder because mostly  
36:18  
then you need a computer right so you  
36:20  
have to do the computer to have the  
36:21  
printer  
36:22  
and that's the uh that's a little bit  
36:25  
more of a challenge for us they do have  
36:26  
to call us  
36:27  
for that and we really that's actually  
36:29  
easier we're solving that right now  
36:30  
we've got that solved very very well  
36:33  
but again um getting people to call us  
36:37  
for that requires an action on their  
36:39  
part it's it's less passive and that's  
36:41  
unfortunate and it is an issue so i know  
36:43  
we have um  
36:44  
put that information out in the past uh  
36:46  
i can see kristin's writing down right  
36:48  
now  
36:48  
about putting that out again as we um  
36:51  
you know especially as we get that  
36:52  
photocopier out in the  
36:54  
in the vestibule just to let people know  
36:56  
that that's available  
36:57  
and you know we really really have a lot  
37:00  
of creative solutions  
37:01  
to try to figure this out but it takes  
37:03  
just a little bit more action on  
37:04  
people's part  
37:05  
we are also working on the phone message  
37:07  
right now  
37:08  
my phone message has grown to almost a  
37:10  
minute in length  
37:11  
uh just there's so much information for  
37:13  
me to give to people right now  
37:15  
um we're going to make some changes  
37:18  
we're going to use an hour's mailbox to  
37:21  
say if you really want to know about  
37:22

hours  
37:22  
press one you're going to go over here  
37:24  
that'll take out probably 30 seconds of  
37:26  
me yammering on  
37:27  
you know that these are the hours that  
37:28  
curbside pickup is there these are the  
37:30  
hours that people are here to answer  
37:31  
your calls  
37:32  
you know um and just make it a little  
37:35  
bit simpler for  
37:36  
people to get either hey i'm here for  
37:37  
curbside pickup get me to my uh you know  
37:40  
get i want to pick up my fang  
37:41  
or i need to talk to a librarian so  
37:45  
great thanks jeff on the  
37:48  
printing would people be able to air  
37:50  
print say  
37:51  
you know they have their laptop and at  
37:53  
their in their  
37:55  
car and so  
37:58  
we'll be pushing that as well yeah  
38:00  
people can do that  
38:01  
again right now so that the same remote  
38:04  
printing access that we've had right  
38:05  
along  
38:06  
it's just that it prints out in the  
38:09  
building  
38:10  
and then we have to they have to let us  
38:12  
know and then we print it out and we  
38:14  
uh deliver it through curbside  
38:17  
oh good to know though yeah yeah yeah  
38:21  
yeah and that's where we're doing a lot  
38:22  
of the tax forms so we don't have the  
38:24  
state tax forms in  
38:26  
place yet a lot of questions about that  
38:28  
we don't have those yet  
38:29  
but they're all available online so  
38:30  
we're printing them for people

38:32  
and getting them to people anybody who  
38:33  
needs a state tax form we can get it for  
38:35  
you  
38:35  
um it's just you have to talk to a to a  
38:37  
human being and that's just that extra  
38:39  
little bit of  
38:40  
friction that that  
38:44  
slows things down for people so it's not  
38:46  
ideal but we're making it work  
38:50  
well it'll be interesting to see how  
38:52  
this is received by the public because  
38:54  
in that same email thread that was going  
38:56  
on  
38:56  
there were a lot of suggestions from  
38:58  
other people in town  
39:00  
of places to go in the area you know  
39:03  
slingerlands a lot of people didn't know  
39:05  
about the place out there gateway  
39:06  
something  
39:07  
so there are places that people can go  
39:09  
for printing  
39:10  
and copying and it may end up being that  
39:14  
those end up being more  
39:16  
convenient if they don't have to go  
39:18  
through the whole curbside waiting but  
39:20  
i think people in any event will  
39:21  
appreciate the effort that the library  
39:23  
is going through to make another option  
39:25  
available right here in town so  
39:28  
thank you  
39:32  
okay any other questions for jeff on the  
39:34  
report  
39:38  
okay great um uh ls  
39:41  
report is there anything for this month  
39:44  
well we are meeting on wednesday so as  
39:48  
often happens then our meeting precedes  
39:50  
that one  
39:51

i did share some information after our  
39:52  
last meeting about the  
39:54  
uhls anti-racism task force and happy  
39:58  
that  
39:58  
charmaine was able to serve as a  
40:01  
resource to marry  
40:02  
and it's great when that kind of stuff  
40:03  
can happen  
40:05  
there's been some advocacy day and  
40:08  
issues that i can continue to pass on i  
40:10  
just wanted to coordinate with jeff  
40:11  
because i think  
40:13  
jeff you get it and probably mark do you  
40:15  
get those as well  
40:16  
yeah i guess i got one today yeah okay  
40:20  
we should just coordinate who's gonna  
40:21  
pass those on so we don't  
40:23  
inundate everybody so  
40:26  
just let me know i can i'm happy to do  
40:28  
it if that's  
40:30  
what everybody wants  
40:34  
sure okay  
40:37  
that sounds good um all right uh new  
40:40  
business  
40:42  
the budget drop out into discussion i  
40:44  
think um  
40:45  
pages 27 to 29 maybe jeff you want to do  
40:48  
a  
40:49  
little five uh second on the timeline  
40:51  
and then we can  
40:52  
start talking about the draft budget you  
40:53  
bet so uh so  
40:55  
thank you we'll just say we have time so  
40:58  
this is the  
40:59  
the draft budget the at  
41:02  
the march meeting we will have to vote  
41:04  
to approve  
41:05  
our budget so that we can get it to the

41:07  
school district by the end of that week  
41:09  
following march 8th so by the end of  
41:11  
that week our  
41:12  
approved budget has to go to them so  
41:14  
that they can get it in front of their  
41:16  
board meeting  
41:17  
and then meet their public comment  
41:20  
and public notice periods that they have  
41:22  
in order to get it on the bound  
41:25  
when the election is going to take place  
41:27  
still all up in the air of course it was  
41:29  
moved last year um  
41:30  
i think everybody's expectation is it  
41:32  
takes place on the normal day in may  
41:33  
this year  
41:34  
but there's still a lot of things in  
41:36  
play as far as that's concerned but we  
41:38  
will meet our obligation  
41:40  
by voting at that march meeting that's  
41:43  
that's the most important deadline that  
41:44  
we have you know all of our issues  
41:46  
decided and  
41:47  
we have an approved budget to to send to  
41:49  
the school district  
41:50  
in a month and i'll hand it over to  
41:52  
sherry  
41:55  
okay so we put together a draft budget  
41:59  
uh that shows uh zero percent  
42:02  
increase in in tax levy um  
42:07  
and some of the assumptions that we made  
42:10  
just  
42:10  
generally speaking um we we've included  
42:13  
uh  
42:14  
an estimate for turnover allowance and  
42:16  
salaries which  
42:17  
we haven't done in the past and i think  
42:20  
that will help us to  
42:22

get to a more realistic number for  
42:24  
salaries  
42:26  
[Music]  
42:27  
and we also re allocated a portion of  
42:31  
capital expenditures to a line called  
42:34  
contingency for  
42:36  
[Music]  
42:37  
unforeseen expenses that might come up  
42:41  
we've gone through all the lines and  
42:43  
tried to um  
42:45  
you know make them as realistic as as we  
42:47  
think that they should be  
42:49  
you know based on you know jeff and i  
42:50  
went back and forth quite a bit  
42:52  
with discussions um  
42:55  
based on you know the way the budget is  
42:57  
tracking this year  
42:59  
and what we think you know will happen  
43:01  
for next year  
43:02  
um and you know we were able to balance  
43:05  
the budget  
43:06  
with a zero percent increase in the tax  
43:09  
levy  
43:10  
and if this is the direction that we go  
43:13  
in we think that  
43:14  
um you know it's a reasonable plan  
43:22  
i don't know if anybody has any specific  
43:23  
questions about  
43:25  
[Music]  
43:26  
the methodology or any any lines  
43:29  
in the budget that changed maybe a  
43:32  
little bit significantly  
43:36  
we reduced interest income quite a bit  
43:40  
the estimate for interest income this  
43:41  
year was really high and interest rates  
43:43  
have  
43:44  
really dropped as a result of covid and  
43:47  
they don't look like they're going to be

43:49  
increasing anytime soon so we made a  
43:51  
pretty conservative estimate for next  
43:52  
year  
43:53  
for interest  
43:58  
we also reduced fines  
44:03  
pretty much cut it in half  
44:07  
um not sure what's going to happen with  
44:10  
fines and  
44:11  
and what the the covid 19 impact will be  
44:13  
so that was  
44:14  
a conservative estimate that uh we're  
44:17  
putting in there now for a placeholder  
44:21  
and i will just add this this was um  
44:24  
prepared  
44:25  
by jeff jerry and i  
44:28  
assumed tanya and mark and i did meet  
44:31  
and discuss it in detail with the um  
44:33  
with them at the finance committee so it  
44:35  
has been possessed  
44:36  
by some of the board members um  
44:39  
previously  
44:40  
previous to this meeting i just have a  
44:43  
couple of questions um is i'm sorry mark  
44:46  
were you gonna say something  
44:47  
yeah i just want to further frame it it  
44:49  
also presumes  
44:51  
um a turnover margin but no like layoffs  
44:54  
or anything like that presumes basically  
44:56  
a steady state on staff right right  
45:01  
thank you mark yep sure forgot to  
45:03  
mention that yeah no that's an important  
45:05  
variable it is yeah yeah that's actually  
45:07  
my first question is that the  
45:09  
on the staffing levels that are budgeted  
45:11  
for it is that presumed that you filled  
45:13  
all those positions that are not  
45:14  
empty all the yep all the board approved  
45:17

positions  
45:18  
no increases obviously in staff but all  
45:20  
the board approved positions  
45:21  
it assumes full employment they're  
45:23  
filled throughout the whole year  
45:25  
um for all of their schedule and then um  
45:29  
and that's traditionally the way i would  
45:30  
have prepared the budget very mechanical  
45:32  
supposition of the account you know how  
45:34  
much is this going to be and that's what  
45:35  
we would tend to put in the budget so  
45:36  
it's kind of  
45:37  
ends up being uh a high limit right and  
45:40  
uh sherry really i think appropriately  
45:45  
suggested that we put in you know we  
45:47  
know  
45:48  
we don't know who's going to retire or  
45:50  
leave in any given year  
45:52  
but over a population size of 75 people  
45:54  
we know  
45:55  
that there will be some movement in the  
45:57  
staff every year right  
45:59  
sure make some assumptions about that  
46:00  
and i think that's that's what's  
46:02  
included in there  
46:04  
um i also just  
46:08  
had a question i noticed that the the  
46:10  
program budget was reduced by about  
46:12  
eight thousand dollars i just assume  
46:13  
that  
46:14  
um that's because some anticipation of  
46:16  
how long the covid  
46:18  
will affect things and then once things  
46:21  
open up you'll be going back to  
46:22  
as much programming as you possibly can  
46:24  
so that's kind of your best guesstimate  
46:25  
of  
46:26  
program uh i won't say covert related

46:29  
savings but let's call it that  
46:30  
yeah sure and then it's a it's a  
46:32  
reasonable estimate we were trying to  
46:34  
guess  
46:34  
a little bit uh it's impossible to throw  
46:36  
the football that far down the field but  
46:37  
let's  
46:38  
say um this budget we are assuming that  
46:40  
at some point  
46:41  
in this budget we look  
46:44  
semi-normal right sometime between uh  
46:48  
july 1st of 2021 and june 30th of 2022  
46:52  
things look like a new version of  
46:56  
whatever it is that we expect things to  
46:57  
look like  
46:58  
that's that's an assumption in here and  
47:01  
um  
47:02  
and one of those things is can we  
47:04  
imagine  
47:05  
by june or july that we would be  
47:08  
planning for a program where we have  
47:10  
a hundred people thigh-to-thigh in the  
47:12  
community room listening to a music  
47:14  
concert  
47:17  
probably not um so i would love to live  
47:20  
in that world  
47:21  
i want desperately to live in that world  
47:22  
but i don't eat hope  
47:24  
so uh we just adjust that down a little  
47:26  
bit you know it's kind of a guess  
47:28  
and you're exactly right yeah and and  
47:30  
the last kind of basic number question i  
47:32  
had is under the pilot program  
47:35  
um payment from the district it looks  
47:37  
like it's down two hundred and ten  
47:38  
thousand dollars i'm not  
47:40  
sure that's the very last thing before  
47:42

the page 29 before you get to the  
47:44  
total income um  
47:48  
okay so the pilot we're um  
47:52  
it's it's not down 219 000 that's the  
47:55  
proposed budget  
47:56  
it's down about 7 900.  
47:59  
oh i see it got it i i misread the  
48:02  
column  
48:03  
my mistake thank you yeah i've got it  
48:04  
sure um i i did  
48:06  
i've been emailing jeff and i know mark  
48:08  
has been in the loop and to some extent  
48:10  
mary um  
48:10  
other questions about fines and um the  
48:13  
reserve fund but  
48:14  
i'll i guess we'll move to that after  
48:15  
maybe people have more basic questions  
48:18  
well i'm happy to i'd like to make a  
48:20  
comment about that actually i i  
48:22  
um because people do have questions  
48:25  
about the fund balance and how that all  
48:27  
works so  
48:28  
um we do we have a fund balance uh  
48:32  
as of june thirtieth 2020 the fund  
48:34  
balance was about 3.3 million  
48:37  
um in any year  
48:41  
uh we need to reserve about 1.4 million  
48:44  
of that fund balance  
48:45  
for to operate the first four months of  
48:48  
the new fiscal year until we start  
48:50  
collecting  
48:51  
and still we start getting our tax  
48:52  
revenues so we need to basically have  
48:54  
you know a savings account  
48:56  
that we have to dip into because we  
48:58  
don't have any revenues  
49:00  
in july august and september basically  
49:03  
um so as long as we have a reserve of at

49:07  
least that much  
49:08  
you know we're we're okay um  
49:12  
because our reserve is 3.3 million we  
49:14  
have about  
49:15  
1.9 million in excess of what we really  
49:18  
need  
49:19  
to operate so that's that's good you  
49:22  
know we have we have a nice savings  
49:24  
account  
49:25  
that 1.9 million is it serves as a  
49:28  
cushion for  
49:29  
anything that can come up in the  
49:30  
foreseeable future  
49:32  
emergencies you know special projects  
49:36  
budget shortfalls uh it can happen  
49:40  
um so that fund balance  
49:44  
uh it increases and decreases obviously  
49:47  
based on  
49:48  
the operating results at the end of the  
49:50  
year you know how good were we at  
49:51  
budgeting  
49:52  
you know did we do we have a shortfall  
49:55  
did we go you know did we have some  
49:56  
savings  
49:57  
and whatever that whatever that dis  
49:59  
differences  
50:00  
gets added to or subtracted from the  
50:02  
fund balance  
50:05  
part of our responsibility as  
50:08  
a board is to as we are doing look at  
50:12  
that  
50:12  
fund balance and assess its um  
50:15  
sufficiency  
50:16  
and also to make plans for it okay  
50:19  
we did that i don't know what year it  
50:22  
was but it's been since i was on the  
50:24  
board so i'm going to guess  
50:26

maybe seven or eight years ago maybe  
50:28  
five years ago we sat down and made a  
50:31  
list of things  
50:32  
that we um felt that money was going to  
50:35  
be used for  
50:36  
for instance the hvac project okay  
50:39  
so we we um and we are working  
50:42  
on a long-term plan that is going to  
50:45  
earmark some of that money  
50:47  
so i just want to make people aware that  
50:50  
even though we don't have  
50:51  
contracts in place to do upcoming things  
50:54  
and projects  
50:56  
we are looking at things that we need to  
50:59  
do  
50:59  
or want to do with the money which is um  
51:03  
and we were we learned this from osc  
51:06  
when we went through it last time and we  
51:07  
had made up  
51:08  
this list of tasks about six months  
51:10  
before osc came in and said why do you  
51:12  
have so much money  
51:13  
we showed them our list and they said  
51:15  
great you have a plan  
51:17  
everything is copacetic okay so this is  
51:20  
this is very roughly in a very short  
51:23  
explanation  
51:24  
um how we manage our longer term things  
51:28  
we have this  
51:28  
fund to do some of these projects and we  
51:31  
review  
51:33  
our needs periodically and we are in  
51:35  
that process now with our long-term plan  
51:38  
and we will continue to discuss this  
51:42  
no i work with fund balances for nine  
51:44  
years with this the school board i know  
51:46  
they have a cap so i just  
51:47  
i didn't see it the reason i sent a note

51:49  
to jeff is i didn't see that amount i  
51:52  
knew we had one  
51:53  
but the amount wasn't on the pages so i  
51:55  
just wanted to be totally transparent  
51:56  
with the public  
51:58  
understanding that whether it's going to  
51:59  
be used for projects that you would  
52:01  
otherwise  
52:02  
bond for or draw down a bond or some  
52:05  
other kinds of projects but i just  
52:06  
wanted to make sure that  
52:08  
the amount was visible to the public and  
52:11  
that  
52:11  
the board in the library could do  
52:14  
educational campaigns on that  
52:15  
that money was there  
52:19  
oh but okay i we don't have a cap we do  
52:22  
not have a legal cap  
52:23  
clearly clearly osc is looking at it and  
52:26  
they made it very clear to us  
52:28  
you can't just have a pile of money with  
52:30  
no plan okay and we said well  
52:32  
here is our plan and our board approved  
52:35  
this plan six months ago and they were  
52:37  
like  
52:37  
you're golden okay so um but we do have  
52:40  
to look at it periodically and we  
52:42  
are we are doing that now so  
52:45  
i would just suggest that when the  
52:47  
budgets he's prepared for public that  
52:49  
that line be added every year  
52:51  
based on the end of the previous year  
52:53  
what what because you can't  
52:55  
predict what's going to be the the fund  
52:57  
balance amount at the end of this budget  
52:59  
cycle because it hasn't happened yet  
53:01  
but i think it's um for for  
53:02

transparency's sake it's good to have a  
53:04  
line  
53:05  
to say that there are reserves there we  
53:07  
did that we do that when we present it  
53:09  
to the public  
53:10  
okay but it was it wasn't on the sheet  
53:12  
here that's why that's why i look for it  
53:13  
right  
53:14  
right okay thank you  
53:22  
one quick line item on the retirement um  
53:24  
i guess the  
53:25  
estimate from the comptroller is up 11  
53:28  
is that right correct  
53:29  
yes  
53:32  
you are right i mean that's there's  
53:35  
nothing else to be said i guess okay  
53:36  
correct that is uh it's one of those um  
53:39  
if you want to know  
53:41  
why it's important that there's a fund  
53:42  
balance um you know one of those  
53:44  
questions is that is a  
53:45  
number that we're locked into paying  
53:48  
it's not optional  
53:49  
it is not under i mean it's nice we vote  
53:52  
on it every year before  
53:53  
we send the checkout but really it's not  
53:55  
a choice  
53:56  
and um you know that that's we  
54:00  
i'm pleased that we get that number as  
54:01  
far in advance as we do now we  
54:03  
we have a pretty accurate idea of what  
54:04  
that number is going to be for next year  
54:06  
but it's based on the returns  
54:08  
of the investment of the new york state  
54:10  
and local retirement system  
54:12  
fund right so if their returns go down  
54:14  
if interest rates as we've seen  
54:16  
interest rates are much lower this year

54:18  
uh than they they were in the previous  
54:19  
year  
54:20  
then as that interest rates goes down  
54:22  
our payment goes up you know our share  
54:24  
the library share goes up it's uh you  
54:26  
know anytime  
54:26  
it's one of the really hard  
54:30  
parts about the new york state  
54:32  
retirement system is that when times are  
54:34  
great  
54:36  
and everybody's finances are happy our  
54:38  
payment is the lowest  
54:40  
and when times get tight and uh things  
54:43  
are tough  
54:43  
our payment increases it's uh you know  
54:46  
it is a negative indicator  
54:48  
of how well the overall economy is doing  
54:50  
you know whatever  
54:51  
is the economy experiencing the largest  
54:54  
recession since the great depression  
54:56  
yes it is so therefore that cost is  
54:59  
going to go up  
55:00  
i was actually pleased that it was as  
55:01  
small as it was  
55:03  
and that will be smoothed over five  
55:04  
years so that number  
55:06  
you know so even if the economy comes  
55:08  
out of this you know sometime  
55:10  
in the late fall roaring uh like a  
55:12  
monster  
55:13  
um it will still the  
55:16  
the impact of this year  
55:20  
will stay in our estimate and bill for  
55:22  
the next five years  
55:24  
as a factor in that  
55:29  
sorry well the other question i had was  
55:32  
on  
55:32

library materials right now is  
55:36  
not to increase ebooks but to keep books  
55:38  
and ebooks flat  
55:40  
yeah and then the other as we need to  
55:42  
yeah and then i think exactly  
55:45  
um we have taken uh  
55:48  
and we certainly discussed here at the  
55:49  
board it's not that we've taken on an  
55:51  
authority we don't have  
55:52  
but we've moved money between some of  
55:54  
these lines in order to meet demand as  
55:56  
the sort of proportion  
55:58  
of physical materials increased uh  
56:00  
decreased in the past year  
56:02  
um so i think that number's good  
56:05  
uh for next year if things were to look  
56:08  
trying to say if things look like normal  
56:09  
what would i think it would be  
56:11  
that's my best guess of what i think it  
56:12  
should be you know we're down on some  
56:15  
lines um  
56:19  
and like normal excess money will go to  
56:22  
the e lines  
56:28  
okay  
56:33  
i'm happy to talk about that you know if  
56:35  
if you follow anything that's  
56:37  
i'm happy to have you discuss it right  
56:38  
is that is that if that's not the  
56:40  
philosophy that we want to take if we  
56:41  
would rather say hey  
56:43  
i want to see uh you know 10 growth in  
56:46  
e-lines  
56:47  
um no matter what is happening and then  
56:50  
we  
56:51  
we still have the right to we have the  
56:52  
ability to move that money around  
56:54  
um if we have to um that's a perfectly  
56:57  
reasonable position

56:58  
as well it seems like a possibility  
57:00  
right as  
57:02  
as the situation improves right relative  
57:04  
to library access  
57:06  
right and the demand for physical  
57:07  
material starts to rebound  
57:09  
and the demand for e-books doesn't  
57:11  
really drop right we've sort of  
57:14  
trained everybody to get used to a much  
57:15  
higher level of availability  
57:17  
so it stays high wouldn't be surprising  
57:20  
to see both those numbers need to go up  
57:22  
right i mean i think it's small enough  
57:24  
that we could probably handle a swing  
57:27  
if we budgeted flat but  
57:30  
i would i would be against increasing  
57:33  
that line item a little bit as  
57:34  
either got it yeah and it's one of those  
57:37  
things to talk about when we're looking  
57:39  
at a flat budget if you're looking at a  
57:40  
0  
57:41  
levy increase the most  
57:44  
under your control line that exists  
57:47  
are the materials lines right the most  
57:49  
discretionary spending is materials  
57:51  
so um that's  
57:55  
if you notice those numbers float around  
57:56  
a little bit there's a reason for that  
57:57  
right uh  
57:58  
some you know the national grid bill is  
58:00  
going to kind of be what it is  
58:01  
um the retirement bill is going to be  
58:04  
what it is  
58:05  
um you know absent major staffing  
58:07  
changes the  
58:08  
the salary lines are going to be what  
58:10  
they are so  
58:16

so the the to introduce the other uh  
58:20  
big philosophical uh issues are you know  
58:23  
this is a zero growth budget  
58:25  
on the tax level side where el we're  
58:28  
eligible to actually grow the  
58:29  
levy up to two percent two point one  
58:31  
four i think is a number around that  
58:34  
and and um uh so people should think  
58:37  
about do we wanted  
58:39  
this is a zero do we want to do as a  
58:41  
board of zero growth  
58:42  
um there's there's positives and  
58:44  
negatives to doing that  
58:46  
i would say um and then you know again  
58:48  
on the  
58:49  
in the collections you know we're trying  
58:51  
to get to a certain threshold of  
58:53  
percentage of the total budget of uh  
58:56  
material collections  
58:57  
uh versus the total and we're not at 15  
59:00  
yet um we're we have marched towards  
59:02  
that you know  
59:04  
over the years but that's the other  
59:06  
thing people should think about  
59:08  
is the percentage of materials on the  
59:11  
total budget  
59:15  
so you know those are some of the big uh  
59:19  
philosophical issues with the budget  
59:20  
i think um uh and then  
59:24  
you're not don't wanna put words in your  
59:26  
mouth jeff but  
59:27  
my my sense is that you're not asking  
59:29  
for a staff infusion or staff investment  
59:32  
of new positions or anything so i'm not  
59:34  
you know basically i  
59:35  
have um i have been pleased with the  
59:39  
board  
59:39  
and with the public and their tolerance

59:42  
of us as we try to figure out  
59:43  
what we're doing this year um you know  
59:46  
with the world being as crazy as it is  
59:48  
um i it just didn't feel the time for me  
59:51  
to be saying hey by the way i know it's  
59:53  
a great idea let's expand the size of  
59:54  
the staff  
59:55  
um you know we've been able to  
59:57  
[Music]  
59:59  
with your approval um move positions  
60:01  
around as we knew we talked about the  
60:03  
i.t position we've been able to shift  
60:04  
some things around in order to make it  
60:06  
meet our needs  
60:07  
um and we've been able to do that all  
60:10  
inside the same  
60:11  
number general number of ftes and  
60:13  
certainly inside the same budget  
60:15  
um for staffing so it didn't it didn't  
60:18  
feel like the time i think there  
60:20  
um we talk about strategic plan it's not  
60:22  
just the  
60:23  
it's not just the building though it's a  
60:25  
major part of it  
60:26  
the services plan of the library um  
60:28  
there are absolutely things that we  
60:31  
don't or cannot accomplish given the  
60:34  
people that we have and those are these  
60:35  
political philosophical questions  
60:37  
we talk about what's that what's the  
60:39  
direction of the library in the art yeah  
60:40  
and they do everything inches on the  
60:42  
budget  
60:42  
it's impossible to not have that  
60:44  
discussion so  
60:46  
yeah okay right so  
60:49  
people can start thinking about those  
60:51

those bigger issues and also you know  
60:53  
look at the numbers here and  
60:55  
um you know if you have questions  
60:57  
obviously today or  
60:58  
you know we have some time actually  
61:00  
we're not we're not in a big rush  
61:02  
we have to vote out the next meeting but  
61:03  
we have a full meeting cycle to talk  
61:05  
about it so  
61:08  
mary i have a question do we have any  
61:11  
idea  
61:12  
or guess a realistic guess when we are  
61:14  
going to get  
61:16  
a report from paul mays i mean it's hard  
61:19  
to know where we're going with our  
61:20  
long-term plans  
61:22  
right  
61:25  
yes meeting in the long term long term  
61:29  
uh  
61:29  
committee on the 19th  
61:32  
and i think that's when we're expecting  
61:34  
the next round of updates from paul  
61:36  
yes  
61:41  
that this um  
61:46  
path is going to take us  
61:49  
to something where we have a plan where  
61:51  
we are going to be  
61:52  
looking at a capital  
61:55  
endeavor in the near future  
62:02  
so so uh so here's the here's my here's  
62:04  
my uh jeff's answer  
62:06  
is in a perfect world where covet had  
62:09  
not happened  
62:10  
would we have been headed in our  
62:11  
long-range plan to a place where we have  
62:14  
would have been seeking to make changes  
62:15  
to the building yes the nature of those  
62:17  
changes how big

62:19  
what's the scope what needs to be  
62:21  
changed um  
62:22  
you know where could those dollars be  
62:23  
best applied to the benefit of the  
62:25  
public  
62:26  
that's exactly what's being discussed  
62:27  
right now  
62:29  
and i think that would have felt more  
62:31  
immediate if  
62:32  
the current situation wasn't the current  
62:34  
situation so  
62:36  
um realistically the answer i would love  
62:39  
the answer to be yes and i'm  
62:40  
very pleased that we didn't stop  
62:42  
thinking about the future  
62:43  
just because we're in the middle of a  
62:45  
you know a weird time  
62:47  
but maybe the immediacy that and that's  
62:50  
where we get back to that exactly  
62:52  
political question of is it time  
62:54  
for the library to be pursuing  
62:58  
a project uh and what scale would that  
63:01  
project be it already you know already  
63:02  
that has  
63:03  
influenced the nature of the discussion  
63:05  
at the long-range planning committee  
63:06  
so i'm not you know what i did i was not  
63:09  
specific enough and i hadn't flushed my  
63:11  
question out enough  
63:12  
will we have a design i mean will we  
63:15  
have  
63:16  
a concept or two or three concepts to  
63:19  
say  
63:20  
we did this study we spent time on it  
63:22  
you guys spent a lot of time on it okay  
63:25  
will we come out of this with at least  
63:28  
proposals of what we might do when  
63:31

things are a little bit  
63:32  
um maybe more receptive politically yes  
63:36  
okay yeah and you know and and whether  
63:39  
then  
63:39  
sorry harmony you can interrupt me at  
63:41  
any time but whether that you know  
63:43  
whether the concept is  
63:44  
we'll call them concepts whether those  
63:46  
concepts the schematics of those designs  
63:48  
end up being you know  
63:50  
when if you get down to brass tax what  
63:52  
does that plan actually look like  
63:54  
um there's a lot between where we are  
63:56  
and there but i think um that's the  
63:58  
nature of what we're bashing out at the  
64:00  
long range plan committee right now is  
64:01  
is exactly that you know i think the  
64:03  
um originally maybe it had front loaded  
64:06  
some more of the building changes into a  
64:08  
sort of larger project early  
64:10  
and then phased some smaller things  
64:11  
later on and i think we've fundamentally  
64:14  
changed our approach to that to maybe  
64:17  
smaller phase something earlier inside  
64:20  
or  
64:21  
near that fund balance amount that we  
64:23  
were just talking about  
64:25  
something closer to that scale and then  
64:28  
um that could make positive impact for  
64:32  
the library right now  
64:33  
uh or in the you know in the in the time  
64:37  
time frame of that project while leaving  
64:39  
open potential  
64:40  
improvements for the future in a place  
64:42  
you know place to go over the next  
64:43  
decade okay which was one of the things  
64:44  
we had struggled with is what comes  
64:46  
first the chicken or the egg we don't

64:47  
want to spend money on something and  
64:49  
then find out three years later  
64:50  
it just gets ripped out to do the next  
64:52  
thing okay all right  
64:54  
which is important okay yes  
64:57  
like jeff said i think the timing piece  
64:59  
is the last major decision we'll have to  
65:02  
make  
65:03  
once we have those concepts in hand  
65:04  
right we'll have an idea of  
65:06  
what we would like to do first second  
65:08  
third  
65:10  
right and between those two or three  
65:11  
phases it covers essentially everything  
65:13  
that we had talked about between  
65:15  
our ideas and librarians ideas and the  
65:17  
public's ideas you know for ways to  
65:19  
expand the  
65:20  
physical premises and then really it  
65:22  
comes down to  
65:24  
how quickly do we want to move on this  
65:27  
right given  
65:28  
everything that's going on in the world  
65:29  
right is it is it two years or is it  
65:31  
five years  
65:31  
okay all right being new to this too  
65:36  
i'm not sure if being new to this too i  
65:39  
almost  
65:40  
would suggest this this not a slower  
65:43  
timeline but a timeline that will allow  
65:45  
for in-person public comment on concepts  
65:49  
is having bond gone through about three  
65:51  
bond cycles for this district  
65:53  
the ability for the public to show up  
65:55  
and not necessarily in this  
65:57  
event this vehicle to comment  
66:01  
and understand and critique  
66:05

is a crucial part of  
66:08  
getting at least for me public support  
66:11  
so  
66:12  
as you get the con concepts or the  
66:14  
possible  
66:15  
options with and for me what's crucial  
66:17  
is the price tags  
66:19  
associated with a b and c or some  
66:22  
ballpark  
66:23  
being able to go to the public and have  
66:25  
public forums where people can say  
66:27  
yay no yinay this that  
66:30  
is a crucial step so as those get  
66:33  
developed over the spring and some i  
66:35  
i welcome having spots possibly in the  
66:38  
fall  
66:39  
where the public can actually show up  
66:41  
and give input as things  
66:43  
develop yeah absolutely getting getting  
66:47  
public participation buy-in has to be  
66:49  
must be step one sure but i also just  
66:52  
heard jeff's talk about the fun balance  
66:55  
piece so but i'm also hearing mary say  
66:58  
well we have a list of things so i think  
67:00  
com once we get past the budget you it  
67:02  
would be helpful for me as a new board  
67:04  
member  
67:05  
to maybe see the list of possible you  
67:08  
know eyeball things for that  
67:09  
and how does that relate to a long range  
67:12  
plan or two  
67:13  
or i'm assuming this isn't happening but  
67:15  
that two people  
67:16  
two sets of pressures aren't  
67:20  
eyeing the same oh no hatch of money  
67:24  
no we we came up with a list  
67:27  
i'm gonna i guess seven or eight years  
67:29  
ago yeah we haven't really revisited a

67:32  
list you know so now is the time that  
67:34  
we're reviewing  
67:35  
our list okay so it's it's  
67:38  
it's actually the same thing it's all  
67:40  
the same thing it's not  
67:42  
not true the out of the long range plan  
67:44  
process should come  
67:45  
that a more curated version of exactly  
67:49  
that list of the things that we need  
67:51  
that the board needs to look at in the  
67:52  
next decade you know what are the things  
67:54  
what are the you know and balancing  
67:57  
philosophically balancing  
68:00  
very unexciting building need  
68:02  
maintenance needs  
68:04  
with wins for the public and  
68:06  
improvements to service  
68:09  
that's exactly exactly what uh is being  
68:12  
discussed  
68:12  
you got it  
68:18  
yeah and some of those things were  
68:19  
knocked off right so the you know where  
68:20  
the boiler project  
68:22  
is soon to be the hvac project happened  
68:25  
um you know one of the projects that we  
68:26  
were looking heavily at was the just  
68:28  
take for example the plaza  
68:30  
you know anything and he redesigned the  
68:31  
plaza would be incorporated into  
68:34  
the long-range plan that just has to be  
68:36  
addressed because we the library  
68:38  
identified that as a as a need  
68:40  
so sure nothing we had nothing  
68:43  
we almost had nothing left on the list  
68:45  
charming that we  
68:46  
knew that we could cleanly do  
68:50  
it was a high enough priority we needed  
68:51

to do it soon  
68:53  
and that we didn't think we might  
68:54  
possibly need to rip it out three or  
68:56  
four years down the road with something  
68:58  
else that we may do well  
68:59  
what if when we do such and such or we  
69:01  
might want to do such and such  
69:03  
you know what do we do first that's a  
69:05  
big part  
69:06  
of what we're doing is is prioritizing  
69:08  
and determining  
69:10  
what makes sense to do what when  
69:13  
sure no i'm just saying it'd be helpful  
69:15  
for me or for me  
69:16  
without the discussion board just to  
69:18  
know what the list is and just or how  
69:19  
it's  
69:20  
driving things so just be caught up in a  
69:22  
way so  
69:23  
and i totally understand like you know  
69:25  
do roofs versus your auditorium but  
69:27  
sort of you know it's balancing those  
69:29  
kinds of things the the other thing i'll  
69:31  
throw into the philosophical mix which i  
69:32  
don't think we  
69:33  
need to decide is the whole idea of  
69:35  
fines  
69:37  
i know it's in the budget for fifteen  
69:39  
thousand  
69:40  
um i'm fine with having the budget go  
69:42  
through with that but what i would ask  
69:44  
is um there is money to cover that so  
69:48  
should going forward you know getting  
69:49  
the budget through  
69:51  
um the board decide that we go along  
69:54  
forever fine free then we have  
69:57  
funds to um cover that line obviously  
70:01  
um i did notice that the last book line

70:03  
is zero so  
70:05  
it um in the budget i think lost book  
70:08  
payments is zero  
70:09  
so is that also i mean is it better to  
70:11  
lose a book than make it late i mean i  
70:12  
i'm kind of  
70:13  
well yeah that's interesting so we just  
70:17  
put i just have we just budget zero for  
70:19  
that and it  
70:20  
um it's just it ends up at some number  
70:26  
so uh the the the lost book the  
70:30  
the reason it's very difficult to  
70:31  
predict is because when when items  
70:32  
become lost  
70:34  
if they return them then they're unlost  
70:36  
like right now so people who have long  
70:38  
you know book has been lost for six  
70:39  
years you return it there's no fines  
70:41  
so it's no harm no foul it's not a once  
70:43  
there's a um  
70:45  
it's actually the most effective way to  
70:47  
get materials back is when someone gets  
70:48  
a bill for 157 dollars  
70:50  
and then they say oh my goodness i have  
70:52  
to return all six of these books and  
70:53  
then it's just wiped clean  
70:54  
you know so um that's we  
70:57  
mostly use it as a tool to get things  
70:59  
back sure  
71:03  
yeah and i think that the five's  
71:05  
discussion clearly that's a discussion  
71:06  
with having  
71:07  
we've had it a couple times over the  
71:09  
years i've been on the board and  
71:11  
i think uh it's been more philosophical  
71:13  
than money  
71:14  
because they're fine just so low so but  
71:16

yeah that's a good point though so i  
71:17  
mean i think we should put that on  
71:19  
an agenda moving forward so yeah  
71:22  
i think and i think i'm sorry go ahead  
71:24  
go ahead michelle sorry  
71:26  
i actually do think it has a financial  
71:28  
impact  
71:29  
so yeah if we have a future discussion  
71:32  
on it i think that there are  
71:34  
points to be made on either side yeah i  
71:36  
agree i agree  
71:37  
yeah i mean i'm not in favor of it  
71:39  
honestly i'll just say  
71:41  
right up but i think with the fines  
71:42  
being as well as they are is good to  
71:44  
turn  
71:45  
um but i can see the other side of the  
71:46  
argument so  
71:48  
it's a discussion worth having  
71:52  
definitely  
71:54  
jeff i just wondered um as a general  
71:56  
question on the budget  
71:58  
in your tenure as director have we ever  
72:01  
before had zero growth on the tax levy  
72:03  
side  
72:04  
we have so um the times we had a couple  
72:09  
years where we put up a zero percent  
72:10  
growth and they were related to the 2009  
72:13  
financial crash so this was uh you know  
72:18  
again from that philosophical side the  
72:20  
years that you might not want to do that  
72:22  
so um as an example the  
72:27  
during some of those years the  
72:28  
retirement that is going up 11  
72:30  
was over 400 000  
72:34  
so it was approaching um you know ten  
72:36  
percent of the total budget of the  
72:37  
library

72:38  
so um we were able to put up a zero  
72:40  
percent levy  
72:42  
by eating into the capital expenditures  
72:45  
line  
72:45  
which is the other super discretionary  
72:47  
line that you guys have available to you  
72:49  
um  
72:50  
it used to be much larger than it is in  
72:51  
its current or just  
72:53  
a couple years ago incarnation it's kind  
72:54  
of been locked in at 125 000  
72:57  
um for several years now but before that  
72:59  
it was higher it was 300 000  
73:01  
and higher than that in the past and we  
73:02  
we grew inside that  
73:04  
you know the other expenses grew inside  
73:06  
that um capital expenses line so  
73:08  
yes the answer is we have previously put  
73:11  
up zero percent growth  
73:12  
one or two years around 2009 i could go  
73:15  
back and tell you exactly what years  
73:16  
those were but it's not it's not a first  
73:19  
it kind of gets to that i hesitate to  
73:23  
even say  
73:24  
we've never in my experience not gone  
73:26  
for a vote  
73:27  
but many school district libraries  
73:29  
simply don't go out to vote because  
73:31  
unlike a school district the levy for a  
73:34  
library is in perpetuity  
73:36  
so when people vote on a levy that's the  
73:39  
levy  
73:40  
and so when they go to vote in this in  
73:42  
the in the vote in may  
73:43  
typically what they're voting on is that  
73:46  
the  
73:46  
increase or decrease that the board is  
73:48

putting in front of them as far as that  
73:49  
levy is concerned  
73:51  
but the levy is forever until the board  
73:53  
puts up something that is accepted by  
73:54  
the community to change that  
73:56  
so lots of school district libraries  
73:58  
simply don't go to vote every year  
74:00  
um it has been long established in well  
74:03  
before i came to this library  
74:05  
that we put up the vote i think it's a  
74:07  
good idea  
74:08  
as far as transparency and interaction  
74:10  
with our public  
74:11  
that we put that up to them even if it  
74:13  
is a zero percent growth levy  
74:14  
i think it's important that they see  
74:15  
that the library is on there it keeps it  
74:17  
in their mind  
74:18  
rather than you know once every three  
74:20  
years surprise we're gonna come  
74:22  
you know up and and have a vote i think  
74:24  
you know because they're gonna be voting  
74:25  
for the trustees anyway  
74:26  
so there's no reason not to have that um  
74:28  
that levy in there as well even if it is  
74:30  
zero percent  
74:33  
that more answer than you wanted i  
74:34  
apologize no  
74:38  
so since we haven't actually said the  
74:40  
amount if the levy is four million one  
74:42  
hundred and seventy two thousand five  
74:43  
hundred and sixty three is that correct  
74:45  
that's nice that is not uh i think  
74:47  
thinking that all the  
74:48  
material depending on what happens at  
74:50  
the next meeting um  
74:52  
you know to really just emphasize that  
74:54  
there's

74:55  
no increase in that levy and if  
74:58  
if that's the decision of the board  
74:59  
right that's exactly that's exactly it  
75:01  
and that's um you know and that that  
75:03  
doesn't mean  
75:04  
that people's individual tax bill won't  
75:07  
change there's so many things there's so  
75:09  
many factors that go into calculating  
75:10  
that people try to say well what's this  
75:11  
mean to me if you increase by 40  
75:13  
thousand dollars  
75:14  
i hate to even speculate on that because  
75:16  
there's so many things that influence  
75:18  
um you know and even recently in the  
75:20  
town there's been you know sort of uh  
75:22  
reassessments that change the relative  
75:24  
amounts of taxes and then so the levy's  
75:26  
going up but people see their tax bill  
75:27  
going down  
75:28  
like what does it even mean it's it's  
75:29  
you know you wouldn't you know it's  
75:31  
complicated and um so we just try to say  
75:33  
the levy's the number that you need to  
75:35  
be focused on  
75:37  
and those were that budget in oh nine  
75:39  
was prior to the tax cap  
75:40  
right so yes and and and they they knew  
75:43  
that that tax  
75:44  
i guess maybe it was the first year i  
75:46  
think that may have been the first year  
75:47  
i was on the board  
75:48  
you know it may have been the first year  
75:51  
because we  
75:52  
had to cut millions off of their attack  
75:54  
we challenged the school district  
75:55  
challenged the cap the first year  
75:57  
and was successful yeah okay yeah it may  
76:00

have been that year but i  
76:01  
if it was around that time it was and  
76:04  
i can't remember exactly which year  
76:06  
again we could go back and look but uh  
76:08  
i've been filing that report with the  
76:09  
comptroller every year since then  
76:11  
but the um but that that was it we you  
76:14  
know we we knew  
76:18  
the year that the tax cap came in you  
76:19  
know you're you're  
76:23  
if you don't grow the levy then the  
76:25  
growth on that  
76:27  
growth right you're you're missing out  
76:30  
on the growth on that growth i mean  
76:32  
you're limiting it yeah yeah you don't  
76:34  
you don't ask for money you don't need  
76:35  
that silly but  
76:36  
um you know still cutting we can  
76:39  
we cut millions out of that budget we  
76:41  
had to but still  
76:43  
um in order to balance the cuts versus  
76:46  
the program went to a challenge  
76:49  
so yeah sure yeah and that's the other  
76:51  
thing you know how does this  
76:53  
if we do a zero well levy inc you know  
76:56  
if we keep the limit the same  
76:58  
so going into the next budget you know  
77:01  
there's implications  
77:02  
for that too right because you're you're  
77:04  
starting a lower base  
77:05  
so but i mean all good suggestions they  
77:08  
have  
77:14  
so  
77:17  
so any other questions on the budget um  
77:19  
the draft budget that was  
77:21  
in the packet you know obviously  
77:25  
people can uh i would encourage people  
77:27  
to uh

77:28  
text questions or you know email  
77:30  
questions around and and you have an  
77:32  
active debate in the  
77:34  
interim period between the meetings and  
77:35  
then we'll we'll have to  
77:37  
vote on the budget next next meeting so  
77:45  
okay great thank you thank you so um  
77:48  
the other new business on the reopening  
77:50  
plan  
77:53  
nothing particularly there's nothing to  
77:54  
talk about just to say we'll continue to  
77:56  
monitor  
77:56  
uh infection rates and the other numbers  
77:59  
that we watch for this  
78:00  
super pleased that those numbers are  
78:02  
going down um you know i expect that  
78:04  
next month  
78:05  
uh should things continue as they are  
78:07  
now  
78:08  
we'll come back in march and have a more  
78:10  
in-depth discussion about what our plans  
78:12  
are for reopening for in-person breath  
78:15  
okay the new york state annual report  
78:17  
yep just a process update so that uh  
78:20  
we're working on filling that out right  
78:21  
now  
78:22  
we'll get that submitted to upper hudson  
78:25  
we'll be voting on that officially  
78:26  
at the next at that same march meeting  
78:29  
where there will be a lot of things to  
78:31  
vote on  
78:31  
i'll have that to you uh in advance of  
78:33  
that meeting and  
78:34  
um you know then after you vote on it uh  
78:37  
we'll have already sent it to upper  
78:38  
hudson but then a partisan can make  
78:40  
any changes that they'll they review it  
78:42

as well and then they'll submit it to  
78:43  
the state at some point after that  
78:46  
okay great any other new business  
78:50  
okay moving into old business the  
78:52  
long-range steering committee  
78:54  
there's a meeting on the 19th or meet  
78:55  
you mentioned earlier in the meeting is  
78:57  
there anything else for me you want to  
78:58  
talk about  
78:59  
no nothing i'll stay right now okay  
79:02  
great  
79:03  
and then any other old business  
79:09  
okay uh future business so i put this on  
79:12  
the agenda so i just want to make sure  
79:13  
that people are aware that um  
79:15  
we have the committees i'm trying to  
79:17  
energize the committee structure a  
79:19  
little bit  
79:20  
and try to get people to uh participate  
79:23  
more as the board um i know you all are  
79:26  
very busy and  
79:27  
you know it's crazy time but if we could  
79:28  
just think about the committees that  
79:30  
you're on maybe  
79:31  
ask jeff to circulate on the committee  
79:33  
list again  
79:34  
um and then you know the library is  
79:37  
doing a great job and i think the  
79:38  
committee's kind of helped  
79:40  
with um you get a sense of where the  
79:41  
board's thinking and stuff so if we can  
79:43  
encourage the members to um generate  
79:46  
community meetings i'm trying to get at  
79:47  
least  
79:47  
one every committee to meet once a  
79:50  
quarter is my goal that's a pre  
79:51  
uh uh you know a big one finance has  
79:53  
been meeting um and we'll do a policy

79:56  
committee meeting coming up too  
79:57  
as well but if there are other  
79:58  
committees that people you know um  
80:01  
they they do help with the governance of  
80:02  
the library  
80:05  
okay um any other issues before we go  
80:07  
into public presentation  
80:09  
or public participation any other  
80:11  
questions people have  
80:14  
okay um any public participation jeff  
80:18  
i don't have anything else okay i think  
80:21  
we need to uh  
80:22  
journey into uh executive session then  
80:24  
okay me one second i just need to bring  
80:26  
out  
80:26  
kristen always helps me out uh what  
80:28  
we'll need to do is go  
80:30  
uh into executive session to discuss  
80:33  
contract negotiations pursuant to  
80:34  
article 14 of the civil service law  
80:37  
so i need someone to make that as a  
80:40  
motion  
80:42  
so dude do you need a motion to close  
80:44  
this meeting and then  
80:45  
enter into executive session or so we  
80:47  
enter into executive session and we'll  
80:49  
we'll at the end of that close and close  
80:51  
at the end of those two  
80:53  
at the end of those two um yeah  
80:56  
so it is not the expectation that will  
80:58  
come out of executive session and to any  
81:00  
action  
81:01  
if we did we would have to come back and  
81:02  
turn the live stream back on  
81:04  
but um you know my expectation is that  
81:06  
not that won't be the case  
81:10  
okay in a motion to move into an  
81:12

executive session

81:13

so removed second that you mean okay

81:16

all's in favor

81:19

the opposed extension okay great so

81:22

let's move into executive session

81:23

all right give me a second i'm going

English (auto-generated)