

## Kim Zahra

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**From:** Jana Maleh <malehjana1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 26, 2023 3:49 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** 47 lakes eminent domain.

You don't often get email from malehjana1@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear board of trustees.

My name is Jana Maleh - 2 Newbury - village of monroe NY .

Pls set this as a public comment for tonight's eminent domain hearing for 47 lakes.

I moved to this village less then 3 months ago, i did not pay a cheap price for my house, our monthly mortgage and taxes are actually high.

I'm concerned on a tax increase resulting out of such act, I also cant see the reason the village decided to get some new parkland, while they are so many parklands unused, right next to 47 lakes. and village already decided decades ago that such property is well to expensive.

With all respect and all politics aside, it's a negligent act and we as residents and tax payers do not deserve being impacted by this for no reason and absolutely no need.

I ask this board to overthink about the potential impact and to be more sensitive with public funds especially tax payers money, and take in consideration future legal expenses, also i can see adverse impact in results of such act on the villages goal of preserving history and character to this village.

It really hurts to see the village battling on our cost,

Jana.

September 7

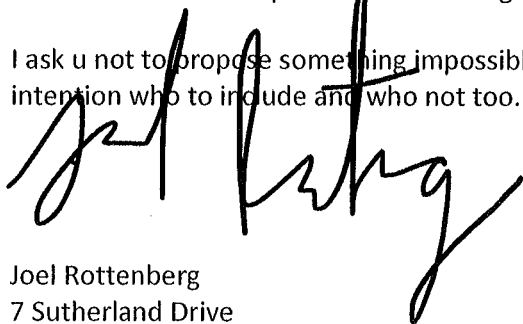
Dear Board of trustees

As a new resident less then a month, I got informed of a current new commercial Vehicle Proposed Law. And about current eminent domain, i thanks fir lettering my voice raised

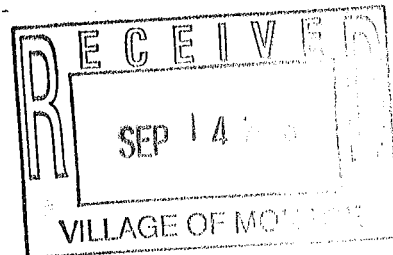
As a Hard working Bus Driver not receiving 150% annual increases (as some of this board), our buses should not be Discriminated on mid-day parking, in our lots, we do make small stop at home between shifts and we should not be required to travel to the parking lots an extra 30 minutes to get our cars for a short home visit, just because it a bus, while recreation vehicles With the same height and almost the same weight can be parked in the lots (just because some trustees do have some trucks – see June trustee hearing) and disregarding danger to public (**if any**, and btw no mention of the health and safety at this law at all)

I also can't get the reason of taking such expensive property, Especially when all expenses will at the end fall on us taxpayers and will distress many residents, no one has a problem with preserving history, but who wouldn't have a problem with being money drained and having to pay for something senseless,

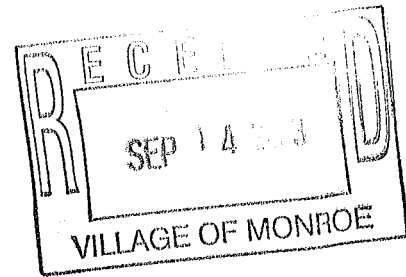
I ask u not to propose something impossible, and something obviously directly targeted with clear intention who to include and who not too.



Joel Rottenberg  
7 Sutherland Drive



Joel teller  
5 Pearsall Dr.  
Monroe NY 10950.  
Joel1tzfaz@gmail.com



Dear board

This board did not mention any reason of each and every line defining "commercial" and why bus drivers (CDL) should be discriminated when they are almost the same in size of a recreational vehicle, and the board is well aware that we only want to park in our lots when we have small breaks between shifts and routes. Also it should be noted that - This law does not include any reason for such change and nothing will be resolved equally with such enforcement.

I ask this board to overthink such affects and not to direct laws on one specific group of blue Colour bus drivers when luxury recreational vehicles can be parked in lot (oh not to forget one of the trustees ones one), and commercial plates (construction) vehicles can even be parked on the street (since on main figure ty on this board is doing contracting in this village).

It appears that the only way our voice should be raised is by getting a bus driver into this board, this board has really narrow and selfish view on how this impact and disregarding can affect me and other bus drivers in spending family time and to give my kids what they deserve to have which is a "father".

While being at the public hearing at Sep 5, I also saw the fact that this village is now looking to take 47 Lakes by Eminent domain, I view it as a irresponsible and misrepresenting the public to use public funds for something this board already voted upon not excepting it for free, do to high maintenance cost in rehab cost and do to a Local Village Engenieer estimated 500,000.00 to repair Dam,

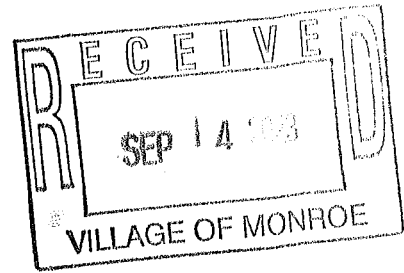
I also recognised and would like to memorise it into the records that each and every zoning district has become more restrictive, expect the GB district which has become more lenient for developers without a single requirement of parking? Provided with more lot coverage, zero setback required and many more money making and developer friendly codes. Its clear that this is all pushed by a parcel owner of 106 Stage road (which is also a well known contractor in this village) who is lately on a clear agenda to drain public tax funds while building his personal Real estate profile, and ensuring the well being of his properties (maybe as a relief and equity gain and to repay publicly defaulted property loans).

This village is beautiful and was always beautiful and welcoming, but until recently when proposed directed laws and unfair actions with clear disregard of the needs of the people and residents of this village, such acts does not creat good faith and trust as an administration.

I ask this board not to standby and not to allow the passing of any unnecessary directed laws and to act not to succeed with unneeded litigation un the name of this public.

Joel Teller

**Chana teller  
5 pearsall Drive  
Monroe NY 10950.**



Re: comment on Local law #  
& Roscoe Smith - Acquisition

September 8, 2023

Dear Board of trustees,

I would like to raise my concerns on your most recent proposal of laws and actions, effecting our lives and the well being of our family.

Restricting peking of vehicles required CDL in the driveway even for a short time, will affect the live of me and my kids - who deserves a father - who will not be able to visit in middle of the day because of such restriction, prior discussions only protect this board's personal needs as recreational trucks and commercial plated vehicles.

The board did not mention in any prior meetings a official Goal what this village is looking to archive with such direct restrictions and if this proposed law will fulfil such achievement.

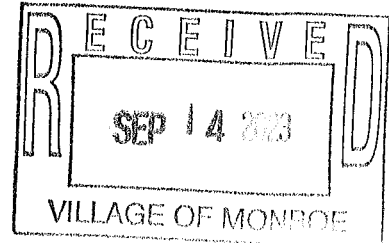
I would also like to raise my voice and concern about this boards latest attempts to take the Roscoe Smith property, I do not have a problem preserving history but I can not afford to pay a cent in additional taxes, taxes isn't a joke and isn't meant to be used by abusers of public power, each tax payment me and my husband make is hard earned money and each unnecessary litigation and acquiring unnecessary land, is on the account of the local hard working residents who are working hard to feed their kids.

I hope this Board overthinks, and try to put your miss into the head of the locality.

Appreciate your time, & Hope for consideration

**Chana teller**

Goldy Rottenberg  
7 Sutherland Drive  
Monroe NY 10950



Sep - 11. - 2023

Dear village Board.

I recently moved into this village and I'm concerned on the latest unnecessary actions by this village by acquiring expensive land and defaulting this village which will affect each and every resident and tax payer, will also create division between the local communities and this board, also this board is proposing the impossible and fully restricting FAR law which is something no other municipal have done and Gone that far to include basements in the calculated sqf. And impacting all lots in this village and make them as non conforming non-conforming almost all existing lots (besides GB zone on stage where the Mayer in control of a few LLC's is

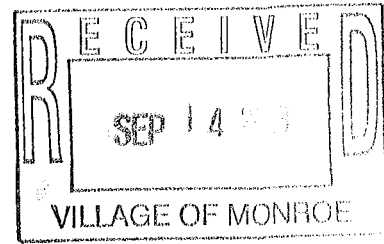
The village did not mention to the public if such inclusion will affect property Taxes, and if the town of monroe assessor which is guided by different state laws that might require him to have change his assessment since recorded square footage will change all over in this village, if such law is adopted.

The village also lacked of mentioning any reason and any benefit the the public and general welfare will have by the proposed definition of commercial Vehicles,

This village also recognize on the Comprehensive plan minutes at a June 9 2022 meeting that the comprehensive plan should be available and reached out thru organizations in many different languages of population Of this village included Yiddish / Hebrew, this has not be done and instead it appears that the opposite is being done by hiding the outcome into definitions, and by proposing 17 laws in one meeting w/o a normal possibility for the public to comment.

The public has been made aware (publicly) who's properties are being negatively affected by this outcome and who's are becoming positively affected, (it appears that not surprisingly almost all of village officials are gaining).

*Goldy R*



Dear board.

I'm here to comment on your recent social gathering law, & on ongoing eminent domain.

Thanks for finally looking into safeguarding and imposing safety laws on social gatherings, we appreciate your dedication and work to insure safety & health for the locality, I am fully in support of the latest measurements in enforcing building codes including capacity and other safety measures.

But some of the code Clearly appears clearly not working for one of the biggest communities in this village, this board has not came up and not even tried to come up with an alternative that can satisfy both the communities and the health and safety, I ask this board to take into consideration the following facts about one on of the biggest local communities and religious group being directly affected by such proposals

1) no parking spot needed for Jewish - orthodox Friday and Saturday gatherings, since no cars are allowed to be used, 2) we do need to use such social gatherings more then 12 times a year, and if 12 can work I do request this board to increase such number to once a week and add all religious holidays (that restricts driving) in order this should work with local communities,

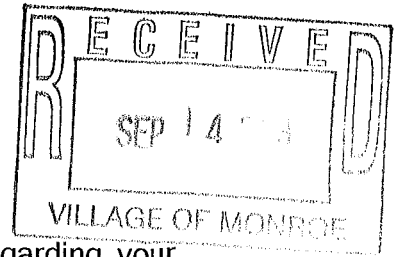
Where Commercial places and synagogues Can be build legally are not walking distended to most residential areas in this village, I understand the fact and the latest overflow of Hasidic Orthodox Communities in this village, which is slightly different then other Synagogues the village had till now since it's an observant community not driving and working on shabbat and holidays, but instead of seeing this board fighting the reality i would appreciate to see this board working with it, and not impose the impossible.

I would also like to comment publicly about your most recent eminent domain proceedings on the Roscoe Smith Estate, since I'm familiar with this property, I honestly don't think that this has any future Although I wouldn't deny the fact That this property has really beautiful features I don't think that little strip is enough to accommodate the public with Parking, and the building is a real mess as this board is aware, besides the fact that it does not fit public accommodation it appears that this will create a major tax increase on all properties in this village including my, I do not wish to see any increase in result of something not needed and privet interests, such property should be used to generate tax income and to lower out tax bills.

Sincerely

Joseph Indig. -12 Rosmini Ln.

Dear board,



As u are aware I already attended and spoke priorly on a meeting regarding your proposed law, and thanks for your willingness and understanding of this board to work with the hard working bus drivers of this village, at the last meeting the mayor looked very willing and understanding to work with us and insure us that we will be able to go home with our busses to our families for short stops during the day, and park the busses in our driveways,

I watched this boards June meeting where there is a discussion (the only public discussion on record) on how the definition of commercial vehicles Should be governed, which is critical and highly impacting our situation which has been explained before this board,

Surprisingly This village acted to protect Trustee Farraro's large recreational Vehicle, and the mayors commercial platted truck he clearly admitted he's using it for construction but disregarding the hard working bus drivers looking for a short time parking to spend time with Thierry kids between trips.

I do have a car and To take my car I have to travel 15 minutes each way to the parking lot total of half hour, when most of such breaks or about 20 minutes, I do not think it's fair to direct and impose something personally affective on me and my families lives.

And I also ask this board before proposing any laws affecting religious practices directly or indirectly to discuss it with local rabies or community leaders, if u lack a point of contact I can assist u with that,

Also about the FAR, I would like this village to publicly discuss the impacts this will have on the existing houses, also the fact that we will have to go to planing board for any extension or anything involving earth disturbance, i don't think it is fair to steal all our "as of rights" to build and require PB review which is also expensive, I don't think

it's right to Impose on local residents high planing board fees for potentially "essential" remodeling and extensions that many family's are in simple need,

Such Hardship on building permits will reduce the income the village had till now, and will fall at the end on us residence which is something that should be discussed in public in more detail and how much of decrease this will result, who will cover thus loss, ? Us tax payers?

The public deserves to know more.

Thanks.

September 10 2023

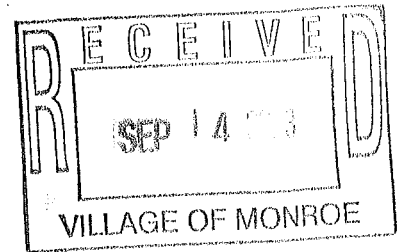
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aron Joseph Schwartz".

Aron Joseph Schwartz  
31 Half Hollow Turn

I would wish to comment on the eminent domain, but I do not have any interested in that property, the only thing I request is that taxes shouldn't be raised in results, I can not take a new hit at the new assessment and traffic should be taken in consideration,

If it will cost me one dollar please use this column in opposition

Miriam Huss  
325 high st  
Village of Monroe NY.



Sep. 3. 2023

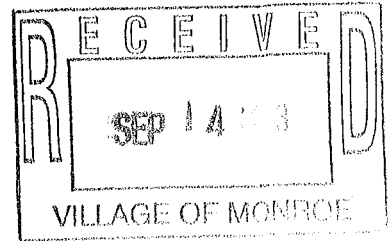
Thanks for giving me the opportunity to comment on the eminent domain action.

There is no details provided on the cost of this project not even a real rough estimate, on rehabilitation cost, acquisition cost, legal fees cost, possible litigation or lawsuits, will it come off the tax roll?, Who will benefit from it? What's need will this fulfill? What's the time estimate for project completion?,

Isn't this rolling for years and this village publicly couldn't come up with rehab funds? What's about the half million dollar repair for dam? What's with additional inflation to all prior estimates?

I do not wish to see this village to act negligent based on taste and desire in a property without a clear plan and assessed potential impact, in order to enable the public to properly review and comment.

Sincerely  
*Miriam Huss*



*Sep 13 2023*

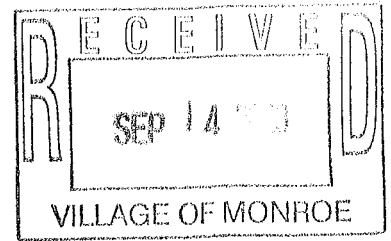
*Re: 47 Lakes Public Hearing.*

*Im writing u in opposition of the latest eminent domain proceedings on 47 lakes, as a real close neighbor of the back part of the property, I'm worried on it being public land, this can affect out privacy with unwanted non-local visitors and strangers.*

*I also do not see any mention of the village has the funds or it will be forced on the local tax payers, I do not wish to see any unwanted increase, taxes are high as is and we shouldn't be in tue lookout for additional, the town messed up enough with unwanted acquisitions and we do not wish to suffer double as village residents just for personal political desires.*

*I ask this board to consider tax payers pocket as limited, and not force the unwanted.*

*Miriam Weiss  
260 Oakland  
village of monroe*



Moshe Brach  
13 Half hollow Turn  
Monroe NY 10950  
845-662-1903

Sep 11 2023

I do see that the village is now proposing definitions on commercial Vehicles And are to include vehicles that transfer more then 10 passengers.

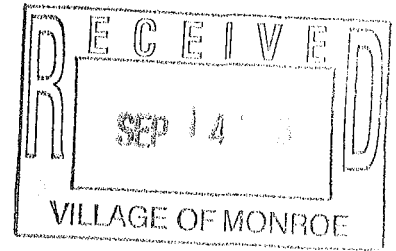
This will automatically include my personal van which is a 15 passenger van i use for me and my family, its nonsense to not allow me to park my van i use for personal needs (and as a active EMT, to save your lives) only,

I ask u not to vote on something so extreme and something not archiving any goals with it besides unreasonable hardship on myself and many others in my situation

Thanks in advance and hope u consider the real needs,

Moshe Brach

**Saul Maleh  
2 Newbury St  
Village of monroe NY.**



Sep 11 2023

Dear board of trustees.

Re: Eminent Domain act.

I'm I just purchased my home 3 months ago and me and my family live here now, I moved here to enjoy this peaceful beautiful village including beautiful parks and playgrounds for this village has to offer for as smith clove and Crain park, and I truly still believe positively in me and my families future in this village.

But Lately I am worried and concerned on this boards action on eminent domain, I'm not an expert on how eminent domain action works, but in the USA no lank can be taken away without fair compensation which is a couple of million dollars to the minimum, this was not mentioned by the board and concerns me if this will end up falling on the village residence and tax payers.

Such acquisition might take away the focus of this village in maintaining what we already have, this village has existing 130 acres (as per village website) of parkland and more then 50% is unused, to send now millions in this times for 20 or so acres when this will not fill any need should be considered negligent and a careless act with public funds,

I ask this board to take the local residence impact for priority.

Sincerely

SAUL MALEH

## Kim Zahra

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**From:** Ambreen Chughtai <chughtaiamb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 5, 2023 8:15 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** Roscoe Smith Estate

Good evening Ms. Penny,

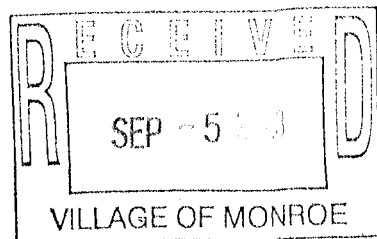
As a Monroe NY resident of nineteen years, I am not in a favor of demolishing the Roscoe Smith Estate located in Monroe NY. Kindly consider my request.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Thank you.

Ambreen Chughtai

Kalman Weiss  
260 Oakland Ave  
Village of Monroe NY



Re: Roscoe Smith Estate  
Eminent Domain Process.

Aug 27 2023

As a Neighbor living 500 feet off the subject property, I do have some comments and concerns on such acquisition.

I'm concerned of the current road conditions of mill street and sunset Heights which is narrow and not practical to accommodate the public, (I was told that developer will update those roads but now who will do that?)

I'm concerned of high visitor traffic, and unwanted trespassing into our properties from guest, which can invade our privacy and well being.

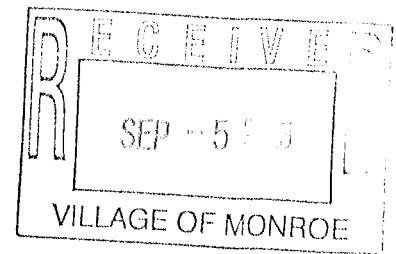
I'm concerned if despite the above mentioned concerns will I have to pay for those misleading actions by a tax bill increase?

Our taxes are high enough, we have a beautiful park right on rt 17 m, a new park in a strict residential area right next to a existing park is a clear waist of money, and negatively affecting our well being and disturbing the character and style of this neighborhood,

Respectfully

Kalman Weiss.

Sep 5 2023.



Dear board

I do have some comments on some recent local law proposals and on recent eminent domain case the village is proceeding.

Local law 12 on FAR, if basement will be included in FAR. Then most of the houses laying in SR-10 zone (such as my own) will automatically become non conforming and not eligible to build , it seems ridiculous to restrict such impossible on homeowners and on family's, it also appears that every earth disturbance will require PB approval, so no extension can be made w/o high planing board fees and consultation cost, this is way to extreme and highly affecting many residence of this village.

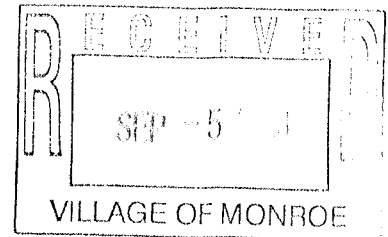
I also do see that this village is looking to take 47 Lakes property by eminent domain. I do understand that eminent domain isn't a free grab, I also know that this village is not wealthy enough to afford such acquisition if not by raising our taxes for something not useful at all.

I ask this board to handle tax payers funds more serious, and not to impose some unnecessary irresponsible, highly affective, restrictions and tax increases on on your own residence.

David Weisz

David Weisz

15 King St



Dear Board of Trustees and Hon. Mayor.


After reviewing your recent eminent domain and prior minutes of this board, such act does make me concerned for just two reasons.

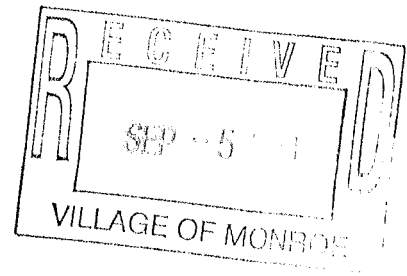
1. On May 5 2020 a public hearing by this board was held and there is some comments on record reading as follow: Mr. Mitts asked for an update on the Roscoe Smith house. Mayor Dwyer replied that they were one vote away from accepting it and at a meeting the Village Engineer John O'Rourke mentioned to him that there was a \$500,000 cost to repair the dam. He had no idea what he was talking about. The fact that this administration is looking Now on ondisregarding the village engineers Refferel , clearly shows a lack of attention to the village appointed engineer who, which should not be ok with this board.

2. Potential tax increase. Also " all" prior meetings did mention the issues of high rehabilitation cost and now we are just looking on acquiring the land, and. after failing years just to get a budget and to have enough funds of just rehabilitation and repairs, how do u take property when there is clear records that this village can not even afford its rehab, and a resolution stating the village is not interested, now, to take just property w/o any plan of use, is is ambitious and will impact negatively our budget by such unnecessary tax increase,

As a resident / voter of this village i would like to put my comments into the record and request from this board to reconsider and to please not spend tax payers hard working funds for some unnecessary litigation and political reasons.

Sep 3 2023

  
Gitty Weisz  
25 - King St



Mendel Friedman  
306 Schunnemunk St.  
Monroe NY 10950

Thanks for your services and you good faith affords,

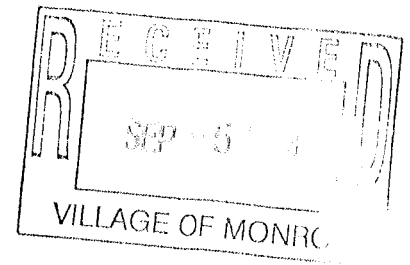
I ask this board to not act on any unnecessary act that will affect our annual budget, such misleads and acts can have long term affects and out this government into debt which will result in tax increases which is the main source of income of this government.

There is no other way to acquire property that will avoid fair payment therefore I would raise potential tax increase as a main concern to this boards most recent eminent domain proceedings, what is sure, is that such acquisition does not fill in any specific need In and I really don't see why residents should pay a dollar for something they will not benefit, and can lead to unfair taxation. It is something the locality should vote or something,

Sep 4 2023

*Mendel Friedman*

Aug 28 2023



Dear village trustees

My name is Yirmiyahu Weissl live at 210 High street in Village of Monroe,

I am aware of this boards recent eminent domain action to preserve history. I do not have a problem with that, and I respect your good interest of the preserving history,

I do have some confusions that does simply not add up, which is the need of parks in this village, which i think we have plenty and as a resident and someone who uses public parks i recognize that the parks u already have are well under-crowded and bellow it's capacity, (just drive by smith clove park at any giving time).

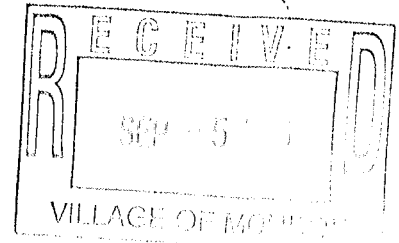
I also did observe the terrible condition of crane park Which is already village owned and even after receiving 500 thousand in grants it does not get better,

I really don't get the reason of acquiring a other park while current parks are in need of update and not being used an full capacity. .

Especially an acquisition of land w/o considering and laying out to the public any potential costs and expenses of such acquisition, and maintenance fees and getting such property of tax roll.

0111 771

Dear board and Mayor



We do not wish to see any tax increase and I do think the public should be made aware exactly what we are gaining with owning such property and what will be our impact by paying for such property in order to be able to comment and see if it makes sense to pay for such use,

Without detail review it appears that this act will affect tax payers for something not needed in my opinion I respectfully ask this board to overthink such action.

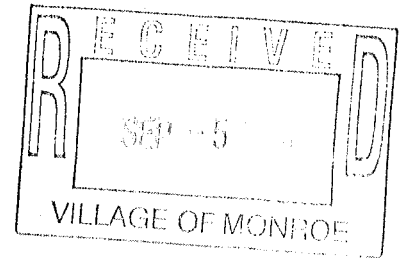
9-1-2023

Faigy Friedman

306 Schunnemunk Rd

Village of monroe NY.

Frimet Epstien  
8 Muller Ln  
Monroe NY 10950



Re: Roscoe Smith Estate Eminent Domain  
& proposed and Local long # 12.

Dear Board of Trustees.

We do request this board to consider the well being and benefit of the locality, while imposing laws and actions on behalf of the people and residents of this village

I'm worried on what the impact in taxes will be on us after such couple of million dollar acquisition and if this impacts me with even 1\$ I do request this board to overthink and back off such neglect act.

I'm also highly concerned on your proposed law to include basements in existing FAR. Which will make my and most other residence living in SR10 (10,000 Square Feet lots) Non conforming structures, which will affect me and my family and many others who aren't aware, I do not see any gain for no one in results of such law besides restricting and stealing our rights and abilities for extensions and rehabilitation of our own homes.

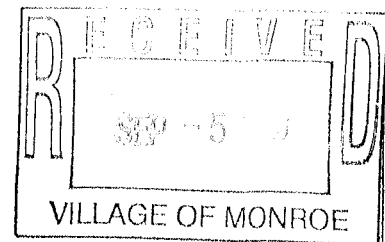
Also how will such FAR inclusion affect tax easements? My understanding is that unusable basement sqf was never assessed ( it wasn't included in the Certificate of Occupation ) now if those Spaces will be included this might affect us all, I would request to this board to review and let the public now how such law will affect the assessment , this village does not have a assessor on its own but there is a town assessor who services the village has his state law book on legal proceeders on how to assess properties lawfully and he should be able to determine on record such impact.

Thanks for your time and services.  
9-5-23

Frimet E.

Dear board of trustees,

Aug 26 2023



As a long time resident in this village and tax payer I'm concerned. on such potential tax increasing resulting from such Eminent Domain, our taxes isn't low and every dollar counts.

No records online noting if anything has changed since village decided (by vote and resolution) not to take it for free – Because of expensive rehab cost, smithing is being hidden from the public.

Sincerely

*Samuel Huss*

Samuel Huss  
325 High Street  
Monroe NY.

## Kim Zahra

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**From:** blimeejay@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 5, 2023 2:18 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Cc:** Debbie Behringer; Trustee Martin O'Connor; Trustee Andrew Ferraro; Trustee Karl  
**Subject:** Hearing comment.  
**Attachments:** If You're Thinking of Living in Monroe - The New....pdf; May 19 98.pdf; CCF\_000005.pdf

Dear trustees,

I did see your public hearing online and I do have some comments and non understanding items, as represent the public I hope u take public concerns on front line.

It appears that the village is looking to spend millions of tax payers money for a project like 400 stage rd, which is unuseful and a waist,

If u try to create some historical org. in this village I ask u not to start a tryout with the most expensive property, and consider the past for the future. (As all prior boards did - Including Neighbor - Karl as Mayor).

Pls see attached NY times article where this property was up for sale back in 1993, the NY times called it the "most expensive property in monroe". This was up for sale, and was ordered to go up for public auction in 1998. (See attached) smith family did not look on keeping it, and didn't live there for a while. prior owner (Alexander Centro ) went broke even Clayton smith gave owners financing back in 96 in results of owning this land.

This was up for sale from 1993 to 96 - then from 1998 till 2000, Village had option to take the house all for free but clearly denied, **it appears clearly that this village has a bigger problem with "who" owns it as a racial issue rather than preserving,**

Also as a transparent government I do not see anything happening since Dwyers and full board resolution deciding not to take it. (I think it was 2014) besides talk and negative public comment throughout the years that it's not needed and village can not afford it, all those comments was even after Dwyers Personal desire to acquire.

Also it appears that this board is historically incorrect about Roscoe W. Smith. Roscoe calls himself as a developer, and in fact he was the biggest subdivider of land in this village (sunset heights, Swewzey ln, Monroe Park), just take a look on attached documents historically this property was a investment peace of land. His residence he only references as the front (of about 7 acres back in 1907). he was a building Developer and he was here to "build" monroe, to use his name for the only reason to block development is shameful, and clearly hypocritically.

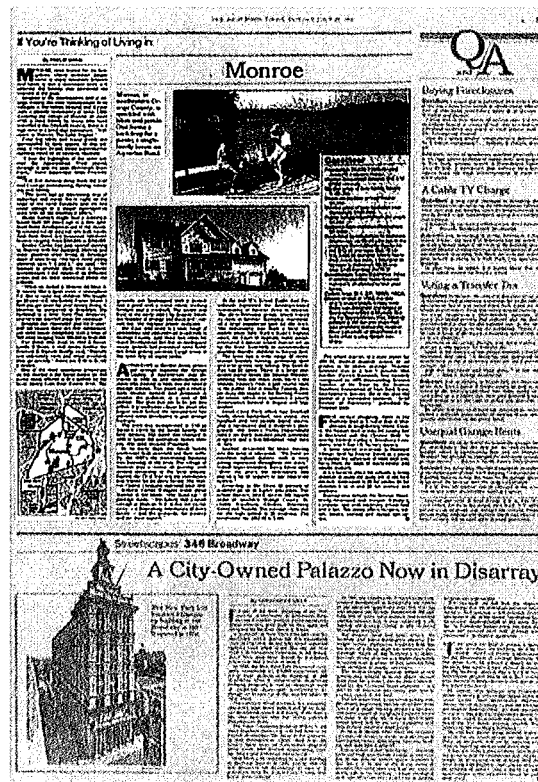
See all docs attached, I think this board (or just Mayor) has it wrong historically too.

I ask this board not to impose on tax payers some unwanted and unuseful increase, village taxes are expensive as hell as is, and we ask u not to take taxpayers money

# If You're Thinking of Living in: Monroe

By Phillip Good

July 25, 1993



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July 25, 1993, Section 10, Page 7    Buy Reprints

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MONROE, once known for its bungalows where summer people came to enjoy mountain breezes and lakes, is now a commuter town still offering the beauty that attracted the visitors of the past.

Situated at the southeastern end of Orange County, the town encompasses three villages - Harriman, Monroe and Kiryas Joel, a Hasidic community of some 7,500. Entering the village of Monroe on route 17M, a road known by many who have traveled to the Catskills resorts, there is a sign next to a pond that announces, "Welcome to Monroe, The Lake Region."

Four big lakes and many ponds are surrounded by open spaces. In this setting, a recent Grand Union supermarket opening rated as an exciting moment.

"I feel the highlights of the town are that the Appalachian Trail passes through it and we abut Harriman State Park," Town Supervisor Mike Frerichs said.

"I'm five minutes away from the trail and I can go snowshoeing, fishing, canoeing and hiking.

"The town has an interesting mix of suburban and rural. We're right on the edge of the rural Catskills and we live close enough to a major metropolitan area with all the benefits it offers."

Home hunters might find a historical house built 200 years ago or a new split-level home developed on one of the recently created cul-de-sacs cut into lush woods. And then there are luxurious lakefront homes ranging from \$200,000 to \$350,000.

Deidre Carter has just moved moving to Monroe with her husband, Melvin, and their children after living in Brooklyn most of their lives. "We have three young children ages 7, 3 and 2," she said. "We wanted to provide them with a better environment. I did research on different areas and we were concerned about the schools.

"When we looked at Monroe we liked it. It seems like a quiet town -- someplace I'd like to raise my children. We bought an 83-year-old, one-family frame house. I feel you get more for your money living in Monroe as compared to Brooklyn. My husband is a New York City detective, and he's not worried about the commute."

Besides the renovated and fix-it-yourself old houses there are five condominium town house complexes with a total of 760 units ranging from \$80,000 to \$125,000.

For those who want to rent a home, Linda O'Brien, a real estate broker for Century 21 Maxum Realty, said, "Rentals are extremely rare, and when available they go quickly." Rents are \$750 to \$1,500 a month.

One of the most expensive properties on the market is the Smith estate on 19.8 acres being offered at \$1.4 million by the local Henry Lust Real Estate firm. The grounds are landscaped with a stream and a pond with a water wheel, walking bridges and a windmill. The estate was built in the early 1900's by Roscoe Smith, the founder of Orange and Rockland Utilities Inc., the regional power company.

Mr. Lust, who deals in a wide range of residential and commercial properties in Orange County, said there was room for more development but that an inadequate sewer system had prevented some builders from getting permits. Large areas of the town rely on septic tanks.

ACCORDING to Gordon Jones, principal sewage engineer for Orange County, a moratorium was declared in 1988 on new construction for those who wanted to hook into the central sewage system. Two years ago a countywide master system was proposed to resolve the problem, at a cost of \$96 million. The plan has yet to be put into effect. A grandfather clause for those who began work before the moratorium has allowed some developers to gain sewage hookups.

The town was incorporated in 1740 as Smith's Clove by the Smith family, the first settlers. The name was changed in 1808 to honor the statesman James Monroe, who later became President.

In its early days, the Smith family settlement built sawmills and flour mills. By the 1800's the iron-mining business was booming in the area. The village of Monroe was a center of activity, with miners carousing at the local saloons. During the Civil War era the community was known for its dairy farms. The Monroe Cheese Company operated until 1926.

William Carlos Williams wrote about Monroe in his novel, "The Build-Up." A passage reads: "The family took a small cottage at Monroe, N.Y. It was not too far away -- a flourishing community of dairy farms -- and the orchards, the scenery and air were superb."

In the mid-70's, Grand Rabbi Joel Teitelbaum expanded his Brooklyn-based community of Satmar Jews to Monroe. The ultra-Orthodox group, which traces its roots to Satmar, Romania, represented a large population gain for the town. The community was dealt a blow this month when New York's State's highest court, the Court of Appeals, ruled unconstitutional a special school district set up by the State Assembly to accommodate disabled Hasidic children in Kiryas Joel.

The town has a wide range of recreational besides hunting, primarily deer and wild turkey, and fishing. The Bowl-O-Fun has 24 lanes. There is a large one-screen movie house, the Monroe Theater, showing first-run films. Also there's the Monroe Country Club, a golf course open to the public. And in nearby Tuxedo, people enjoy the slopes at the Sterling Forest ski center, which also sponsors a yearly Renaissance festival in August and September.

Smith Clove Park offers four baseball fields, three basketball, two tennis, two handball and two paddle board courts, plus a bandstand and a children's playground. The town's Parks Department runs a six-week summer youth activities program and a five-kilometer road race in July.

Another attraction for those moving into the area is education. "We have an excellent school district with a very strong reputation throughout the state," School Superintendent Terry Olivo said. "Over the years the community has placed a lot of support in our education system."

According to Mr. Olivo, 85 percent of students go on to higher education. The school district, which covers 100 square miles of southern Orange County, includes Woodbury, Chester, Blooming Grove and Tuxedo. The average class size for the high school is 26

students. The enrollment for 1992-93 is 5,400.

The school district, in a state report for 1991-92, showed student scores in all grades to be above average. Teacher turnover was at a low 7 percent. One teacher, Patrick Kavanah, was recently recognized as 1993 Outstanding Science Teacher of the Year by the Science Teachers Association of New York State, Southeastern Section. He is the also the author of a successful textbook, "Brief Review of Chemistry," published by Prentice Hall.

FOR serious shopping, there is the Galleria Mall at Crystal Run in Middletown in neighboring Ulster County, the Nanuet Mall across the county line in Rockland and the Chester Mall. In nearby Central Valley is Woodbury Commons, which has 135 factory outlets.

A town tourist attraction is Museum Village, built by Roscoe Smith as a place to display his collection of tools and artifacts from the days of blacksmiths and candle makers.

It's a favorite place for schools to bring children to study the daily life of the first settlers. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$5 for children 6 to 15 and \$6 for seniors and students.

Restaurants include the Monroe Diner, newly renovated, and Weepin' Willoby's, a popular spot with modestly priced food and a bar. The menu offers burgers, salads, steaks, seafood and Italian specialties.

***A correction was made on Aug. 1, 1993: Because of an editing error, an article last Sunday about the Town of Monroe, N.Y., referred incorrectly to Middletown, N.Y., the site of a nearby shopping mall. It is in Orange County, not Ulster County.***

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When we learn of a mistake, we acknowledge it with a correction. If you spot an error, please let us know at [nytnews@nytimes.com](mailto:nytnews@nytimes.com). [Learn more](#)

A version of this article appears in print on , Section 10, Page 7 of the National edition with the headline: If You're Thinking of Living in: Monroe

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF ORANGE

P R E S E N T:

HON. J. EMMETT MURPHY  
SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

To commence the statutory time period for appeals as of right (CPLR 5513[a]), you are advised to serve a copy of this order, with notice of entry, upon all parties.

-----X  
CLAYTON SMITH and STACY S. SMITH,

Plaintiffs,

- against -

**SHORT FORM ORDER**

Index No. 1707-97  
Motion Date: 4/10/98

ALEXANDER A. CENTRO, JOHN DOE and  
JANE DOE, the two proceeding names being  
fictitious names of persons unknown who  
may have a claim or interest in the  
premises herein,

Defendants.

-----X  
The following papers have been read on this motion by plaintiffs for confirmation of the referee's report and for leave to enter a judgment of foreclosure and sale:

Notice of Motion/Affirmation  
of Regularity of Gibson/Affirmation  
of Services Rendered of Gibson,  
Bill of Costs, Referee's Oath,  
Referee's Report of Amount Due &  
Proposed Judgment

Upon the foregoing papers, the motion to confirm the referee's report is granted to the extent set forth herein and a judgment in conformance with the Court's computations has been signed this date.

In computing sums due and owing under the note and mortgage to plaintiff, the referee erroneously included in his computation a sum of \$36,434.26 for late charges and the sum of \$250 as additional penalty on the unpaid balance of the accelerated debt. The mortgage does not authorize the imposition of late charges and

penalties after the mortgagee elects to accelerate the debt, and, thus, the aforementioned sums are disallowed. The Court has recomputed the total sum due to plaintiff as of March 16, 1998 at \$799,654.28.

In addition, the Court fixes reasonable attorney fees in the sum of \$5000.

Dated: Goshen, New York  
May 11, 1998



J. EMMETT MURPHY  
Supreme Court Justice

TO:

BRIAN M. GIBSON, ESQ.  
Attorney for Plaintiffs  
One Harriman Square  
POB 60  
Goshen, New York 10924

BERNARD BRADY, ESQ.  
Attorney for Deft. Centro  
152 Main Street  
Goshen, New York 10924

At an IAS term of the Supreme Court held  
in and for the County of Orange at Orange  
County Government Center, Goshen,  
New York on April 10, 1998.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF ORANGE

CLAYTON SMITH and STACY S. SMITH,

Plaintiffs,

- against -

ALEXANDER A. CENTRO, JOHN DOE and  
JANE DOE, the two proceeding names being  
fictitious names of persons unknown who may  
have a claim or interest in the premises herein,

Defendants.

JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE  
AND SALE

INDEX NO. 1707-97

A Motion having been made for an Order confirming the Referee's Report of Computation and for a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale and said Motion having come on to be heard and upon the Judgment submitted on notice, returnable on April 10, 1998, and upon the summons, Complaint and Notice of Pendency of Action filed in the Orange County Clerk's Office on March 12, 1997, and upon the Affidavit(s) of Service and Notice(s) of Appearance, if any, filed herein and upon the Order dated December 22, 1997, appointing Theodore Brundage, Esq., as Referee to ascertain and compute the amount due Plaintiff on the Note and Mortgage herein being foreclosed and to otherwise proceed, and upon reading and filing the report of said Referee dated March 16, 1998, wherein it <sup>was reported</sup> ~~appears~~ that the sum of Eight Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-Eight and 54/100 Dollars (\$836,338.54) was due to the Plaintiffs as of the date of his hearing, March 16, 1998, and

upon the Affirmation of Brian M. Gibson, attorney for Plaintiffs, dated March 27, 1998, said Affirmation showing that all of the defendants have been served and their time to appear, answer or otherwise move has expired and not been extended except for the Defendants, Centro, who appeared and answered by his attorney, Bernard E. Brady, Esq., and whose answer was stricken by the Order of this Court granting summary judgment dated January 5, 1998 and it appearing that none of the Defendants are infants, absentees, incompetents or prior lienors.

NOW, on motion of Brian M. Gibson, attorney for the Plaintiffs, it is,

ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that the report of said Referee be, and the same hereby is in all respects ratified and confirmed, and it is further <sup>to the extent set forth in the order of this Court, dated May 11, 1998</sup> ✓

ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that the Plaintiffs are entitled to the sum of <sup>as modified by order, dated 5/11/98</sup> ✓  
\$1,799,654.28, ~~the sum~~  
~~\$826,330.54~~ the sum reported in the aforementioned Referee's computation, together with

interest at the Note and Mortgage rate until the date of signing this Judgment, and thereafter at the legal interest rate, together with any additional post judgment advances, including, but not limited to the following: ~~bankruptcy relief costs, inspections,~~ insurance, taxes and

securing charges, and such, to preserve plaintiff's equity upon presentation of receipts for <sup>to be taxed & inserted by the Clerk</sup> said expenditures to the Referee, besides the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ adjudged to plaintiff for costs and disbursements with interest thereon from the date hereof, together with

an additional allowance of \$300.00 with interest thereon from the date hereto, hereby awarded to the Plaintiff in addition to costs, plus a legal fee to Brian M. Gibson, attorney for Plaintiffs, in the sum of \$ 5000.00 and it is further,

ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that the premises mentioned in the complaint in this

action and described as hereinafter set forth, be sold at public auction, as one parcel, subject to tenancies and violations, if any; to any state of facts that an accurate survey may show; subject to covenants, restrictions, easements, rights of way and reservations and/or instruments and agreements of record prior to the recording of said mortgage; to zoning regulations and restrictions and any amendments thereto; to orders and/or notices of violations, if any filed in Municipal, State or U.S. Governmental Departments and to conditional bills of sale, contracts, and/or financing statements of record, if any; and also subject to rights, if any, of tenants, sub-tenants, co-tenants and persons in possession of the premises not barred by this action ~~to the extent only that said rights may be controlling under provision of the local New York State Emergency Rent Control law;~~ and subject to liens in favor of the Administrative Code of the Town or Village, which may be attached, but not yet filed with the County Clerk. Also subject to chattel mortgages; all physical conditions that the premises are in at the time of sale/or closing; Uniform Commercial Code Financing Statements of Record; Unsafe Building Notices and Liens; Emergency Repair Notices and Liens; vault charges and pest control liens; sales tax notices and liens; sidewalk assessments, fire prevention inspection liens and fire prevention fees, real estate taxes, school, city, county, town and other taxes and any other municipal charges, if any, water meter charges, sewer meter charges and prior unpaid common charges or notice of liens for unpaid common charges, if any, and subject to the right of the United States of America to redeem within 120 days from the date of sale, where applicable; and subject to prior mortgages, if any, as reduced with the interest thereon, and to be sold at the Judicial wing of the Orange County Government Center, Goshen, New York, under the direction of

Theodore Brundage, Esq. who is hereby appointed Referee for that purpose; that said Referee give public notice of the time and place of such sale according to law, and the course and practice of this Court, by advertising in the Times Herald Record and that Plaintiffs or any other party to this action may become the purchaser at such sale; that said Referee execute to the purchaser on such sale, a Deed of the premises sold; that said Referee on receiving the proceeds of said sale, forthwith pay therefrom disbursements used to protect the premises ~~against vandalism or to protect~~ Plaintiffs' <sup>interest</sup> ~~equity or lien~~ which are or may become liens on said premises at the time of sale with interest and penalties thereon) <sup>provided</sup> upon ~~the recovery is authorized by the mortgage & plaintiff presents~~ presentation of receipts <sup>of payment</sup> for said expenditures to the Referee, that said Referee shall, upon receipt of the proceeds of such sale or any part thereof, deposit such proceeds of sale in the <sup>his</sup> name as referee in an interest bearing account <sup>in</sup> Bank of New York (Gotham branch) Bank and shall thereafter make the following payments, and his checks drawn for that purpose shall be paid by the said depository.

- FIRST:** The statutory fees of said Referee, not to exceed the sum of ~~\$200.00~~ <sup>\$500.00</sup>.
- SECOND:** The expenses of the sale and advertising expenses, as shown by the bills, presented and certified by said Referee to be correct, duplicate copies of which shall be left with the said depository.
- THIRD:** To the Plaintiff, or to Brian M. Gibson, the attorney for the Plaintiff, the sum of \$ 1090.00 adjudged to the Plaintiff for the costs and <sup>as taxed & inserted by the Clerk</sup> disbursements to this action, with interest thereon from the date hereof, together with an additional allowance of \$300.00 with interest thereon from the date hereof hereby awarded to the Plaintiff in addition to costs, and also ~~\$836,338.54~~ <sup>\$1799,654.28</sup> the amount found ~~or reported~~ due as aforesaid with interest

thereon from the date of the Referee's hearing, March 16, 1998, or so much thereof as the purchase money of the premises will pay of the same, together with reasonable attorney's fees payable to Brian M. Gibson, Esq., in the sum of \$ 5000.00 with interest thereon from the date hereof together with any advances which Plaintiff has made for taxes, fire insurance, principal and interest to prior mortgages, or to maintain the premises pending the consummation of this foreclosure sale, upon presentation of receipt for said expenditures to the Referee, the Referee take a receipt therefor and file it with

his Report

of Sale.

**FOURTH:**

If such Referee intends to apply for a further allowance for his fees, he may leave on deposit such amount as will cover such additional allowance to await the further Order of the Court after application duly made.

**FIFTH:**

The said Referee shall take the receipt of the Plaintiff for the amounts paid as <sup>within 5 days after the</sup> ~~surplus monies shall be received & be~~ directed herein and file it with the Report of Sale; and then ~~leave on~~ <sup>ascertainable, leave on</sup> deposit with the said Clerk of ~~this Court, or Treasurer,~~ <sup>Orange County</sup> to the credit of this

action, the balance of the surplus moneys, if any, arising from the sale of said premises, to be <sup>with</sup> ~~drawn~~ <sup>drawn</sup> only on the order of the Court ~~signed by a Tutor of~~ <sup>this Court,</sup>

That the said Referee shall make a Report of Sale, and of the disbursements and payments made by him, and shall file the same with the Clerk of the County in which this action was brought, <sup>and executing a proper conveyance to the purchaser</sup> within thirty (30) days after completing the sale, if the proceeds of such sale be insufficient to pay the amount due to Plaintiff with interest and costs as aforesaid, the Referee shall specify the amount of such deficiency in his Report of Sale; and Plaintiff

shall recover from the Defendants the whole deficiency provided a motion for a deficiency judgment <sup>(Alexander A. Centro) (as much thereof as the County may determine to be justly equitable)</sup> shall be made as prescribed in <sup>within the time limit specified therein</sup> R.P.A.P.L. Section 1371 and the amount thereof is determined and awarded by an Order of this Court; and the purchasers at such sale shall be let into possession on production of a copy of the Referee's Deed.

That in case the Plaintiffs or either of them shall become the purchaser of said premises at said sale, the Referee shall not require such Plaintiff or Plaintiffs to pay in cash <sup>entire</sup> the amount bid at such sale, but shall allow the same to such Plaintiff or Plaintiffs on account of the amounts due to such Plaintiff or Plaintiffs hereunder that amount in the case of one Plaintiff being one-half of the amounts due both Plaintiffs, and the amount of the paid taxes, assessments, water and sewer charges and other similar charges, with the interest and <sup>and not included in the prior computations of the referee's report</sup> penalties thereon paid by such Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, and the said Referee shall execute and deliver to such Plaintiff or Plaintiffs a Deed of the premises sold, upon payment by such Plaintiff or Plaintiffs to the Referee of the amounts specified to be paid or upon filing with the Referee receipts of the proper municipal authorities showing the payment thereof, for the fees of said Referee, taxes, assessments, water and sewer charges, fire insurance premiums and other disbursements used to protect the premises against vandalism or to protect Plaintiffs' equity or lien, ~~Guardian's fees, if any,~~ expenses of the sale and the advertising expenses, and if, after deducting the amounts of all of the above items from the amounts of the bid, there shall be a surplus over and above the amounts due to Plaintiffs, as aforesaid, the said Referee, on receiving such surplus, shall forthwith deposit same with the Clerk of <sup>Orange</sup> this County ~~or with the official properly authorized to receive surplus funds~~; and it is further

**ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED** that each and all of the Defendants in this

action, and all persons claiming under them, or any or either of them, after the filing of such notice of pendency of action, be, and they hereby are forever barred and foreclosed of all right, title, claim, interest, lien and equity of redemption of, in and to the said mortgaged premises and each and every part thereof; and it is further

**ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED**, that in the event the person(s) occupying the said premises fail to refuse to quit the said premise upon production to them of the Referee's deed or deeds or a certified copy thereof, then, <sup>the purchaser may ~~not~~ apply to</sup> ~~upon proof of such failure or refusal to quit~~ the said premises, in the form of an affidavit from a person having personal knowledge of ~~the Court for a writ of assistance,~~ the circumstances, the sheriff shall evict such persons(s) forthwith, without any further application to this Court.

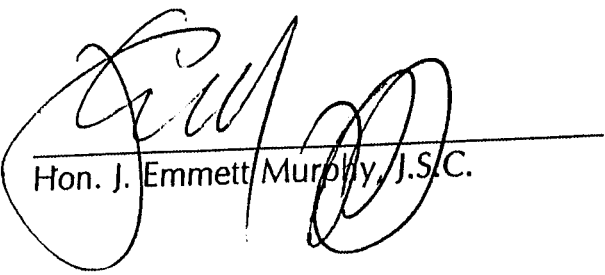
The following is a description of the said premises hereinbefore mentioned, and described in the complaint in this action:

See SCHEDULE "A" annexed hereto and made a part hereof.

Said premises being known as and by the street number: 400 Lakes Road, Monroe, New York 10950.

Dated: Goshen, New York  
April  
May 11, 1998

ENTER

  
Hon. J. Emmett Murphy, J.S.C.

Entered: MAY 19 1998

Joretta A. Just

ACTING DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK

MCIA\SMICEN.JPS  
0, 1998 1:26pm

Village of Monroe which I shall soon write about. First, however, I shall speak of another interest.

Had I not become interested in the electric company, I might well have become a real estate dealer and builder of houses. I have told you about my houses in Rockland County. Now I will tell you about my dealings in Monroe.

When we moved to Monroe, we rented a house on North Main Street. About 1907, I purchased my first land in the Village of Monroe, where my home is now located, consisting of about seven acres.

A few months thereafter I purchased an additional piece directly in back of my first purchase and which is located across the little lake from my house.

Later on I obtained the balance of the farm land on that side of the road consisting of about 25 acres and which is now known as Sunset Heights.

All of these three purchases were made from the Horace and Elizabeth Swezey farm. The surveying of this land and the building of a street up through it and on to the present Green Lake road or Lake Street was my first real estate venture here.

Where my present house stands was the pasture field for the cows on the Swezey farm. The considerable stone work that is on my property, including the stone house and the stone fence along the highway now known as Lake Street was from the stone fences on this Swezey farm. The dam that I have on my property is at the same location as a dam built many years before to impound water to operate a little wool carding mill further down the stream at a point about where the Ralph Morse Service Station is now located.

The sluiceway carrying the water supply from the dam to the little mill was where my road is located in back of my present water wheel adjacent to the dam. This sluiceway was filled in with stone and earth to make the present road.

My next real estate venture was about 1917 when the Swezey farm buildings and land were sold. This land extended from near Lake Street where Thompson's Restaurant is now located, up to and including where the blind home is located on High Street. On the

day of the auction of that property I went into the bank and told the President, Arthur Brooks, that I might be foolish and need some money that day because I expected to bid on the Swezey farm part. He said, "All right, go ahead, we have the money." I did purchase that property for about six thousand dollars and borrowed all except five hundred dollars.

That same day I put an ad in the local papers that the farm section would be laid out in building plots. I immediately employed the Fred Knight firm of surveyors who mapped the property and laid out the present McElroy Street, Knight Street and Orchard Street.

My contract in purchasing this land was to take title in thirty days. Before the thirty days were up, I had contracted to sell several parcels of land that was more than sufficient to pay for all that I purchased.

I moved the Swezey barn from its location just under the hill from Doctor Hoffman's to my land on the opposite side of the brook from my house and that Swezey barn is still there and being used.

My next purchase was the houses on Swezey Place, all on land that was part of this Swezey farm.

After this I bought the abandoned golf ground land on Spring Street where the old original Mapes house was located and is still standing. Adjacent are the ballfields for the grownups and also the fields for the Little Leagues. This land was purchased from several different owners and extends up to the top of Bald Hill and faces on Spring Street, Franklin Avenue and Forest Street and consists of about forty acres.

I am in the process of deeding part of this land to Monroe-Woodbury Youth Center as the site for a recreation building. The rest of it I am giving to the Village of Monroe for a park. This is cleared land and woods, low land and hills. There are plans afoot for a swimming pool here and eventually toboggan and ski runs.

## Kim Zahra

---

**From:** Ruba Lugo <rubalugo01@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 4, 2023 2:05 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** SAVE ROSCOE SMITH!

Please do not destroy this piece of history.

Thank you,

Ruba Lugo (Monroe resident)

## Kim Zahra

---

**From:** mleggett@frontiernet.net  
**Sent:** Monday, September 4, 2023 9:12 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** save roscoe smith!

To whom it may concern:

I would like to urge the Roscoe House not be allowed to be demolished. I know change is necessary but that house and what was beautiful surrounding property is a landmark; It is an important part of our past that should not be allowed to be demolished.

Please help us preserve our history by preventing the demolition of this house.

Thank you for your time.

Mary Beth Leggett

## Kim Zahra

---

**From:** E Steinman <equilter25@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 3, 2023 3:12 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** ROSCOE SMITH ESTATE

As a long time Monroe resident (since 1975) I am writing to the village board to voice my support for saving the iconic Roscoe Smith estate. We must save our village from overdevelopment and ensure that we preserve this property for all of us to enjoy as an historic site and green space. We must not forget the history of this beautiful place and lose it for future generations in Monroe. Our descendants will never forgive us if we allow the Roscoe Smith estate to be destroyed.

Sincerely,  
Eda Steinman  
204 Pine Tree Road

Sent from my iPhone

## Kim Zahra

---

**From:** Penny <pennydemartin@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 3, 2023 9:58 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Cc:** Glenn De Martin  
**Subject:** Rosco Smith Estate

Monroe Town Board

In reference to the Rosco Smith Estate, I feel that it would be an incredible injustice to let this magnificent part of Monroe's history be demolished. Perhaps it could be restored to its full beauty (lands and other structures also) by The National Historic Preservation Society. The entire community could use this as a historic education site. We all could learn a lot from the past. Once gone it will be gone forever. That would be so unfortunate.

If this property is lost it will inevitably become another development. That would be a disaster for the area. It would create an absolute traffic nightmare. This would only add to the untenable traffic and ultimately be very dangerous.

Thank you

Penny De Martin

(a long time Monroe resident)

## Kim Zahra

---

**From:** Glenn De Martin <glenn demartin@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 3, 2023 10:42 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** Re: Rosco Smith Estate

Monroe Town Board,

In reference to the Rosco Smith Estate, I feel that it would be an incredible injustice to let this magnificent part of Monroe's history be destroyed. It should be restored to its full beauty including the land and all other out structures by The National Historic Preservation Society. The entire community could use this as an historic education site. We all could learn a lot from its past. Once gone it will be gone forever. That would be so very unfortunate.

If this property is lost to the wrong type of people, it will inevitably become another ridiculous encroachment on this area. This would be a disaster for the area as you know, by observation. It would also create an absolute traffic nightmare by adding to the traffic congestion and ultimately be very dangerous for all trying to drive in the area.

History should be preserved and not sold to the highest bidder for the sake of future expansion encroachment projects. Do what is right.

Thank you,

Glenn De Martin  
(a long time Monroe resident)

## Kim Zahra

---

**From:** The Village of Monroe NY <clerk@villageofmonroe.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 2, 2023 3:49 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra; Mayor Dwyer; jack\_adkins@optonline.net  
**Subject:** New submission from Contact The Village of Monroe NY

This is what was submitted:

**Name**

JACK ADKINS

**Address**

204 PINE TREE ROAD  
MONROE, New York 10950  
United States  
[Map It](#)

**Phone**

(845) 782-0888

**Email**

[jack\\_adkins@optonline.net](mailto:jack_adkins@optonline.net)

**I have a question regarding**

- Other

**Comment/ Question**

Everyday I drive by the Oscar Smith property on Lakes Road, and it reminds me of the Village of Monroes' rich historical heritage. I would hate to see that building destroyed.

Every effort should be made to preserve all of Monroe's history, and the Villages' historical structures. The Village government should move to ensure that this historical property is preserved and restored.

This is one of the reasons why we pay taxes.

And additionally, we do not want the Village to continue to sell off properties and acreage piecemeal so that developers can build and make profits for themselves, while we residents receive no benefit. This includes our dwindling forests and wetlands, which are an important aspect of our village and town, and they need to be preserved as well.

## Kim Zahra

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**From:** Jack Adkins <jack\_adkins@optonline.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 2, 2023 3:55 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** in re: The Roscoe Smith Estate property

*\* please note: I sent this email through the Villages' web page. I just want to be sure it gets to the right individuals in the village government. Thank you.*

Everyday I drive by the Oscar Smith property on Lakes Road, and it reminds me of the Village of Monroes' rich historical heritage. I would hate to see that building destroyed.

Every effort should be made to preserve all of Monroe's history, and the Villages' historical structures. The Village government should move to ensure that this historical property is preserved and restored.

This is one of the reasons why we pay taxes.

And additionally, we do not want the Village to continue to sell off properties and acreage piecemeal so that developers can build and make profits for themselves, while we residents receive no benefit. This includes our dwindling forests and wetlands, which are an important aspect of our village and town, and they need to be preserved as well.

Thank you again for your time and consideration,

Jack Adkins  
204 Pine Tree Road  
Monroe, NY 10950  
(845) 782-0888

## Kim Zahra

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**From:** Linda McGurk <dink11@optonline.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 31, 2023 7:29 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** Roscoe Smith Estate

I am writing to you as a long time homeowner in Monroe. I am sadly seeing the negative changes in our beautiful area in the Hudson Valley.

The Roscoe Smith Estate is a natural rolling green piece of land. Please do everything in your power to keep it that way! Do not let a subdivision be built there. Monroe should have this as an open area. I see the strings surrounding it already. It will not be pretty . We are losing our beautiful Monroe bit by bit..

Save Roscoe Smith Estate !!

Thank you

Linda A McGurk

Sent from my iPhone

## Kim Zahra

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**From:** Crystal <csoveroski@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 31, 2023 11:09 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** Save Roscoe Smith

Hello, I am writing in regards to preserving the Roscoe smith property. We have lived in Monroe for about 7 years. This property was one of the first historic sites I noticed when we moved here and became instantly drawn to it. Being a commuter I would day dream about all the possibilities of bringing it back to life.

When I drove past it over the last couple months and saw construction vehicles I knew something bad was happening. And when I saw that first bridge town down, I literally shed a tear. Please please please let's figure out a way to preserve this property.

Sincerely,  
Crystal Soveroski  
Monroe resident. Can provide more info if needed.

Crystal Soveroski  
IATSE 798 Makeup Artist  
notjustfaces@yahoo.com  
443.615.1188

Makeup Artist/ fx artist/ face & body painter [make-upbycrystal.com](http://make-upbycrystal.com) [notjustfaces.biz](http://notjustfaces.biz)

## Kim Zahra

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**From:** margo <margo.bayroff@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 7:24 AM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** Roscoe Estate should be saved

I am writing in support of preserving the Roscoe Estate. This fabulous piece of Monroe history should not be destroyed. Please save it!

Thank you  
Margo Bayroff  
24 Eagle Street  
Monroe NY 10950

## Kim Zahra

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**From:** Jeanne Williams <jeannewilliams62@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 31, 2023 3:07 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** Roscoe Smith estate is historic property and should remain part of Monroe and not subdivided and developed

Sent from my iPhone

## Kim Zahra

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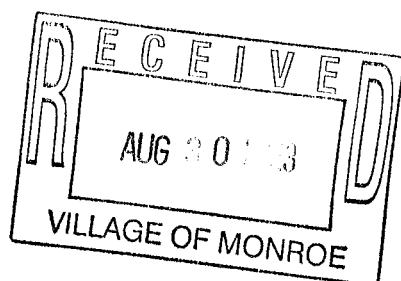
**From:** Rebecca Black <rebeccaroxanne@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:50 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Cc:** Preserve Monroe  
**Subject:** Roscoe Smith Estate - public comment

Dear Village of Monroe -

I am a resident of the Town of Monroe but the small town feel of the Village, including the older and historic buildings such as Roscoe Smith Estate, were a large factor in our decision five years ago to invest here and raise our family here. While I do not favor eminent domain from a blanket perspective, I think that preserving the Roscoe Smith Estate is one of the precise instances in which I support eminent domain. Preserving this property is important to preserve and respect the history of Monroe, as well as continue to protect the investment of the homeowners who have lived here and prevent developers from destroying our historic locations and green space with high density housing that conflicts with the character of Monroe.

In short, I would like to register my support the Village's purchase of the Roscoe Smith Estate.

Sincerely,  
Rebecca Black  
95 Hawxhurst Rd.  
Monroe NY



**Kim Zahra**

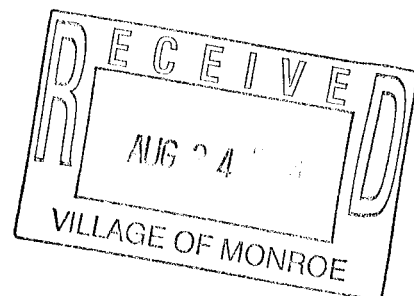
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**From:** fbc3@optimum.net fbc3@optimum.net <fbc3@optimum.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2023 11:16 AM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** Fwd: Roscoe Smith Property  
**Attachments:** Rosco Smith Memo 001.jpg; Roscoe Smith 001.jpg

Good morning, I would like to have my letter entered for comments to the public hearing that was held for the Village of Monroe acquiring the Roscoe Smith property.

Thank You,

Fred Cocks



To: Village of Monroe Mayor and Trustees  
Date: August 25, 2023  
RE: Roscoe Smith Eminent Domain action

I submit this memo in accordance with the public hearing held on August 15, 2023 and in opposition to the Village's eminent domain proceedings against the owners of 47 Lakes Road, the Roscoe Smith Estate.

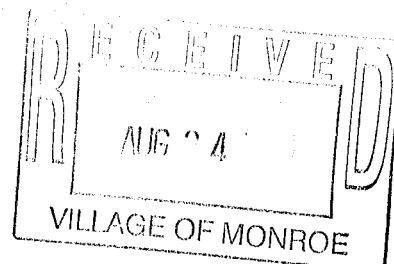
I have been a resident and tax payer of the Village of Monroe for over 60 years. I also was a member of the Village Planning board for over 20 years, nearly 10 of those years at which the Bridges at Lake Parc Subdivision (47 Lakes Road) appeared. For a decade I watched as the Village failed at attempts of acquiring this property through eminent domain, and through several lawsuits, and the whole time the applicant/owner of the property always said the Village can have the Roscoe Smith house, the lot surrounding the house and the lot surrounding the pond at no charge. They even offered to pay the Village \$50,000 towards renovations of the house, which was not in such a deteriorated state as it is now. The applicant/owner never wavered in their offer. This offer was in lieu of the required parkland fees for the subdivision application.

In 2014 the subdivision application was reaching a point where the Village needed to make a decision as to whether or not they were taking the house and land. The Mayor along with Board of Trustees at that time, which you, Mayor Dwyer were a part of, did their due diligence and hired an architect to come up with a cost of renovation of the house. I recall the cost was a few million dollars and at that time the Village Board, including Neil Dwyer, agreed unanimously to NOT take the house as it was too much of a cost burden for Village taxpayers. Also, not taking the house would mean the owner would pay the parkland fees to the Village which were approximately \$150,000 which the Village could use for parks.

Two years later in 2016 Trustee Dwyer changed his mind and decided he now wanted the house. The Village Board told then Trustee Dwyer to put together a plan including funding, contractors, use of the building and property, etc. Trustee Dwyer never followed through.

Today I am frustrated to see this Village Board acting so irresponsibly. I watched the video of the 8/15 public hearing and at no time did I hear any details about how the Village is going to pay for taking this property, or what the Village is going to do with the property, no timelines, no plan, and I fear the Village taxpayers are going to be stuck footing this very large bill.

Mr. Haspell very clearly spelled out that a requirement of eminent domain law is to inform the public of the costs that will be involved. The Village has to pay fair market value for this property. That doesn't include the costs of renovations to the house. Mr. Haspell said it would cost the Village at least \$6 million dollars.

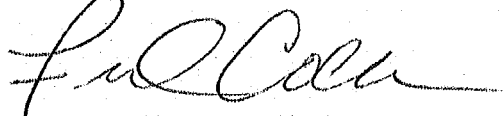


The following are my questions:

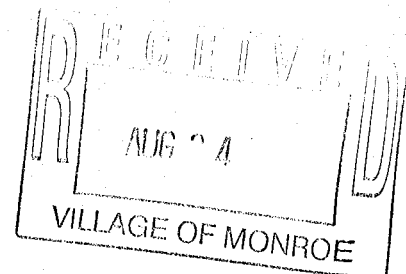
1. Where is the Village getting this money from?
2. Have the taxpayers been asked if they want to fund this? With a total Village budget of \$11 million that would increase tax payers costs by at least half if not more.
3. What other avenues has the Village pursued? The public needs to know especially if this board wants to dump a huge tax burden on us!
4. Will there be a referendum? Do we taxpayers get to vote on this?
5. Has the board weighed the idea of taking the house and pond but allowing the subdivision to finish at the planning board? There would be ratables for the Village which would help in the financial burden of renovating the extremely dilapidated Roscoe Smith house.
6. I saw nothing at the public hearing showing me any research or plan done by the Village Board. No options. What is the board's plan? How long will the renovation take? Who will do the work? What are those costs going to be?
7. What about future costs for maintaining this property? How much is the Village already spending in legal fees for this?
8. What will the use be?
9. What about the dam? There are cost issues with the dam if it remains. I suggest you speak to Lanc & Tully about that.

This feels like another irrational move by the Village Board to take this property for the 3rd time. It makes no sense to me when the property with the house has continuously been offered for free. I have no issue with trying to preserve history, but at what cost, and can we even afford it? In the end, I see this Village Board spending several million dollars with no plan on how to pay for it and DO NOT want this huge cost falling on the backs of the taxpayers. This is not fiscally responsible. The taxes in this area are high enough.

Fred Cocks



90 lakes Road, Monroe, NY 10950  
(845) 783-9309



## Kim Zahra

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**From:** Janet Presser <oriannas@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2023 8:43 AM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** Fwd: Smith Property Monroe

>  
> Hi,  
> I am one of the many pleading for this once gorgeous property on Lakes Road to be saved.  
> I started coming to Monroe only for the summers with my parents and siblings in 1964. We lived in Orchard Hill Estates. Before the Medical Arts building replaced those wonderful summer cottages.  
> There was nothing more beautiful or welcoming than driving past the Smith property to go to Center Hill Road. This property when in its glory just exuded warmth and welcoming.  
> I used to use it as cut through to get to town. Grandma Smith caught my friend and I one day. Instead of getting mad, she invited us in. I will never forget how gracious she was and so glad we didn't get in trouble.  
> I can't imagine there isn't a great way to restore this land and the house. Sad one of the bridges collapsed and the waterwheel is not running. It is a travesty.  
> Please consider the great ideas people of this wonderful town have suggested.  
> I am moving away next month after living up here permanently since 1985 and summers since 1964. Have paid many high taxes into this town, as have others, to just have a few self serving people do the wrong thing in my perception.  
> Smith Farms is another eye soar, and again, the Village/town sold us out. No regulation on green space. It is just gross. I know you all agree, but for some reason, it miraculously got approved. Makes one wonder.  
> Please make the right choices and decision going forward for Monroe and its current residents and future ones. You all see how this once little hamlet is now getting destroyed daily. Be part of the solution as you have the power.  
  
> Warmly,  
> Janet Presser  
>  
> Sent from my iPad

## Kim Zahra

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**From:** holdridge <holdridge@optonline.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:49 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** Roscoe Smith House

To whom it concerns,

I am writing this email to voice my concerns regarding the destruction of the Roscoe Smith house. I have lived in Monroe for 52 years and pass by this property everyday coming and going from my house. It was always a beautiful house and property. To destroy this would be a travesty! The village of Monroe must save the Roscoe Smith house! It shouldn't even be a question! Not everything has to change, some things are timeless, as is our history of a town. Please reclaim this property and do right by it and the people of Monroe and their memories!

Sincerely,

Marian Holdridge

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

## Kim Zahra

---

**From:** joanne@drgregoryfreed.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 3:20 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** Roscoe Smith Estate

Dear Village of Monroe,

I am writing to voice my support for saving The once was beautiful Roscoe Smith Estate.

Not only is it rich with history it is the cornerstone of the Village.

Please do whatever is in your power to SAVE This Property...

Thank You,  
Joanne Tietjen & family

## Kim Zahra

---

**From:** Clayton Smith <68gamecock@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 10:55 AM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** Roscoe Smith Estate

I guess I have a selfish interest in this property as it belonged to my grandfather, Roscoe Smith.

I do not know all the history of the property since it was sold after my father, Leland, passed away.

I understand now that the Village of Monroe may have the opportunity to reclaim the property through eminent domain. If that is correct, I wholeheartedly agree with doing so.

It seems like an unfortunate change of events has let this property deteriorate to its present condition. While the house itself may not be worth saving, it would make an ideal park for people to enjoy. The back parcels could be sold off for residential use.

I hope the village finally does something.

Clayton Smith  
Garden Valley, Idaho

## Kim Zahra

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**From:** Dan Burke <danjburke@optonline.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 1:04 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** Roscoe Smith Estate

Save it!

The people of Monroe have a special affection for that home and property. We can always make the financials work.

Ten years ago, the Monroe Theater was up for auction to the highest bidder. The Town bought it, renovated it and reopened it. The theater is a vibrant center in the Village of Monroe to this day.

Dan Burke

## Kim Zahra

---

**From:** Christine O'Brien <o'brien711@optonline.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 10:28 AM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** Roscoe Smith Estate

Good Morning,

I wanted to send an email in the hopes of supporting the restoration of the beautiful Roscoe Smith Estate and declaring it a historical landmark of Monroe. I have been a resident here in Monroe all of my life. I have driven past the property for the last 48 years. As a kid, I remember watching the windmill push the stream to the waterfall and I loved to admire the bridges and beautiful home. Later on I remember a wedding taking place on the property and was so happy that the land was being cleaned up. It is a shame the condition that the property is in. I feel the estate really needs to be restored and preserved as there is so much history attached to the property.

It is very sad to think that this beautiful piece of property will be demolished. Recently, I've watched the bridge and two buildings come down already. Our beautiful town of Monroe has is being leveled and massive apartment buildings have erected instead. So many friends and neighbors have moved away. It's hard to live in a town where everybody is waiting to get out. I grew up here and have raised my kids here. Sadly, we say the same...the town has just changed so much.

I am hoping that the town can reconsider and preserve what little history we have left.

Thank you for your time.

Warm Regards,  
Christine O'Brien

**Kim Zahra**

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**From:** melissa mendelson <mendelson77@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 10:04 AM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** SAVE ROSCOE SMITH!  
**Attachments:** Letter to the Clerk - Roscoe Smith Estate.docx

The history of the Town and Village of Monroe is on the brink of extinction, only to be rebuilt not in a future image that would benefit all but a narrow view to only support some. That narrowing has already begun, pushing out those that do not fit between the lines, and it is heartbreaking that we can no longer call Monroe, Home. Now, sight is set upon the Roscoe Smith Estate. Once removed, Monroe will shift, but not in the way that we would want. We will no longer recognize what is to come...

Unless we realize that we have set course upon a direction that would far remove us from what we once knew, the trees, nature, the countryside. Imagine all gone. Imagine all wiped out...

Unless we act and make the Roscoe Smith Estate an Eminent Domain.

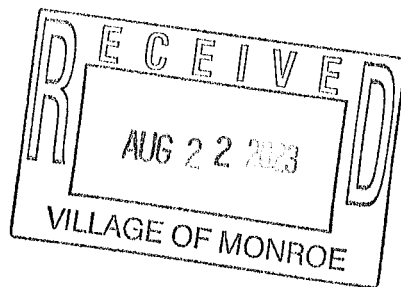
Melissa R. Mendelson

The history of the Town and Village of Monroe is on the brink of extinction, only to be rebuilt not in a future image that would benefit all but a narrow view to only support some. That narrowing has already begun, pushing out those that do not fit between the lines, and it is heartbreaking that we can no longer call Monroe, Home. Now, sight is set upon the Roscoe Smith Estate. Once removed, Monroe will shift, but not in the way that we would want. We will no longer recognize what is to come...

Unless we realize that we have set course upon a direction that would far remove us from what we once knew, the trees, nature, the countryside. Imagine all gone. Imagine all wiped out...

Unless we act and make the Roscoe Smith Estate an Eminent Domain.

Melissa R. Mendelson



## Kim Zahra

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**From:** Breanna <breannavandyk@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 21, 2023 10:07 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** Roscoe Smith Estate

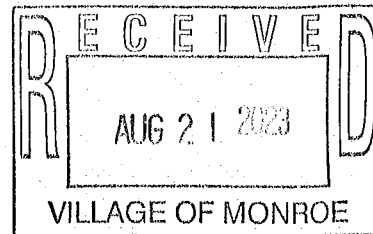
Hello,

I am reaching out in regards to a post I saw in Monroe matters regarding the Roscoe Smith Estate. I was born and raised in Monroe and grew up as a little girl admiring that property over the years. Monroe has changed so much, and not for the better. Why can't we just leave land alone? Why does everything have to be so built up. This land should be historical to Monroe due to the meaning behind it. We shouldn't let "people" take over and do what they want. The town is being destroyed and everyone is just sitting back and watching it happen. Save this land. Stop letting them build on every open property. Leave the trees and the wild animals alone. Let them have a place to live. I fully support saving this property and do not agree that it should be given over for a chunk of money.

Thank you.

**Avrohom Y Flohr**

283 Spring Street  
Monroe NY 10950  
(845) 222-2522



Dear Board of Trustees & Hon. Mayor, & to who this may concern,

As a resident and Tax Payor of this Village, I would like to comment on the proposed Eminent Domain of 47 Lakes Rd. with great respect to this Mayor's desire to preserve this as a historical site, and with respect to any party or individuals with hobbies of old structures as our Hon. Roscoe Smith always had and laid them out on his special designated Museum village property.

Before I will personally comment what I think is right, I would like to clarify and request from this board not to make such decision without taking the people's concerns seriously and considerably and not to impose any unwanted which is the opposition of the purpose of a public hearing, especially on such sensitive topic of acquiring the most expensive piece of land in this village, which if successful, the cost will automatically fall on all tax payers and residents of this village, therefore public concerns and opinion should all be seriously considered since we the public are your proposed sponsors of such project

My personal opinion after attending prior meeting by proposing some 26 pages of almost impossible laws to preserve history, which the only property explicitly outlined to be included explicitly was the Roscoe Smith house & property, I was wondering the honor this Village gave this property owners by explicitly include the entire land, I was also aware of Mr. Haspel's clarification to this board that his property isn't in a preservable condition, somehow this proposed law failed and now a new idea of preserving came up by preserving such house by eminent domain.

With all respect to anyone who desires to preserve individual owned property, the concept of preserving history is not a public use – meaning that no public will benefit if such preserving, preserving such property is a desire and matter of taste and not a actual public use, I have no doubts that the main purpose such acquisition is to stop development, which isn't something we can benefit, and even if in your opinion you would like to consider the concept of preserving history as a public use? Why is a 19+ acre parcel required, for just one small house sitting on it, those maintenance will fall on us, Also did u actually compare how many interest the public has in 400 Stage Road which is village owned and contributes older and richer history and for a while this is owned by this village and besides this being off the tax roll no one ever had any gain out of it, I think in the scope of public interest you should look on what you currently have and make a fair comparison before determining if this is a need for the public.

At the Notice of public hearing it also stated that this village is proposing a park on the entire land. My take on is that this is just a other way to make your way in to acquire this property and stop development, my question and concerns are as follow, was there any public request for a 3th park of some 19 acres sitting in just one square mile? As one of the nicest places of this region a village full of parks it is really hard to believe that anyone ever requested or complained about a lack of parks in this area,

Despite the fact that this property location is completely different then all other existing park properties currently in this village, carne park sits at Rt. 17 M which plenty of municipal parking lots with parking allowance throughout almost one entire side of the lake which makes it easy and it's auto and pedestrian

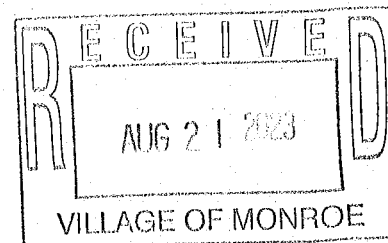
Accessible, the same with Smith Clove which sits at a main intersection and in a mixed use area? but how this property is laid it is clearly just not public use-friendly by nature, and also to consider that this property is surrounded with just residential neighbors, and now this board is proposing something not in compliance with your own village code, it clearly appears as a un-fair act and a wide abuse of power. .

I don't think any resident or tax payer wishes to see any increase in taxes in result of such useless act, and I would personally like to see something positive for the residents as to lower our taxes by adding more to the tax roll, save us money with stopping unreasonable unnecessary litigations and proposals of unequal un-adoptable laws ,and to see this village using our money to improve what we already have, we have many streets in need of sidewalks and in need of other safety precautions for our beloved kids and grand kids who are being happily raised in this village. Every tax payer needs something in return and every tax payer deserves it and has the same intention of having public property well maintained and this is the reason we actually share those expenses.

I do have kids and grand kids residing in this village and I feel as a responsible father to do the best of my ability to ensure that me and my family are living in a welcoming municipality and with a vision of the future, and I do wish to reside near my beloved kids as you would all wish, with such act of disposing a proposed development site sitting for years in planing board in order to Build this village and , which such development should have been a relief to this villages housing crisis and to Lower taxes by generating new income from new construction fees and additional tax payments to this village.

I'm asking this board to consider my letter, as I will personally be affected of any tax increase, I'm am one of the high tax payers in this village on multiple sites including my primary residents, such increase is extremely unnecessarily and will just impact hardly my annual income, and will make investors forced to raise rents, i'm sure many other residents aren't informed of such action, who wouldn't think the same, therefore I request this board to be more sensitive on your own, on how to spend our tax money properly and fairly and for the the public interests.

Aug 2 2023



Dear board

In re: smith property acquisition,

I do understand that such act will impact us tax payers and voters,

400 Stage is historical and village owned and besides this being off the tax roll, and costing non stop, no one have ever had any use out of it at all,

It looks like you are acquiring land to preserve history, such 19+ acer of land is not suitable in market value to be payed for by the village, something which will truly affect us.

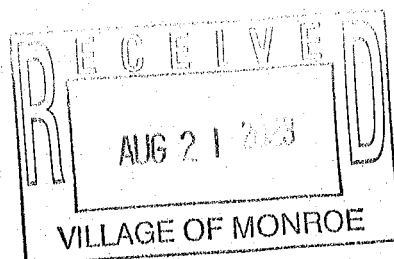
I recently heated that this village has been spending the past 20+ years thousands of dollars for legal fees and had come up with nothing besides unnecessary ligations and a obvious inconsistencies and misunderstandings between your own government departments.

But this current proposed action on tax payers money and you negligent intention must be recognized for the record.

I do ask you to reconsider

8/14/23

Leah Flohr  
283 spring st



## Kim Zahra

---

**From:** B.J. Mendelson <brandon@brandonmendelson.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2023 4:14 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** Re: Submission for Public Comment, Revised

Hi Kim,

Thank you. See below.

\*\*\*

I have lived in the town of Monroe since 1988. The treatment of the Roscoe Smith property by its current owner is absolutely inexcusable.

This is a historic property that can be preserved and utilized as both a village and town visitor center, as well as a public park for all Monroe residents.

I urge the village to use all actions, including lawsuits and legal actions against the current property owner, to hold them responsible and ensure they are following the same rules and laws as the rest of us.

I am also urging the villain to use eminent domain to take the property and give it back to the people of the town and village so that it can be enjoyed by future generations to come.

-BJ Mendelson

On Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 3:25 PM Kim Zahra <clerk@villageofmonroe.org> wrote:

>

> Please reread what you have written in the last line.

>

>

> Thank you,

>

> Kim Zahra | Village Clerk | Village of Monroe

> 7 Stage Road Monroe, NY 10950

> (P) 845-782-8341 ext. 121 | (F) 845-782-3006 [www.villageofmonroe.org](http://www.villageofmonroe.org)

>

>

>

> This communication may contain confidential information and is intended only for the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. Any review, dissemination, or copying of this communication by anyone other than the intended recipient is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender and destroy all the original message copies. No responsibility is accepted by the Village of Monroe, NY government for any loss or damage arising in any way from receiving this communication.

>

>

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: B.J. Mendelson <brandon@brandonmendelson.com>

> Sent: Friday, August 18, 2023 2:53 PM  
> To: Kim Zahra <clerk@villageofmonroe.org>  
> Subject: Submission for Public Comment, Revised  
>  
> Dear Ann,  
>  
> I have lived in the town of Monroe since 1988. The treatment of the Roscoe Smith property by its current owner is absolutely inexcusable.  
>  
> This is a historic property that can be preserved and utilized as both a village and town visitor center, as well as a public park for all Monroe residents.  
>  
> I urge the village to use all actions, including lawsuits and legal actions against the current property owner, to hold them responsible and ensure they are following the same rules and laws as the rest of us.  
>  
> I am also urging the villain to use eminent domain to take the property and give it back to the people of the town and village so that it can be enjoyed by future generations to come.  
>  
>  
>  
> -B.J.  
>  
> P.S. This email was sent by an actual human. For proof of humanity, you can text me at 646-331-8341

**Kim Zahra**

---

**From:** B.J. Mendelson <brandon@brandonmendelson.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2023 2:53 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** Submission for Public Comment, Revised

Dear Ann,

I have lived in the town of Monroe since 1988. The treatment of the Roscoe Smith property by its current owner is absolutely inexcusable.

This is a historic property that can be preserved and utilized as both a village and town visitor center, as well as a public park for all Monroe residents.

I urge the village to use all actions, including lawsuits and legal actions against the current property owner, to hold them responsible and ensure they are following the same rules and laws as the rest of us.

I am also urging the villain to use eminent domain to take the property and give it back to the people of the town and village so that it can be enjoyed by future generations to come.

-B.J.

P.S. This email was sent by an actual human. For proof of humanity, you can text me at 646-331-8341

**Kim Zahra**

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**From:** B.J. Mendelson <brandon@brandonmendelson.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2023 9:47 AM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** SAVE ROSCOE SMITH!

Dear Ann,

I have lived in the town of Monroe since 1988. The treatment of the Roscoe Smith property by its current owner is absolutely inexcusable.

This is a historic property that can be preserved and utilized as both a village and town visitor center, as well as a public park for village and town residents.

I urge the village to use all actions, including lawsuits and legal actions against the current property owner, to hold them responsible for filing the same rules and laws as the rest of us.

I am also urging the villain to use eminent domain to take back the property and give it back to the people of the town and village.

-B.J.

P.S. This email was sent by an actual human. For proof of humanity, you can text me at 646-331-8341

**Kim Zahra**

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**From:** Richard Mendelson <rmendel2@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2023 4:21 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** Roscoe Smith House

I recently became aware of the beginnings of demolition on that property. It is a landmark in our town that has been long neglected by the village. I think the village is obligated to preserve the property and prevent either a current owner or outside groups from destroying what could be beautiful parkland and a visitor center for our community

Mr. Richard Mendelson

## Kim Zahra

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**From:** Mike Endrizzi <mmmend@frontiernet.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 12:48 PM  
**To:** Kim Zahra  
**Subject:** SAVE Roscoe Smith House  
  
**Importance:** High

I am writing on behalf of my family of seven that opposes the demolition of the once beautiful historic Roscoe Smith House on Lakes Road. As official public comment.

My family have been residents of the Town of Monroe since 1997, my parents and brother lived here even longer than that.

Our first Christmas card in fact was of our son at the age of 5 standing with that beautiful water wheel in the background,

it highlighted how once NYC residents moved to this region of lakes and "country" life. Looking at the changes of our community and how it has changed over the years is just heartbreaking to say the least.

The history behind what makes our Village/Town Monroe is because of Roscoe Smith, to allow this house and property to deteriorate by this current owner is just plain criminal. Fines should have been imposed long ago out of safety concerns and property hazards let alone allowing a house to fall apart right before our eyes. Because he had this plan when he bought it, let it fall apart and knock it down when he needs it.

This house sits at the gateway of our community the waterwheel is part of every symbol identifying Monroe. It boggles my mind that past Mayors and officials of this Village/Town had given up the opportunity to purchase this house and property long ago after the previous owner passed away. The current owner obviously only cares about getting his easement in order to build his proposed development which would change the small town feel of our beautiful village. For this current owner to refuse the village access for inspection and for him to remove the historic eligibility of this house from the registry is showing you he cares nothing about being a steward of this land or community. Please, I implore you to do all that is necessary to purchase, preserve and protect this gateway into Monroe. If this house is purchased by the village I\* commit to personally help with fundraising and being a committee member to help preserve this location.

Thank you in advance in doing what needs to be done to preserve the Roscoe Smith House

Maria Endrizzi \*

Michael Endrizzi

Matthew Endrizzi

Christopher Endrizzi

Andrea Volpe

Stephanie Snitofsky

5 Belmont Drive

Monroe, N.Y. 10950