From:	Sylvia Martinez
To:	Liesl Barker
Subject:	FY 25 Budget
Date:	Tuesday, April 30, 2024 14:55:25

Gustavus City Council

Thank you all for the opportunity to attend the budget meeting last week. I appreciate how Ben explained the way he formulated the budget. I just want to say that having a short fall of $17,000.00 is pretty good. I expect that you will be able to make this up as the year goes on. I am very pleased with what the city is able to do with the monies generated. As you may know my background is in managing budgets for a bureaucracy, so when I see what you are working with, I don't see it as a business. I recognize that this is not a popular sentiment, especially with many people coming from a business background. Let me assure you I would not be comfortable running my household or a business at a large deficit. Municipalities are different and I encourage you to try to see that perspective as you continue serving as our city council.

On an another note. I am disappointed that the Library got beat up a little. I want to let you know that as a volunteer with the Library it is my pleasure to support LeAnn and Melissa in all of their programs that they bring to the community. The library is a bright spot in our community and truly serves everyone equally. Having said that, keeping it available too all will only be accomplished by the two hard working staff members and us volunteers. Keep supporting the Library, we do not want to be a community that loses its soul and joy!

Sincerely,
Gus and Sylvia Martinez