

**VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE
WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

(Official Minutes)

Finance Committee Meeting

September 16, 2010

The Finance Committee meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm on Thursday, September 16, 2010 by Village Clerk Dennis Martin.

Members Present: Lou Loenneke, Arlene Patek, Rick McCue, Jim Feeney, Michael Sheyker

Members Absent: Trustee Kenny, Drew Gilchrist

Also Present: Greg Blizzard, Joe Corso, Administrator/Treasurer Kelly Hayden, Rescue Squad Chief Jon Kemmett, Village Clerk Dennis Martin, Trustee Micki O'Connell, Police Chief Steve Olson, Trustee Peg Pollitt, Trustee Cindy Wilson

Elect Chairman Pro-Tem

Sheyker/Patek 2nd made a MOTION to elect Rick McCue as the chairman pro-tem for the meeting, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

General Business

2011 Budget Review for Police Department, Rescue Department & Park Commission

Chief Olson presented the preliminary budgets for the Safety Building and the Police Department. Olson stated that the line item for electricity has been reduced because of the new more efficient lighting system, and the Village may save on heating expenses if a zoned system is installed that allows the heat to be turned down in rooms when they are not occupied. If funds are available this year, Olson stated that the chiefs would like to have the parking lot and roof repaired; however, the parking lot project is the greater need of the two capital outlay items. Olson stated that the preliminary budget for the Police Department does not include any salary raises from last year; however, the union contract has to be renegotiated this year. Olson stated there are currently four fulltime, union police officers and the preliminary budget has two part-time officers and one community service officer. The department also has three fulltime nonunion employees. Hayden stated that the benefits for the Police Department were increased slightly because another fulltime officer has been married. Olson stated that three ballistic vests have to be purchased this year, but he anticipates 50 percent of the \$3,100 estimated cost will be reimbursed by a federal grant. Olson stated that the Protection Committee has recommended the purchase or lease of two new vehicles this year. Olson stated that the Police Department vehicles are wearing out and it is costing more each year for maintenance. Olson stated that he would like to sell the 2005 Ford Crown Victoria and the 2000 Ford Explorer and replace them with a new Ford Crown Victoria and a new Ford Expedition or Chevrolet Tahoe. Olson stated that the department uses the SUV in the winter months because of its four-wheel-drive capabilities. Olson stated that the equipment from the 2005 Ford Crown Victoria can be transferred to the new Crown Victoria; however, this is the last year that Ford is making the Crown Victoria models. Olson stated that the Taurus is the model for "squad" cars that Ford will begin making for the next model year. McCue stated that the new Taurus reportedly will have a V-6 engine and four-wheel drive, so there would be no need for the department to have a SUV. Olson stated that the department can probably sell the two old vehicles for a total of \$7,000. Olson stated that some village officials have talked about leasing vehicles instead of purchasing them new, and Ford does have a lease program. Olson stated that the Protection Committee decided to plug in \$23,522 for the education expense line item to make the Finance Committee members aware of the potential future expenses. Olson stated that Officers Derrick Goetsch and Aaron West are pursuing bachelor's degrees and the total figure is the amount that the Village will have to reimburse over the next several years,

according to the terms of the union contract. The union contract states that the Village will eventually reimburse the officers for the educational expenses, but if the funds can't be allocated in one budget year, the Village can reimburse the officers in following years. Pollitt stated that the Protection Committee wanted to make sure the Finance Committee members were aware of the possible education expenses that could eventually be charged back to the village. Feeney stated that the Village should budget \$7,000 a year for the education expenses. Hayden stated that this year's budget only allocated \$4,000 for education reimbursement because Officer West initially indicated he was only going to be taking 2 or 3 credits worth of courses and he ended up taking 7 credits worth of courses. Hayden stated that West still has to submit his grades and course list. Olson stated that he will prepare a new automobile replacement schedule for the Police Department and Hayden will update the numbers in the year-to-date figures for the Police Department budget. Jon Kemmett then presented the preliminary Rescue Squad budget. Kemmett stated that a federal mandate will require the Fontana Rescue Squad to upgrade its radio system to narrow band, which will require the purchase of 20 new pagers at \$450 each and 12 new portable radios at \$525 each. Kemmett stated that the Rescue Squad could use funds it receives from the state (ACT 102) to cover some of the expense; however, the department does not want to deplete the entire savings account because it also is used for school and conference expenses, training equipment and other emergency medical service equipment. Kemmett stated that with these purchases and other needed items throughout the year, the Rescue Squad would potentially have very little left in the savings account from billing at the end of the year to cover the department's overage. Kemmett stated that the preliminary budget calls for an increase from \$15,000 to \$19,674. Last year the budget was cut \$4,674 with the idea that billing revenue could cover the difference. Kemmett stated that as of the second pay period for 2010, the department is currently \$4,234 over the budgeted \$15,000 and there are still two more pay periods along with the monthly payrolls to fund. Kemmett stated that at the end of 2009, the Rescue Squad had an overage of approximately \$16,000, which was paid back to the Village. Kemmett stated that it is anticipated that this year's overage will be much higher due to the budget cut. Kemmett stated that the Rescue Squad has a total of \$44,276 in unpaid bills, and \$28,170 of that amount is more than 180 days overdue. From the years 2005 through 2009, the Rescue Squad is owed a total of \$24,413, and for 2010 the total amount due is \$19,863. Kemmett stated that the Rescue Squad is enrolling in the state Tax Return Intercept Program in an effort to get some of the past due money collected, but since a lot of the bills are due from out-of-state residents, the squad may never receive much of the unpaid bills. The TRIP program intercepts money from state tax returns for unpaid bills. A lengthy discussion ensued on past due bills and the Rescue Squad's inability to collect payments, on the history of the Rescue Squad budget, and the worthless nature of the old pagers and radios. Park Commission Chairman Cindy Wilson presented the preliminary budget and stated that there are a few proposed increased from last year as well as a proposed list of capital projects, including some additional park maintenance items and some path work in the Hildebrand Nature Conservancy. During the discussion, it was realized that there is still money in this year's budget for the boardwalk project at the Hildebrand Nature Conservancy. Wilson stated that the Park Commission is recommending the hiring of a green space manager in 2011 because it will decrease the burden on the Park Commission members and the Department of Public Works crew to make sure all the maintenance work is being completed on an annual basis. Wilson stated that the green space manager also could lead the many volunteers who assist the Park Commission with its maintenance of the Village parkland. Wilson stated that the Park Commission members would like to get in a position where they are just providing oversight on the Village parkland. The Park Commission preliminary budget calls for \$45,000 for total contracts, including Blackstone, the green space manager and Roy Diblik consulting; \$700 for the Easter egg hunt; \$200 for Arbor Day expenses; \$3,050 for general supplies; and \$10,000 for park maintenance projects. The \$5,000 proposed for the boardwalk project may still be available in this year's budget. Arlene Patek stated that she would like the Park Commission to take out all the

plantings in the medians on Fontana Boulevard because they grow too high and are a traffic safety risk. Patek stated that all the village medians should be grass with no extra plantings to obscure the vision of motorists and pedestrians. Greg Blizzard stated that he agrees with Patek and people can't see across the dangerous intersections on Fontana Boulevard. Wilson and Hayden stated that they will talk to Public Works Director Craig Workman, who will direct Blackstone to have the median plants cut down. Wilson stated that the Park Commission will look into reducing the median plantings next season.

Amend Budget Meeting Schedule

Hayden stated that Finance Committee Chairman Pat Kenny has had conflicts develop with the initial budget meeting schedule. Hayden stated that Kenny would like the committee members to consider rescheduling the September 30, 2010 meeting to Saturday, October 2, 2010 at 8:00 am, and also rescheduling the meeting planned for Thursday, October 14, 2010 to Thursday, October 7, 2010. Hayden stated that the next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 23, 2010 at which time a decision can be made on the budget meeting schedule.

Adjournment

Loenneke/Sheyker 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the finance committee meeting at 7:37 pm, and the motion carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Dennis L. Martin, village clerk

Note: These minutes are subject to further editing. Once approved by the Finance Committee, the official minutes will be kept on file at the Village Hall.

APPROVED: 9/30/10