

**PROCEEDINGS OF A SPECIAL/BUDGET MEETING
OF THE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

March 7th, 2024, at 12:00 PM

PRESENT:

Mayor: Alysa Plummer
Trustees: Lili Lanphear
Justin Leitgeb
David Marshall
Lisa Cove
Village Clerk: Dorothea M. Ciccarelli
Village Superintendent: Zack Bleier

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Mayor Plummer and seconded by Trustee Cove to call the meeting to order.

Vote: Plummer – yes, Lanphear – yes, Leitgeb – yes, Cove – yes, Marshall – yes. *Motion passed.*

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

Mayor Plummer asked the board if they had anything to disclose. The members stated they did not have any conflict of interest.

GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Plummer asked the Village Clerk to read an overview of the open meeting compliance certification.

MULTI-YEAR FINANCIAL AND CAPITAL PLAN

Trustee Marshall said he would prefer to increase taxes across the five years of the plan more consistently than having a minimal raising of taxes the first year and a significant increase in subsequent years.

Trustee Leitgeb asked for clarification as to why Superintendent Bleier was asking for both a new vehicle and new office space in the DPW loft. He stated that he did not understand why there would be a need to move employees away from the building while also giving those same employees more office space if staffing was not increased. Superintendent Bleier responded that both areas had been experiencing a major deficit for years. When one of the current vehicles would go down for maintenance, he could not move all employees across the village to reach job sites efficiently. The current DPW office space and loft lack proper OSHA-approved ventilation from diesel/gas fumes and soot, putting himself and other staff at risk. Also, the loft has no temperature control and could reach 100 degrees in the summer and close to freezing in the winter. Trustee Leitgeb then asked how it was possible that upgrading the loft would only cost \$20,000 while the DPW bathroom upgrades were predicted to cost \$250,000. Superintendent Bleier responded that he made an estimate based on the DPW crew and himself doing all the work in the loft area so they would not have to pay the prevailing wage.

GENERAL BUDGET REVIEW

Trustee Marshall wanted to remove the line for the additional vehicle from the budget because he felt the board would not consider the purchase unless the Climate Smart Plan grant covered the vehicle. He then wanted to add \$20,000 for ventilation and climate control of the loft to create suitable office space. Trustee Leitgeb stated that he did not feel comfortable agreeing to that because, in his estimation, the project would cost more if any sub-contracting was involved. Trustee Marshall suggested that if the project was more money, they could defer the work until the following year and move the budgeted \$20,000 to the DPW building reserves for the next year. If the work

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could be done for \$20,000, then the money would still be within the budget and available. Superintendent Bleier felt comfortable with that plan. Trustee Leitgeb also wanted the fencing around the DPW to be removed. Mayor Plummer stated that the hope had been to do the fencing in phases and have the DPW crew do some of the work themselves to put up a split-rail fence instead of a chain-link fence so a safety barrier could start to be created until more money can be budgeted for a more substantial fence. Trustee Lanphear wants signage from the arboretum posted with the fencing.

Trustee Leitgeb left the meeting at 1:04 PM.

The board wanted another meeting date set before the deadline for the tentative budget. The village clerk would send out date options to the trustees.

Trustee Lanphear asked if the AV upgrades to the meeting room were set in stone and questioned if they were necessary this budget year. Trustee Cove said she did not want to move forward with the upgrades now. Village Clerk Ciccarelli told the board that the funds for the AV meeting room upgrades were not affecting the budget as they were being paid through ARPA funds. Trustee Cove said she would rather use the ARPA funds for something else as she felt if people wanted to join the meetings, they could do so in person if the audio and video are subpar for online viewing. Mayor Plummer voiced concern, stating that some residents cannot physically attend the meetings in person and that it is important for all residents to have equal accessibility to the live meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Cove and seconded by Trustee Lanphear to adjourn at 1:25 PM.

Vote: Mayor Plummer – yes, Lanphear – yes, Leitgeb – absent, Cove – yes, Marshall – yes. *Motion passed.*

Laura Donk, Recording Secretary