



VILLAGE OF WILMETTE

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**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING OF THE
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF
WILMETTE HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2014 AT 6:00 P.M.
IN THE SECOND FLOOR TRAINING ROOM OF THE
VILLAGE HALL, 1200 WILMETTE AVENUE, WILMETTE, ILLINOIS.**

Members Present:

President Bob Bielinski
Trustees Carol Ducommun
Cameron Krueger
Alan Swanson
Julie Wolf

Absent:

Mike Basil
Ted McKenna

Staff Present:

Timothy Frenzer, Village Manager
Michael Braiman, Assistant Village Manager
John Prejzner, Assistant to the Village Manager
Melinda Molloy, Finance Director
Brian King, Police Chief
Peter Skiles, IT Director/Deputy Finance Director
Blythe Trilling, Assistant Finance Director
Brigitte Berger, Engineering Director
John Adler, Community Development Director
Guy Lam, Assistant Public Works Director
Scott Hilts, Project Manager
Mike McGreal, Deputy Fire Chief
Nabil Quafisheh, Water Plant Superintendent

I. Call to Order

President Bielinski called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

II. General Fund

Village Manager Timothy Frenzer said the proposed budget has been previously reviewed in detail. The goal of staff is that the proposed budget is consistent with the goals and expectations of the Village Board to balance the budget, minimize the impact on the property tax levy, meet contractual obligations and maintain or enhance Village services.

Finance Director Melinda Molloy reviewed the projections for the General Fund Revenues as presented in the report noting that the proposed budget is very conservative on the revenue side.

Mr. Frenzer said staff is continuing to drive down the rate of increase of the tax levy per the Village Board's direction and noted that the projected increase for 2015 is 3.35%, the smallest increase since 1997.

Assistant Village Manager Mike Braiman said the permit projections do not include any potential permit revenue from 611 Green Bay Road. From an expense side, he noted that wages and benefits account for 69% of the budget in 2015 which is down from 72% in 2014. Police and Fire pensions are down slightly from the estimated actuals. In the next few months a new actuary will review the pension funds and future pension contributions may have to be adjusted.

Mr. Braiman said operating expenses are going up \$300,000 but that includes our refuse contract increase of approximately \$90,000 and the increased cost of the State salt contract. Mr. Braiman said employee benefits continue to be at some of their lowest levels.

Mr. Braiman said staff is looking to the Village Board for direction regarding how to allocate the new Home Rule Sales Tax revenue. The Municipal Services Committee met and after discussion of the issue, they recommended issuing \$1.7 million in debt to repair all the failed alleys in 2016. The Finance Committee met to review the report and the Municipal Services Committee's recommendation. The Finance Committee is recommending that issuing no debt which would repair all failed alleys in 2017. Mr. Braiman said staff needs final direction from the Village Board as to issuing debt.

The Village Board discussed how to allocate the Home Rules Sales Tax revenue and reached a consensus that no new debt will be issued and all failed alleys will be repaired by 2017 rather than 2016.

Mr. Braiman reviewed the capital projects noting that five Police squad cars need to be replaced, which is more than what is typically replaced in

a given year. However, there is a backlog as they had been put off the past few years.

III. Water and Sewer Funds

Ms. Molloy presented the Sewer Fund operating funds noting that there is an increase which is being driven by the previously approved 40 cent rate increase approved for 2015 which is related to the sewer improvements.

Mr. Braiman summarized the Sewer Capital Program which includes the West Park Storage Project, Princeton Place Outfall, Manhole Rehabilitation, Sewer Lining, Sewer Main Repairs, Sewer Maintenance and Catch Basin Cleaner.

Mr. Frenzer said the Sewer Fund Reserve will continue to exceed recommended funding levels and there will be \$19.5 million in bond financed improvements in 2015.

Ms. Molloy reviewed summarized the Water Fund Cash Flows noting there will not be a residential increase in water rates in 2015 but she does have some concerns with the reserves going forward in 2016.

Mr. Braiman said from an expense standpoint, the major increase in the Water Fund is the addition of an Assistant Water Plant Superintendent. There will be \$320,000 allocated for Water Plant improvements and \$206,500 for distribution improvements.

John Prejzner, Assistant to the Village Manager, reviewed the Water and Sewer Rate survey noting the additional charges added on by neighboring communities to help fund various projects in their communities.

Ms. Molloy said the Parking Meter Fund Cash Flows project no fee increases projected through Fiscal Year 2016.

Mr. Braiman noted the schedule of the introduction and adoption of the 2015 Budget Ordinance and the Tax Levy Ordinance.

IV. Adjournment

Trustee Krueger moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m., seconded by Trustee Ducommun. There was no further discussion on the motion. All voted aye, the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Hirsch, Deputy Village Clerk