

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Finance Committee

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

7:00 a.m.

Village Board Room

Attendance

Committee Members:	
Timothy Nugent, Mayor	
Timothy Boyce, Trustee	X
Todd Crockett, Trustee	X
Diane Dole, Trustee (7:03am)	X
Joel Gesky, Trustee	X
Sam Martin, Trustee	X
Wendell Phillips, Trustee	X
Other attendees:	
Chris LaRocque, Village Admin	X
Jim Hanley, Supt. Of Public Works	X
Al Swinford, Chief of Police	X
Ryan Marion, Building Official	X
Sheila Martin, Treasurer	X
Jakob Knox, Community Relations Dir	X
Robin Batka, Village Clerk	
Darla Hurley, Deputy Village Clerk	X

Trustee Gesky called the meeting to order at 7:13 a.m.

A motion was made by Trustee Crockett, seconded by Trustee Dole, to approve the minutes of November 8, 2023, as written; motion carried by voice vote - all ayes, no nays.

Public Participation - None

Items for Discussion:

- **Paid Leave Act** – Mr. LaRocque stated that as of January 1st, the State of Illinois has enacted a new paid leave act that will affect all employees. This includes full-time employees (not under a current union contract), part-time, seasonal, and temporary employees. The new law states that for every 40 hours of work, the employee will receive 1 hour of paid time off. The maximum allowed to accrual is 40 hours. Our employee handbook needs to reflect this new policy; so, our village attorney has suggested the appropriate changes. The modifications will be approved at the next board meeting. Those employees under a current contract will not be affected until their contracts are renegotiated.
- **Insurance Renewal** – Mr. LaRocque stated that renewal premiums for Property, Liability and Worker’s Compensation insurance increased 11.52%. Mr. LaRocque stated that all major buildings within the village were appraised this past year. The cost of the appraisals was paid from the surplus the village has in IMIC. This increased our overall insured values by 21%. The increase was in line with the industry standards. Mr. LaRocque also presented a pie chart showing what the village has as a surplus for being a part of IMIC.
- **Broadband Access Proposal** – Mr. LaRocque was approached several years ago and again last month by Clearwave about installing fiber optic lines in the village. Mr. LaRocque stated that they want to put the line in the village right away, but the village does not have a policy in place for this type of work. Mr. LaRocque contacted our village engineer, Mr. Bruce Hill, with HR Green about developing a policy. Mr. Hill has presented a professional services agreement to develop the policy for \$24,900. The committee would like to

review the HR Green proposal and then consider it at the January committee meeting. Mr. LaRocque stated that allowing other companies to install lines could be a revenue source through fees. The franchise agreement with Comcast is not exclusive. Trustee Crockett would like to hear from other communities about their experience with Clearwave. Trustee Crockett stated that even if Clearwave does not come the village should have a right of way policy.

- **Property Tax Rebate – Final Numbers** – Mr. LaRocque presented a final recap for the property tax rebate program. There were 1,592 total applications received with a total rebate value of \$968,145.55. (*See attached sheet*).
- **Camera Rebate Update** – Mr. LaRocque stated that the village has received seventy-eight applications for camera rebates. The program ends 12/31/23. Trustee Gesky asked about offering an incentive to businesses to also obtain security cameras. Mr. Marion suggested that the board may want to consider requiring security cameras on the outside of a building that has a liquor license.
- **Project Cost Recaps** – Please see packet for updated spreadsheets. The village is awaiting final draw requests for the public works and police department projects.
- **Month End Financial Report** – Revenue remains steady. Most departments are at or below their budgets for this time of year.

Trustee Crockett exited the meeting at 7:51 a.m.

The police department had an expense of \$36,624.00 for body cameras that will be reimbursed by a grant, but their budget will look off due to that expense.

- **Misc:**
 - Trustee Gesky asked about the holes with large steel plates near the High School. Mr. Hanley stated that this is a project by Nicor concerning a gas line leak. Mr. Hanley will try to find out when they will be finished.

A motion by Trustee Martin and seconded by Trustee Boyce to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 a.m. Voice vote – all ayes.

Respectfully submitted by Darla Hurley, Deputy Village Clerk