

Finance Committee
Thursday, January 8, 2015
7:03 a.m.
Village Hall Conference Room

The following people were in attendance: Tim Boyce, Todd Crockett, Diane Dole, Joel Gesky, Donna Kiedaisch, Chris LaRocque, Tim Nugent, Brian O'Keefe, Wendell Phillips, Janice Schulteis, and Bernie Thompson.

2015-2016 Budget Calendar

Janice handed out the Budget Action Calendar for FY 2015-2016 stating that we would be starting the budgeting process a little earlier this year, scheduling two committee of the whole meetings for opportunities for the public to ask questions. Residents will be able to attend, receive a packet and the budgeting process will be explained, including how the funds are distributed, giving us a chance for interesting feedback.

Janice also presented a handout entitled "Operating Budget", looking for feedback from committee members. This document, when finished, will be put on the website and available to the public, in language suitable for the public with no financial background. This document is in the beginning stages and when finished will need to meet qualifications of the Government Finance Officers Association, and presented to the Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program. Janice doesn't feel this will be ready for this year but feels it is a worthwhile project. She also stated there will be a TIF section to give residents good understanding of how it is run. She also presented some guidelines for putting the process in laymen's terms; she feels the first year will be labor-intensive, then each following year will just be updates of budget numbers.

TIF Priorities

Bernie handed out a list prioritizing potential future TIF projects and explained that the Village spent more this year than it actually took in, but that was possible because of the balance in the budget from previous years. He discussed the PD roof and the change from flat to a 1/12 pitch; the estimate for repair is much less than originally thought. The proposed estimate is \$100,000 for roof repair, repairing the sewer situation and water damaged walls in the building with the possibility of siding to frame around the windows on the south wall. The repair costs are TIF eligible. A new project on the list is the possibility of Second Street parking over the two purchased lots, however, no immediate action will be taken. Mayor Nugent invited any new ideas or additions to the list.

A question arose about the possibility of paying employees with TIF funds for work done in the TIF district, i.e. Christmas decorating, park maintenance, etc. It was stated that TIF funds may only be available for outside source work, not that done by employees; Janice will check the TIF statutes.

ComEd Grant/Rock Creek Estates Park/Windfield Estates Park

Bernie talked about applying for a grant from ComEd which could be up to \$10,000 with a 50% match and the directive that it needs to be used within 18 months. We could use it for a bike trail in Rock Creek Estates and also work that is needed in Windfield Park. Bernie will check to see if we apply and receive a grant for one area, could the use possibly be changed from the original application if we feel the need is greater in another area. Trustee Gesky asked about the possibility of joining Lester Estates to Windfield park area so that the park can be used by both subdivisions, maybe by extending the bike trail. Mayor Nugent feels it would be a good idea that could be addressed in five or so years to tie everything together.

Ideas to Attract Businesses to Downtown area

Staci Wilken has been asked to develop a brochure/video advertising Manteno, showing year-round events, with compilation accomplished over a 12-month period. Janice will check if this could possibly be eligible for TIF funding under advertising/public relations. It was also noted that our website needs to be updated with more interaction, more information, and making it more user friendly. The possibility of using Olivet/Governors' State students for

projects was mentioned. Trustee Dole asked about the industrial parking being included in the video even though it is not TIF eligible and it was stated that the brochure could include information for both TIF and non-TIF items.

Staci is to compile a list of available commercial sites with contact names, pictures of the sites, and size of space available. Some mentioned are Dollar General, Pizza Stone, Malone Travel, Fuse, etc. where businesses have moved from Main Street area; we need to find businesses to use those spaces. It was felt that a new business to occupy the Pizza Stone/Fireside location needs to be a well-known franchise to be able to make a go of it. A comment was made that it would be nice to come up with a program for TIF fund financial help to new businesses but then what do we do about existing businesses seeking financial aid? A meeting is scheduled with Chamber members for ideas to help increase business through advertising, façade' incentives, etc. It was also suggested that existing business need to come up with more promotional ideas to increase business, such as business lunch specials, etc. Tim suggested taking a drive through Tinley Park, New Lenox, etc. to get ideas for new business moving to the Village. Can we extend interest-free loans for extended periods of time without putting existing businesses in jeopardy by bringing another same-type business in the same area?

Mayor Nugent mentioned the possibility of a new business coming to Sycamore by Oak Ridge, a new business for the old Dollar General building, and two new Mexican restaurants in the downtown area. One restaurant specifically made the comment of wanting to be in the Main Street area because of the activities that take place there throughout the year.

Month-End Financial Report

Janice explained about the Debt Service fund and that it was developed at the auditor's request to keep funds for the GOB Series 2013 in an account of its own, to be used for the repayment of the golf course loan.

It was also mentioned that we should promote the Memorial Park pavers as gifts for funerals, memorials, etc. and that we would develop a certificate to purchase at Village Hall for this use. We will work in conjunction with funeral homes, churches, flower shops, etc. to promote the idea.

Miscellaneous

It was stated that Winnie's Café and laundromat in South Creek asked to be considered for a liquor license to sell package liquor in their location. Market research information is needed to make us sure that it would be profitable or possibly just a non-issue. The 6000 interchange is scheduled to start work in the spring. The Village has researched frontage road vehicle count to get an idea of traffic from the subdivision south to 6000 with the following results: CH9 & Frontage – 1,468 and Meadow Path – 1,998 on a particular day.

Bernie stated that there was no need at this time to adjourn to Executive Session. The Police Department is down one officer who was fired and he is now filing for arbitration. The issue is not ready for discussion at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Thursday, February 12, 2015, at 7:00 a.m. in the Village Hall conference room.

Donna Kiedaisch