

**Village Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes of March 29, 2011**

Present: Mayor Lee, Trustees Horylev, Speer, Gates and Lee
Village Manager Janet Surridge
Treasurer Maryalice Edwards
Village Clerk Shari Pearce
Superintendent Mike McHenry
Code Enforcement Officer Mike Lissow

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. by Mayor Joe Lee.

Employee Meeting

The Village Board and the employees met to discuss their wage proposal for fiscal year 2011-12. The Board explained the challenges we faced to balance the budget and not increase the tax rate. They commended all of the employees for their great performance and their safety record (which has earned us thousand of dollars in Worker's Compensation refunds). Trustee Gates stated that the board has appropriated a sum of money in the budget that's equal to a 2.2% increase for wages. It was noted this is not an across the board increase, wage increases will be given out based on employee evaluations and employee's wage brackets.

Proposed Budget 2011-12

Trustee Gates gave a few opening remarks about the budget and the strategies the team used to estimate revenue & expenses. The following discussion took place.

- DPW Trailer: Discussion took place on why this item was removed from the budget. Mr. McHenry stated the employees have asked for a trailer to help assist in loading and transporting equipment. Currently, the employees have to lift certain pieces of equipment into a pick up truck and the equipment can be very heavy. This would alleviate having the employees strain themselves. The board discussed and determined the trailer should be put back into the budget. They feel this is necessary for employee safety and do not want the employees to potentially hurt themselves. The cost of the trailer is \$3,200.00.
- Rent increase to Community Center: Trustee Horylev suggested a 1.5% rate increase to all tenants. After a general discussion, the board concluded to raise the rents for this budget year. The board noted they would rather increase rents in smaller increments to keep up with inflation; versus larger increases which would be harder for the tenants to budget.
- Planning and Zoning Board Training: In the proposed budget there is allowance for two board members from each the Planning and the Zoning Board to attend the Planning Federation Conference held in the fall. Normally, there are three members allowed to

attend. It was the management team's recommendation to reduce the number of board members for this year to control costs. There was a detailed discussion between the board members regarding this issue. It was determined to leave the budget as proposed; however, if there are more than two members from each board wanting to attend, the board will re-evaluate and make a decision at that time. The board did note they prefer that new members receive the first opportunity to go.

- Sales Tax – The board had a dialog on the estimated sales tax revenue. Trustee Horylev stated he feels the estimated amount is too low. General discussion followed regarding the boilers at the Community Center which will need to be replaced sometime in the future. This could potentially cost hundreds of thousands of dollars and the board needs to be proactive in saving for this expense. The board agreed that the sales tax revenue estimate would be raised by \$50,000 and if the money is received during the fiscal year, we will put it in the building reserve fund for the boiler replacement project.
- **Resolution** to set the Public Hearing for the 2011-12 budget for April 12, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. The proposed tax rate will remain unchanged at \$2.48/thousand. Trustee Speer made the motion, seconded by Trustee Bimmler. Carried unanimously 5-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Shari Pearce, Village Clerk