

**Village Board
Meeting Minutes of
March 22, 2022**

Present: Mayor Lee, Trustees Zabelny, Fowler, Speer
Trustee Farrell was present via Zoom
Village Manager/Clerk Shari Wilson Pearce
Treasurer Maryalice Edwards
Code Enforcement Officer Mark Mazzucco
Deputy Clerk Amy Harter

Guests: Aimee Doser, Russ Zurick, Steve Catone, Andy Steiger, Cody Pierce and Nick Mucci

Mayor Lee called the Village Board meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence. The meeting was held in person and via Zoom.

Discussion

Employee Wages: Steve Catone asked the board to consider amending the wages for employees in the three-year step program to \$25 per hour. He stated the employees are expected to carry out all duties within the department.

Russ Zurick stated the full-time employees, not on the step program are asking for a raise of 6%. Andy Steiger explained they have a list of reasons and examples and would like to set up a meeting with the board to discuss them. The employees have been working all day on a damaged fire hydrant and need to return to the job this evening. Mayor Lee explained the board will discuss their request and are open to meeting with the employees this week. Andy Steiger and Cody Pierce left the meeting.

Trustee Speer stated the gap between the proposed increase of 3% being offered and the employee's request of 6% is significant. The board offered an excellent raise in 2021 and no one was furloughed or lost wages during the absences during the pandemic. Russ agreed the raise given last year raise was good but in years prior raises did not keep up with inflation, they are asking not to lose money. He noted that the budget proposal showed the cost of retirement decreased by \$50,000 and health care is down \$18,000. Russ asked how much is spent on Community Center maintenance and upkeep. Shari Pearce answered the Village has spent approximately \$1,000,000 over the last ten years in maintenance and utilities. The cost to the taxpayers is approximately 62%, the tenants pay the difference. The board discussed the value of the Community Center, including the day care centers, senior programs and the recreation events.

Zoning Board: Trustee Speer reported he had a conversation with Chairman Kim Fay. The Zoning Board is proposing an annual salary instead of per meeting. The Chairman would receive \$1500, and the members would receive \$1,000 annually. This would increase the wages for the Zoning Board by \$1500 total. They cited the added duties of the Planning Board being the main reason for the increase. Trustee Speer stated the request is reasonable and he is in favor of the increase. Mark Mazzucco asked if the salary includes their time during training. Trustee Speer replied that training is included with the figures.

Resolution to advertise a public hearing April 5, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. to approve the proposed tax rate of \$2.61/1000 valuation. Motion made by Trustee Speer, seconded by Trustee Zabelny. Carried unanimously, 5-0.

Executive Session

Trustee Fowler made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 4:42 p.m. Trustee Zabelny seconded. Carried unanimously, 5-0.

Trustee Fowler made a motion to exit Executive Session at 5:31 p.m. Trustee Zabelny seconded. Carried unanimously, 5-0.

Resolution to reappoint Shari Pearce as Village Manager/ Clerk for a four (4) year term effective April 1, 2022. Motion made by Mayor Lee, seconded by Trustee Zabelny. Carried unanimously, 5-0.

Resolution to reappoint Maryalice Edwards as Village Treasurer for a four (4) year term effective April 1, 2022. Motion made by Mayor Lee, seconded by Trustee Zabelny. Carried unanimously, 5-0.

Resolution to reappoint Amy Harter as Deputy-Clerk for a four (4) year term effective April 1, 2022. Motion made by Mayor Lee, seconded by Trustee Zabelny. Carried unanimously, 5-0.

Public Forum

There was no one present from the public to speak.

Adjournment

Trustee Fowler made a motion to adjourn at 5:33 p.m. seconded by Trustee Zabelny. Carried unanimously, 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Harter, Deputy Clerk