

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
FINANCE COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held March 28, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. at Village Hall, 1202 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Orion, Illinois. Members present: O'Leary, Drucker, Newman, and Sampson. Absent: None. Also present were Roger Peterson, Jim Cooper, and Deb Ford.

The credit card statement and receipts were reviewed and found to be in order.

Clerk Sampson said the Henry County Sheriff's Dept. refunded \$8,774.94 to the village. The amount reflected funds budgeted that were unspent at the end of the county's Fiscal Year 2011. Going forward, the county will review the budget at the end of each fiscal year and refund unspent funds or bill the village for any overage. Clerk Sampson said about \$11,000 from prior years' unspent funds remain in the Orion Division's checking account at Henry County and will be used for officers' wages in conjunction with the resolution of the F.O.P. contract. The exact amount owed to Henry County is unknown but expected to be between \$10,000 and \$15,000.

The committee agreed to put the remaining TIF money, \$24,738.42, in the Sewer Phase II Loan Retirement Fund to offset the annual shortfall in revenue. The money was originally planned for streetscape engineering but the streetscape project is on hold due to ever increasing obligations stipulated by the federal grant requirements. The TIF funds must be spent by April 30, 2012.

FY2013 Proposed Budget Review: Following discussion about the purchase of a squad car and despite a leaking head gasket, the committee felt the existing vehicle should be kept for another year. Items removed from the Street Department were infrared heating and a new lighting system in the maintenance garage and the purchase of a new backhoe. Additionally, \$54,759 was removed from the street maintenance line item, leaving \$60,000. The committee said the street superintendent would have to determine which projects he would complete with those funds and report back to the board prior to adoption of the budget. The committee requested future street budgets prioritize projects and reduce the number submitted to what can be completed in the budget year. Also, a request for a \$90,000 dump truck was removed from the budget, but the committee agreed to set aside \$20,000 in General Depreciation funds for such a purchase at some point in the future. Reroofing of the Love Park shelter was removed but reroofing the Center Park shelter was left in the budget. Also, the line item for organization requests, such as Orion After Prom and the like, was increased from \$3,900 to \$5,000. Clerk Sampson was asked to compile a list of donations requested. It was also noted that funds for the village's partnership with Main Street Orion were put in the budget at \$10,000.

Regarding revenue for the FY2013 budget, it was noted that the Buildings & Grounds Department planned to request funding from Coulter Trust for the construction of a block building in Central Park, if the project is approved by the village board. Such funds have been included in the proposed revenue figures. If those funds are not received, a backup funding plan should be in place.

The streetscape issue was briefly discussed. Clerk Sampson recommended not moving forward with the plan in light of the increasing expenses. The expense for the project has

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risen from \$90,000 to \$160,000. The village's engineer reported at the last board meeting that he was unable to get an answer from IDOT on whether or not a portion of the proposed improvement area could be deleted in order to cut out a portion of the increased expense. Trustee Newman felt the board should try to get an answer from IDOT before a determination was made to shelve the project. Others felt the village engineer was very skeptical about proceeding with the project.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned.

Lori A. Sampson  
Village Clerk



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