

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
FINANCE COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held March 27, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at Village Hall, 1202 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Orion, Illinois. Members present: Peterson, Newman, and Drucker. Absent: None. President Cooper, Trustee Hancock, Chris Lundburg and Neil Dahl also attended.

Credit card bills and the statement were reviewed and deemed to be in order.

Trustee Newman handed out a spreadsheet put together by him which indicated an unbalanced budget in some areas. He cautioned that spending more than the current year's revenue could lead to a poor outcome, even though there might be money in reserve. Trustee Newman felt it would be prudent to balance revenues to expenditures and later in the fiscal year, if it was determined revenues were sufficient, add another project. Trustee Newman said the water department budget, taken as a whole, looked good.

Trustee Drucker reminded those present that a total of three- to four-month's worth of expenditures needed to be kept in reserve. Trustee Newman said he felt comfortable with a \$600,000 reserve balance in the general fund, meaning part of the \$825,000 reserve could be spent down.

A debate was held about the 1999 pickup truck owned by the sewer department. Ten thousand dollars was included in the budget to purchase a used truck. Sewer Supt. Lundburg said he often had to drive his personal vehicle when part-time help was employed during the summer. He said it was impractical to search out the part-time employee in order to get the truck back to run his own errand. The only other village vehicles available for use are large dump trucks with plows attached. Trustee Hancock said the water department purchased a new truck, leaving the old one for use by park department personnel. He also said the village was saving money for the purchase of a new dump truck for the street department. He felt the sewer department should be afforded a truck as well. The existing truck is of the age it could require a serious repair or become inoperable at any time. The committee thought it might be better to buy a new or newer truck, if one was to be purchased, and leave the existing truck for the summer employee. Trustee Hancock and Sewer Supt. Lundburg will research a truck for purchase and recommend an amount to include in the budget.

There was discussion about the list of projects/maintenance included in the sewer budget. Trustee Hancock said items were listed in order of importance, but he felt all should be completed in the upcoming fiscal year. Though some thought jetting and televising sewer mains to clean and determine their condition could be deleted, Trustee Hancock argued its importance.

Trustee Newman changed the speed radar sign cost to \$4,000 from \$5,000. Fifty-thousand dollars was removed from sewer surplus expenditures, intended to pay down principal on a sewer loan. The squad car purchase was deleted but will be reconsidered in the FY 2019 budget. The vehicle to be replaced is a 2009 with 128,000 miles. The cost to dig out soil and place rock around the band shell was eliminated, due to concerns about people using the rocks as weapons to damage the park facilities.

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The minutes of March 27, 2017 continued:

There was brief discussion about charging fees to groups using the Love Park baseball diamonds. The committee decided further research was necessary.

Trustee Newman suggested leaving the expenditure of \$110,000 out of the proposed budget. The money is being saved for a truck for the street department and if one is found in the FY 2018 budget year, the budget can be amended to account for the expense. It was noted the village's tractor/backhoe will need to be replaced at some time in the near future.

Lengthy discussion was held on the street department's request to begin the installation of storm drain for the 5<sup>th</sup> Street rehabilitation project. It was decided to remove the expense from motor fuel tax fund and wait to do the entire project at once. Committee members felt it would be more cost effective to bid the entire project rather than doing it in three steps. Street Supt. Dahl was asked for other street improvement projects that might be considered. Suggested were an overlay for 13<sup>th</sup> Street from 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue north to the village limits, also rehabbing 14<sup>th</sup> Street between 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Avenues and 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue Crt. east of 7<sup>th</sup> Street. The ordinary street maintenance program expense will be moved from general fund to motor fuel tax to allow the recommended street improvement projects be placed in the general fund.

Trustee Drucker left at 5:35 p.m.

An amount of \$9,000 will be kept in the budget for easement acquisition regarding the 5<sup>th</sup> Street rehab project.

The proposed village hall project was briefly discussed. There were no additions/subtractions recommended by village board members. Trustee Peterson asked to see a rendering of the roofline. Further discussion will take place at a later date.

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

Lori A. Sampson  
Village Clerk