

VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE
WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN
(Official Minutes)
2016 Budget Planning Meeting of the Finance Committee
October 22, 2015

The Finance Committee meeting was called to order by Village President Pat Kenny at 6:00 pm on Thursday, October 22, 2015.

Members Present: President Kenny, Jim Feeney, Karl Floody, Tom Freytag, Tom Marek, Rick McCue, Mike Sheyker

Also Present: Administrator Dennis Martin, Fire and Rescue Dept. Chief Wolf Nitsch, Trustee Rick Pappas, Treasurer Scott Vilona

General Business

Approve Minutes for Meeting Held October 15, 2015

Sheyker/Floody 2nd made a MOTION to approve the minutes as submitted for the October 15, 2015 meeting, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

2016 Budget Planning: Revenue and Bonding Schedules

The schedules for projected revenue from state aid and grants; estimated revenue from building permits, licenses and fees, and leases; and the proposed borrowing for bridge and lakefront construction were presented. State Transportation aid will decrease from \$363,382 to \$350,000; however, boat slip lease revenue is estimated to increase from \$71,928 to \$131,700 due to the 20 new 26-foot slips. With 20 of the 27 buoys exchanged for the new boat slips, buoy lease revenue is projected to decrease to \$18,600 from \$33,216 in 2015. Martin stated that upon preliminary direction from the Village Board, staff added lakefront utility projects and the expenses for additional Paratech staffing to the projected total short-term borrowing proposal that will be negotiated with Walworth State Bank. In order to supplement the \$1.5 million State Infrastructure Bank loan secured to fund the \$200,000 bridge repair and \$1.7 million bridge replacement projects, the Village will need to borrow about \$1.3 million to cover the additional items. Vilona stated that the village has received estimates totaling \$50,000 from Frontier for burial of the telephone lines at the lakefront; \$95,000 for burial of the Charter cable lines; and \$350,000 from Alliant for the electrical lines. Martin stated that the Village Board approved an amendment to the Paratech emergency services contract to include 24-hour coverage while the bridge is closed for construction; however, a recommendation to fund the additional expenses still requires Village Board approval. Following discussion, the committee directed staff to add to the proposed short-term borrowing the \$86,500 needed to cover the additional Paratech expenses while the bridge is closed; and \$25,000 for a storm sewer project at the lakefront.

Review Full 2016 General Fund Budget

Martin stated that as requested at the previous meeting, \$22,000 was added to the Fire and Rescue Dept. budget for new JAWS equipment; and \$16,000 was added to fund three additional vehicle exhaust “drops” on the existing Safety Building exhaust ventilation system for the engine and squad vehicles. Martin stated that Fire and Rescue Dept. Chief Wolf Nitsch wanted to present one more request to be added to the preliminary budget. Nitsch stated by the end of the year the department will have raised about \$50,000 of the \$100,000 needed to purchase and install an upgraded pump on the rescue boat, and he requested that \$50,000 be allocated in the 2016 budget so the new pump can be purchased installed during this winter. Nitsch stated that the department fund-raising efforts can continue, and the \$50,000 can be eventually paid back to the General Fund. Nitsch stated that the current fund-raising efforts have slowed down, but if the new pump is installed by next summer, it could generate some additional donations. Jim Feeney stated that the Linn Township Fire Dept. has a new rescue boat with a fire pump, and he questioned if every municipality on the lake needs to rescue boat equipped with a pump. Nitsch stated that it would not be necessary for every municipality to have a rescue boat equipped with a state-of-the-art

pump; however, with two, one department would be available to provide assistance at calls for large fires on the lake or lakefront. Nitsch stated that the new pump is rated at 1,500 gallons per minute. Following discussion, the committee members reached the consensus that since there is a smaller pump already mounted on the Fontana Rescue Boat, and with two larger items already included in next year's tight budget, the \$50,000 allocation should be postponed and the fund-raising efforts intensified. The General Fund allocation to cover the shortfall in CDA increment to cover the TID debt service payment had to be increased from \$500,000 to \$643,000 due to a State DOR decrease in the total valuation of the TID. The Park Commission \$50,000 allocation for green space management was reduced to \$45,000 to cover the low bid recently submitted for an RFP; \$5,000 was cut for a proposed sand volleyball court at the Duck Pond Recreation Area, and \$2,500 was cut from the \$10,000 allocated for updating the expiring Park and Open Space Plan. The committee also directed cutting a \$20,000 allocation for purchase of a new screener for the DPW compost area. The salary allocations were inserted into the General Fund per the recommendations of the Human Resources Committee. Following further discussion on other minor reductions and some corrections to the lakefront pier and mooring expenses, the committee directed \$66,884 be allocated to increase the undesignated fund in 2016, which had a balance of \$2,096,375 at the end of 2014. The Village's financial policy, adopted to help secure an improved Moody's Bond Rating, calls for a minimum undesignated fund balance of \$1,661,649. Following all the changes directed by the committee, Vilona stated that the projected mil rate for the Village of Fontana portion of the 2015 tax bill is \$3.16.

Feeney/McCue 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approve for publication the 2016 preliminary General Fund Budget calling for a Village of Fontana tax rate of \$3.16. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Adjournment

Sheyker/Marek 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 pm, and the motion carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Dennis L. Martin, Village Administrator

Note: These minutes are subject to further editing. Once approved by the Finance Committee, the official minutes will be kept on file at the Village Hall.

APPROVED: 01/18/16