

MINUTES OF A PUBLIC MEETING of the
PRESIDENT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE of the
VILLAGE OF EVERGREEN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Monday, December 18, 2017

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by Mayor Sexton at 6:30 P.M. in the Village of Evergreen Park Council Chambers, 9418 S. Kedzie Avenue, Evergreen Park, Il. The meeting was open to the public.

ROLL CALL Clerk Aparo called the roll with the following results:

PRESENT:

Mayor James Sexton
Chairman, Finance Committee Trustee Mark Marzullo
Member Trustee Carol Kyle
Village Treasurer, John Sawyers

Trustee and Member Mary Keane was absent with notice.

Audience: Residents and reporters from local papers.

PUBLIC MEETING

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and stated the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the proposed Village Budget for 2017-2018. A general review of the budget process took place.

Treasurer Sawyers explained the packet includes a General Fund Budget and a Water Management Fund Budget. The General Fund budget is currently \$105,000 out of balance.

He reported the revenues were difficult to predict due to fact the Plaza building is only partially completed and all the tenant spaces are not fully occupied. He has an estimated 1% growth with forecasted \$5.1 million in sales tax and \$634,544 in Plaza sales tax. Business District Tax (Plaza only) is estimated for 2018 at \$ 622,000.

Property taxes are at \$5,935,220. This is based upon the 3% levy increase to fund Police and Fire Departments pension requirements. Total levy is \$7,517,006. Income Tax of \$2,015,159 is based on resident count with a downward trend. Gasoline Tax has a dip forecasted at \$1,375,000. Total taxes are \$16,058,789.

Fees, Licenses and permits are forecasted at \$1,799,000. Mr. Sawyers stated there will be a \$400,000 decline due to the Plaza build outs. Charges for services total is \$2,397,000 including a pass through for refuse collection; EMT account is stable. Fines and forfeitures include local adjudication and court fines total at \$ 781,500.

Motor Fuel Tax is a declining revenue as cars become more fuel efficient. Home rule sales tax benefits us due to the Plaza and helps capital project funds; with surpluses to the general fund. Home rule tax

projections are at \$1,168,000 for 2018. Total revenues are \$25,951,986.00 which is less than 2017 due to the commercial permitting decrease.

The Expense budget was discussed by department. Administration is implementing a new FOIA management software at \$5,000. Administration total is \$ 1,047,588.

Adjudication expenses are down for 2018 at \$ 278,946. Street Department total is \$ 2,494,980. There are vehicles include a new cab and chassis and \$150,000 for alleys and the new street light program which was moved to the capital project fund. Sidewalk program is at \$50,000.

The Police Department represents the largest portion of the total budget with 64% of every dollar toward benefits and salary. Federal forfeiture moneys offsets overtime at \$205,000. This includes (2) two new squads and in car computers and printers. The total is \$ 8,520,722.

Fire Department has a new snorkel at a cost of \$ 698,000 in the 2019 Budget which will be financed over the next few years. Total for Fire Department is \$2,948,807.

Citizens' Services budget is steady at \$217,044 with all recurring operating costs.

Parks Department has budget of \$ 485,000 with monies budgeted for \$60,000 in backstops, storage equipment and improvements. The Chair stated he will investigate the backstops for more information prior to any expenditures.

Recreation Department has a total budget with \$ 663,506. Youth Department total expenses estimated at \$ 42,521. The Chair noted the possibility of merging the Youth Department with the Recreation Department.

Building Department Budget is consistent at \$ 453,068. Community Center has a budget of \$ 106,979. Property maintenance has been budgeted at \$255,500. This includes a multi-year fiber optic project with \$80,000 left to connect when the last building is completed.

Other Expenditures is budgeted at \$7,883,555. Mayor Sexton and Mr. Sawyers commended the Clerk and the Deputy Clerk Cericola for their efforts. Clerk Aparo stated DC Cericola has implemented many safety seminars and employee computer courses for various safety/liability initiatives. She thanked her as well for the 32 % decrease (\$333,000) in liability insurance and a meager 4% health insurance increase.

Mr. Sawyers noted the Fire Chief negotiated a new rate for ambulance billing and reduced the cost by \$10,000. There is a contingency fund of \$250,000 to hedge against missing revenues.

Debt fund transfer is at \$659,018.00 Revenues are at \$ 25,951,986 and Expenses are at \$26,057,000 with a difference of \$105,248. The Chair noted more meetings will take place to balance the budget.

The Water Management Fund Budget was discussed. This is the third year of the (20) twenty year water meter loan at \$110,550. The \$ 800,000 federal grant helped us not pass the cost on to the residents. A new GIS endeavor for underground mapping is being investigated for the future.

Revenues are forecasted at \$7,139,000 and the Expenses are \$ 7,127,291 with a surplus of \$11,909 in the Water Management Fund.

TIF Funds are a place setter and when opportunities arise the Board can act accordingly to purchase properties. The budget for the TIF fund is \$3,208,725. Mr. Sawyers stated there will be more meetings with the Department heads and a public hearing at the first meeting in January of 2018. The budget will be available for inspection and the balanced budget will be presented with the appropriation ordinance for approval at the second meeting in January.

Audience Participation

Mr. John Dahlke, questioned the income tax projection. Mr. Sawyers noted the taxes are in arrears and it is more difficult to project this year. The Mayor noted the Village only receives 13% of the real estate tax dollars and education receives the other 77%.

Mrs. Helen Cuprisin questioned the pension funding for the Village. Mr. Sawyers answered we are at 86% which puts us in the top 5% of all funded pensions.

Motion by Trustee Kyle, second by Chairman Marzullo to accept the documentation and recommendations from the Treasurer for the 2017-18 Budget. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote and so ordered by the Chair.

With nothing further to come before this Committee, motion by Trustee Marzullo second by Trustee Kyle that the Finance Committee of the Village of Evergreen Park adjourns. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote to adjourn at 7:15 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Catherine T. Aparo, Village Clerk