

MINUTES OF A PUBLIC MEETING of the
PRESIDENT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE of the
VILLAGE OF EVERGREEN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2011

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by Chairman of the Finance Committee, Trustee Mark Marzullo at 4:05 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 Chairman Marzullo asked Clerk Aparo to call the roll with the following results:

PRESENT:

Mayor James Sexton
Chairman, Finance Committee Trustee Mark Marzullo
Trustee Mary Keane
Trustee James McQuillan
Village Treasurer, John Sawyers
Village Clerk Cathy Aparo

Trustee Kyle was absent with notice.

Audience: (1) Resident – Helen Cuprisin.

**PUBLIC
MEETING**

Mayor Sexton stated this is a meeting of the Finance Committee and proper notification for this meeting was published. He then asked Treasurer John Sawyers to conduct the meeting.

Treasurer Sawyers stated this is the first draft only and revenues are estimated at \$21,650,000 expenses and expenses estimated at \$21,866,150 with \$216,000 out of balance not including \$250,000 contingency fund. The Mayor said they will meet again with department heads and make some cuts. Treasurer Sawyers gave handouts of all the information to the members of the committee. He stated adding sixty six cents (.66) of each dollar goes toward personnel expenditures. He added capital outlay is very low at \$764,472 compared to the overall 22 million dollar budget.

Mr. Sawyers gave an overview of the budget expenses by Departments, Police Department, insurance and benefits at 16%, Fire Department 11.8%, Street Department 12%, and most other departments under 4%. The Mayor stated there will be a meeting later this week with the insurance carriers regarding renewal rates.

Mr. Sawyers gave a brief report on the department budgets adding he expects a surplus of approximately \$72,000 at the end of the fiscal year. Significant items in the budgets include a \$22,000 item for website initiative. Adjudication revenues are at \$1.4 million dollars with an increase in labor costs. Chairman Marzullo asked about the new vehicle, Mr. Sawyers answered it is a Community Service Vehicle that will go to the Inspection Department. Mr. Sawyers noted they maybe one of the most active Inspection Departments in the State of Illinois. Street

Department costs remain stable, including snow removal costs. Chairman Marzullo asked about accrued sick time buyouts. The Chair stated they may purchase it and it avoids bringing an extra person in for overtime to cover the person.

Mr. Sawyers added Mr. Lorenz, PW Director inventories his equipment and further discussions will take place regarding his equipment requests. He added there was a sizeable grant for lighting projects finished in 2011.

Police Department budget's largest expense is personnel at \$6.2 million dollars. The Police are requesting (2) new squads to replace older squads with 90,000 to 100,000 miles. He added federal forfeiture funds have been contributed toward several items; in the 2012 budget \$180,000 will go toward Police overtime. The total budget is \$7,050,314. The Mayor added there should be a new police contract presented for approval at the second meeting in December of 2011.

The Fire Department budget is lean and reasonable at \$2,569,675. He commended the Department for securing grant monies where possible. There is a request for two vehicles, one a truck with a removable plow as they help plow our municipal lots and a new tornado siren and emergency radio updates as required by Federal laws. The Chair explained a new siren will be installed at 99th & Central Park area for the southwest section. This benefits the schools and the residents in the area with a needed safety improvement.

Office of Community Services is at \$167,805 with no significant changes. Parks Department is

A brief discussion took place regarding the Police and Fire pensions. Mayor Sexton stated the pensions are paid and not raided like other government entities are doing. He added the Police pension has increased in funding from 82% to 84.5% which is unheard of during these hard economic times. Treasurer Sawyers commended the police pension Board for their progressive and proactive financial sense. The discussion continued regarding new pension laws requiring 90% funding by the year 2040.

Treasurer Sawyers explained how the 3% increase of the levy would impact the average homeowner paying \$5,000 in taxes an estimated increase of \$15.00 -\$18.00 per year. He stated the Village receives 13% of the tax dollar, 75% to the schools and the remainder to others. The Library Levy will remain at 3% same as the Village. The Library increased their levy last year to 4.75%. The 3% will total the library levy at \$935,735 and bring in additional revenue of \$27,256.

Chairman Marzullo commended the Mayor and Treasurer Sawyers for a very realistic preliminary budget. He added during a time when most municipalities are laying off personnel, we have hired (3) new police officers with grant monies. The Mayor noted Moody's upgraded rating for the Village last year to an AA rating.

Treasurer Sawyers noted the Village will be in the black for the end of 2010. Sales tax and permits have both increased. Trustee Marzullo added there are still projects such as the 95th & Kedzie property, LCM campus renovation is moving along and the parking plan seems to be working well.

Helen Cuprisin, audience member, questioned pension information.

Chairman Marzullo stated the Finance Committee will meet again before the end of the year to discuss the budget, date to be announced and published and the meeting will be open to the public. The levy increase will be voted upon at the December 20, 2010 meeting. With nothing further to come before this Committee, motion by Trustee Kyle second by Trustee

McQuillan that the Finance Committee of the Village of Evergreen Park adjourns. Upon roll call voting YES: Mayor Sexton, Trustees Kyle and McQuillan, Chairman Marzullo and Treasurer Sawyers. The motion was passed and so ordered by the Chair to adjourn at 4:32 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Catherine T. Aparo, CMC, Village Clerk