



Minutes
Village of Glen Ellyn
Special Village Board Workshop
Monday, October 30, 2023
7:00 PM
Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Room 301

A. Call to Order – 7:00 P.M.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

Upon roll call by Clerk Cosby, President Senak and Trustees Fasules, Gould, Simon, and Thompson answered “Present.” Trustees Christiansen and Kalinich were absent.

Also in attendance: Village Manager Franz, Assistant Village Manager/Community Development Director Rodman, Public Works Director Buckley, Public Works Assistant Director Hubsky, Streets Superintendent Beckman, Utilities Superintendent Burgoni, Interim Finance Director Brankin, Public Library Director Bussey, and Deputy Chief of Police Vavra.

D. Audience Participation

President Senak shared a letter from Ken Kramer, a 75-year-old Village resident, expressing his concerns about not being able to afford to stay in the Village, mainly because of the property taxes.

E. 2023 Property Tax Estimate

1) 2023 Property Tax Estimate

Interim Finance Director Brankin presented the property tax cycle and levy dates. He showed an illustration of where property tax dollars go and talked about the tax cap.

President Senak asked for an explanation of PTELL. Interim Finance Director Brankin gave that explanation.

Village Manager Franz talked about the increase being proposed.

President Senak asked about the sample property tax bill presented and pointed out that the recent increases in services are missing from the bill. The reason for this was because those service increases are not part of the tax bill.

Trustee Thompson pointed out that the fees are charged to renters as well as property owners. Discussion ensued.

Trustee Thompson thanked Trustee Gould for requesting the chart that illustrates the growing levy.

President Senak asked if it was true that the Village has raised taxes by 31% over the last 10 years. Interim Finance Director Brankin replied and clarified the percentage. Discussion continued.

Trustee Thompson asked what the philosophy was for the “zero” years. President Senak replied, with more comments from Trustee Fasules about other tax levers. Discussion ensued.

President Senak asked for an explanation of the concept of zeroing the levy, and what would be the negative issues involved. Village Manager Franz replied.

President Senak asked, if in the future there is a deficit, would there be anything to keep the Village from increasing the levy to make up the deficit. There was further discussion on this scenario.

Trustee Gould asked if the Village got to the 5.5% because all the planned projects are considered top priorities, and would it be helpful if the prioritizations were actually ranked. Discussion about the 5.5% increase ensued. Trustee Gould added that she did not support the 5.5% increase, to which Trustee Fasules agreed.

President Senak asked Trustee Fasules to explain the abatement theory. Trustee Fasules did so. Trustee Simon added her thoughts on abatement vs. the levy increase. Theories of budgeting and forecasting were discussed at greater length in regard to the proposed 5.5% increase.

Interim Finance Director Brankin clarified what additional information Trustee Gould wanted his department to supply. All Board members will receive the information.

F. 2024 Budget Discussion - General Fund

1) Public Works - Admin & Engineering

Interim Finance Director Brankin presented the highlights of the additional budget items.

President Senak asked if the two new positions were full time and what the positions were. Public Works Director Buckley gave details of the two new positions and their responsibilities.

2) Public Works – Streets

Interim Finance Director Brankin presented the budget, highlighting the increases. Public Works Director Buckley gave additional information.

Trustee Thompson asked about Engineer Daubert’s role and what Public Works does when more engineering support is needed. Public Works Director Buckley replied.

Trustee Thompson asked if the street striping had been finished this year. Public Works Director Buckley replied. Trustee Gould commented that some striping materials are slippery when wet, and if this was due to different materials used by various vendors. Public Works Director Buckley replied.

President Senak asked about the budget breakdown regarding snow. Public Works Director Buckley replied. President Senak asked a follow-up question about the amount budgeted for part-time snowplow staff. Public Works Director Buckley replied.

3) Public Works – Forestry

Interim Finance Director Brankin presented the budget, highlighting increases and the Manor Woods payment to the Park District.

Trustee Thompson asked how many trees have been planted this year. Public Works Director Buckley replied.

President Senak asked about the numbers related to temporary help. Public Works Director Buckley replied.

G. 2024 Budget Discussion - Other Funds

1) Water & Sewer Fund

Interim Finance Director Brankin presented the budget summary, highlighting two new proposed position, capital investments and infrastructure, and purchases for meter reading capabilities.

President Senak asked for more information on the two new positions, Assistant PW Director and Engineering Tech. Interim Finance Director Brankin replied.

Trustee Gould asked how the lead line replacement was progressing for this year and next year. Discussion ensued.

2) Parking Fund

Interim Finance Director Brankin presented the budget summary, highlighting increases and costs.

Trustee Gould asked about the scheduled maintenance cost for the Civic Center Garage. Village Manager Franz replied.

Trustee Thompson asked if the permit revenue was still coming in, even with the change in commuters' behavior. Interim Finance Director Brankin replied.

President Senak asked about the projected income and the budgeted amount for next year, and if it needs to be adjusted. Interim Finance Director Brankin replied.

Trustee Simon asked what is included in miscellaneous revenue. Interim Finance Director Brankin replied.

President Senak asked about reverting to a parking app model for payment. Village Manager Franz replied on the progress with implementing this system. Discussion ensued.

Trustee Thompson asked if parking lot maintenance was in this budget. Interim Finance Director Brankin and Village Manager Franz replied.

President Senak asked about the “banking” budget in the parking fund. Interim Finance

Director Brankin replied. President Senak felt the reserve policy was high for this fund and if it should be higher. Village Manager Franz replied, with additional information from Interim Finance Director Brankin.

President Senak asked if the Village could purchase the APEX parking lot.

3) Facilities Maintenance Reserve Fund

Interim Finance Director Brankin presented the budget summary, highlighting upcoming projects and costs.

President Senak asked for the updated numbers for this fund, which Interim Finance Director Brankin will supply.

Public Works Director Buckley talked about the Public Works Reno Center renovation, which will provide the additional space needed by the department.

4) Motor Fuel Tax Fund

Interim Finance Director Brankin presented the budget summary, highlighting the Rebuild Illinois Bond grant, the fund transfer to the Capital Projects Fund, and other minimal increases.

President Senak asked about actual vs. projected and why the numbers are the way they are, using the salt budget as an example. Public Works Director Buckley explained the budgeting.

5) Equipment Services Fund

Interim Finance Director Brankin presented the budget summary.

Public Works Director Buckley commented on vehicle replacement and why they did not spend what was budgeted.

President Senak asked where the money comes from for this fund. Public Works Director Buckley replied.

6) Capital Projects Fund

This fund will be covered at the next meeting.

President Senak encouraged the staff to look for places in the budget where money could be saved and revenue increased. Village Manager Franz added his thoughts on this. Discussion continued and turned to the value of the Volunteer Fire Department. Trustee Fasules requested that the Fire Station costs and potential revenue be added into the 5-year Capital Improvements Plan.

H. Reminders

- 1) Village Board Workshop, Monday, November 6, 2023 at 7 pm
- 2) Village Board/Glenbard Wastewater Authority Annual Meeting, Monday, November 13, 2023 at 6 pm
- 3) Village Board Meeting, Monday, November 13, 2023 at 7 pm

I. Adjourn – 9:17 P.M.

Mover: Trustee Thompson; Second: Trustee Simon. Unanimous vote to adjourn.