



VILLAGE OF THIENSVILLE
Committee of the Whole
MINUTES

DATE: Monday, November 6, 2023

LOCATION: 250 Elm Street, Thiensville, WI

TIME: 6:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Mobley called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

PRESIDENT:	VAN MOBLEY
TRUSTEES:	JENNIFER ABRAHAM ANGELINA APOSTOLOS JESSE DAILY KRISTINA ECKERT KENNETH KUCHARSKI DAVID LANGE
ADMINISTRATOR:	COLLEEN LANDISCH-HANSEN
ATTORNEY:	TIM SCHOONENBERG
STAFF:	DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES/PUBLIC WORKS ANDY LAFOND POLICE CHIEF CURT KLEPPIN

III. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PURPOSE OF SEEKING PUBLIC INPUT ON THE 2024 VILLAGE OF THIENSVILLE BUDGET

A. MOTION TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION by Trustee Kucharski, **SECONDED** by Trustee Lange to open the 2024 Village of Thiensville Budget Public Hearing at 6:01 PM. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

1. Administrator to Read and Explain Notice (att)

Administrator Landisch-Hansen read the notice and noted that it was published and posted according to legal requirements.

2. Administrator to Give Brief Explanation of the 2024 Budget (att)

Administrator Landisch-Hansen presented a 2024 Budget Summary memo. The Wisconsin Legislature has imposed a levy cap of 0% plus net new construction, which was 0.52% in the Village for 2023. The proposed 2024 budget has a levy increase of \$12,567 for net new construction. With the creation of the Southern Ozaukee Fire & EMS Department, the State allows municipalities an exemption to the levy limit if the total charges assessed by the joint fire department increase less than or equal to CPI plus 2.0% as of August 31. The proposed budget includes this levy limit exception of \$9,101.

The recently enacted Act 12 provides the Village \$85,167 in Supplemental Shared Revenue for 2024. The funds can only be spent on law enforcement, fire protection, EMS, emergency response communications, public works, courts and transportation. The State Expenditure Restraint Incentive Program will decrease by over 47% down to \$12,421 and General Transportation Aids will decrease for 2024 by about 1.50% or \$2,921.

Salaries have been budgeted at 3% for non-represented employees and 5.5% for represented employees. Health insurance benefits increased by 10.9% for 2024 while other employee benefits remained flat. Employees will pay the employee portion of the Wisconsin Retirement premium of 6.90%, which is 0.10% more than 2023. Salaries and benefits encompass 62.92% of the General Fund Budget, compared to 62.77% in 2023.

Expenses for utilities and fuel have increased. There will be an increase in election expenses with four elections in 2024.

The Village realized an increase in equalized value of \$33,231,000 or 7.43% and the assessed value increased \$156,199,957 or 47.57%, bringing the equalized value compared to the assessed value ratio back into compliance at 100.808%, compared to 73.385% for 2022.

The 2024 Capital Projects Fund will be used for Tasers (Year 5 of 5), squad and body cameras (year 4 of 5), a weapons rack, SOFD capital contribution, vehicle replacement programs, emerald ash borer program, public works storage, court sports resurfacing and improvements, Pigeon Creek restoration, Williamsburg Bridge reconstruction and contingency.

3. Comments from Anyone Present to be Heard

John Grau, 120 N. Orchard Street, questioned if Thiensville residents are subsidizing sewer service to the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. Administrator Landisch-Hansen noted the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District calculates Mequon and Thiensville separately, which is the formula used to calculate bills. Administrator Landisch-Hansen offered to meet with Mr. Grau to explain the details.

John Treffert, 184 Riveredge Court, thanked the Village for the recent road paving project. Mr. Treffert inquired about the Fire Department merger. President Mobley replied that it is going better than he expected, but not without its bumps. Administrator Landisch-Hansen added that considering an independent Thiensville Fire Department was estimated to cost approximately \$2 million, the addition of only a \$9,100 to the 2024 Budget is a financial win for the Village.

4. Administrator to Read any Correspondence Received Related to the Request

There was no correspondence received.

5. Comments from the Village Board

President Mobley thanked staff and the Village Board for their hard work on the budget.

B. MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION by Trustee Kucharski, **SECONDED** by Trustee Abraham to close the 2024 Budget Public Hearing at 6:12 PM. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

IV. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

A. Open to any resident or taxpayer on items not subject to a public hearing: Please be advised per §19.84(2), information will be received from the public. Village policy limits a three (3) minute time period per person, with time extension by the presiding official's discretion or a vote of 2/3 of the Board or Committee; be further advised that there may be limited discussion on the information received, however, no action will be taken under public comments. Written comments on agenda items are encouraged to be sent and addressed to the intended body by noon on the day of the meeting. Comments received timely will be forwarded to all members of the body. If you wish to speak, you must pre-register by emailing the Village Clerk at clandisch@village.thiensville.wi.us by 4:00 PM on the day of the meeting or by signing in immediately prior to the meeting.

There were no citizens present to be heard or correspondence received.

V. BUSINESS

A. Review and discussion regarding Village Road Program (Brian Roemer, Ehlers) (att)

Brian Roemer from Ehlers gave a presentation on the Capital Financing Plan for the Village.

President Mobley noted the presentation provides the Board with information on alternatives. Administrator Landisch-Hansen added another alternative would be combining a number of projects and issuing one larger bond versus issuing a smaller bond every other year. President Mobley noted Heidel Road is a priority. Trustee Lange favored Scenario 1, adding that a referendum could be challenging. Mr. Roemer noted he can return for another meeting to discuss the direction the Board decides to pursue.

B. Review and recommendation regarding Resolution 2023-19 Adopting the 2024 Budget and Establishing the 2023 Tax Levy and Rate (att)

MOTION by Trustee Lange, **SECONDED** by Trustee Eckert to recommend to the Village Board to approve Resolution 2023-19 Adopting the 2024 Budget and Establishing the 2023 Tax Levy

and Rate. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

C. Review and recommendation regarding Resolution 2023-17 Adopting the 2024 Sewer Utility Budget (att)

Administrator Landisch-Hansen noted the 2024 Sewer Utility Budget increases the single-family residential bill by \$1 a quarter.

MOTION by Trustee Eckert, **SECONDED** by Trustee Apostolos to recommend to the Village Board to approve Resolution 2023-17 Adopting the 2024 Sewer Utility Budget. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

D. Review and recommendation regarding Resolution 2023-18 Fixing Salaries for Village Employees and Elected Officials for the Period Ending December 31, 2024 (att)

Administrator Landisch-Hansen noted the budget includes an increase of 3% for non-represented employees and 5.5% for represented employees in the Police Department.

MOTION by Trustee Lange, **SECONDED** by Trustee Kucharski to recommend to the Village Board to approve Resolution 2023-18 Fixing Salaries for Village Employees and Elected Officials for the Period Ending December 31, 2024. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

E. Review and recommendation regarding Resolution 2023-14 Approving the 2024 Village of Thiensville Fee Schedule (att)

The proposed budget includes an increase to the dumpster rental fee. Director LaFond noted the Village's costs associated with dumpster rentals exceed the fee charged to residents. The proposal would increase the cleanup rental fee from \$125 to \$150 and the construction fee from \$250 to \$350. The cleanup dumpsters help the Village with property maintenance compliance. Trustee Eckert noted the dumpster rental program is a nice benefit for Village residents.

Trustee Abraham inquired about the fee for an additional garbage cart. Administrator Landisch-Hansen noted that fee is part of a policy approved earlier this year. A number of residents have purchased a second cart and paid the pro-rated collection fee for a portion of 2023. Trustee Abraham favors the fee for a second cart but would like to see the service fee eliminated. Trustee Lange noted he does not like the increase in the dumpster fee.

MOTION by Trustee Daily, **SECONDED** by Trustee Apostolos to recommend to the Village Board to approve Resolution 2023-14 Approving the 2024 Village of Thiensville Fee Schedule
Ayes: Trustees Apostolos, Daily, Eckert, Kucharski and President Mobley
Naes: Trustees Abraham and Lange
MOTION CARRIED.

F. Review and recommendation regarding the 2022 Financial Statements Prepared by Baker Tilly Virchow Krause & Co. LLP (att)

Administrator Landisch-Hansen distributed the 2022 Financial Statements. Wendi Unger from

Baker Tilly Virchow Krause & Co. will attend the November Board meeting to provide a report on the annual audit. There were no material weaknesses issued for the audit.

MOTION by Trustee Eckert, **SECONDED** by Trustee Lange to recommend to the Village Board to approve 2022 Financial Statements Prepared by Baker Tilly Virchow Krause & Co. LLP.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

G. Review and discussion regarding letter received from the City of Mequon requesting elimination of the Library fiscal agent fee to the Village of Thiensville (att)

Administrator Landisch-Hansen noted the City of Mequon is asking the Village of Thiensville to consider not charging the Frank L. Weyenberg Library the fiscal agent fee. Due to savings associated with the new financial software, the cost to the Village to provide the fiscal agent service will be approximately \$8,100 in 2024. As a result, the proposed fee has been lowered to \$8,000 from the previously budgeted \$9,000. The fee was \$8,000 for 2023. Historically, Thiensville has contributed more to the Library than required by the equalized value formula. Trustee Abraham noted the Library is requesting \$10,000 additional funding from Thiensville for 2024. If they do not receive that, Trustee Abraham added it may affect Library operations.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS BY TRUSTEES AS MAY PROPERLY BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD

A. Acceptance/Report of Gifts Received:

1. \$100 to Village Park Relimagined Splashpad in appreciation of street repaving from Colleen L. Krueger
2. \$75 to Village Park Relimagined Splashpad in appreciation of street repaving from Steven and Meghan Papp
3. \$5,069 for Village Park Relimagined Splashpad, in memory of Margot Griesbach, from: Bruce Arnold, Eric and Mary Bastian, Randall and Rebecca Beaty, John and Katherine Behm, Denise Buchholz, Gerald and Elizabeth Connolly, John and Therese Fleissner, George and Patricia Frommell, Daniel Griesbach, William and Joanne Griesbach, David and Carol Hawke, John and Kathleen Heck, Linda and David Horne, Patricia Keuck and Thomas Funk, Richard and Susan Kolbe, Alisa and James Lahey, Susan Mahoney, John and Wanda Moats, Michael and Christine Nank, Leonard and Sherry Niemiec, M. Nicol and Janet Padway, Carina and Robert Renteria, Timothy and Laurie Rudd, Paul and Jane Sara, Michael and Margaret Schommer, John and Mary Ann Snider, M. and D. Stern, Meru and Anita Thakur, Patti-Lynn Trusky, Keith and Deborah Wandell, and Nancy and Jeffrey Zaborowski

MOTION by Trustee Eckert, **SECONDED** by Trustee Apostolos to recommend to the Village Board to accept with much gratitude the following gifts: \$100 to Village Park Relmaged Splashpad, Colleen L. Krueger; \$75 to Village Park Reimagined Splashpad, Steven and Meghan Papp; \$5,069 for Village Park Relmaged Splashpad, Numerous Donors in Memory of Margot Griesbach. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. Review Meeting Date Schedule:

1. November 20, 2023 - Board of Trustees at 6:00 PM
2. December 4, 2023 - Committee of the Whole at 6:00 PM
3. December 18, 2023 - Board of Trustees at 6:00 PM
4. January 22, 2024 - Combined Committee of the Whole and Board of Trustees at 6:00 PM

VII. MOTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

A. Pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility regarding the Thiensville Professional Police Association contract; and Pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session.

MOTION by Trustee Abraham, **SECONDED** by Trustee Apostolos to adjourn to closed session at 7:08 PM.

1. Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Trustees Abraham, Apostolos, Daily, Eckert, Kucharski, Lange and President Mobley

Naes: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VIII. MOTION TO RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

A. Vote of Board to Reconvene

MOTION by Trustee Lange, **SECONDED** by Trustee Abraham to reconvene in Open Session at 7:50 PM. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. Review and possible action regarding closed session topic

There was no action taken.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Trustee Apostolos, **SECONDED** by Trustee Abraham to adjourn the Meeting at 7:51 PM. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Submitted by,

Gary Achterberg
Administrative Assistant

Signed by,

Colleen Landisch-Hansen
Administrator/Interim Village Clerk