

Present: Mayor: James Cheney
Trustee: Joe DeBrock Trustee: Greg DeRuyter
Trustee: Brian Hemminger Trustee: Howard Hughson

Also Present: Clerk/Treasurer: Jill Seifert; Deputy Clerk/Treasurer: Melissa Westfall; DPW: Ken McAllister; WWTP: Carl Peake and Police Chief: John Storer.

Also Present: Leah Hamilton and Kevin Kelly: Library
Janie Burgess: Phelps Community Center

5:00 PM Workshop/Meeting opened

Library: Leah discussed their budget request with the board. Board complimented Leah on her proposal; Leah indicated that the library is about all things creative and she wanted to project that in her proposal. The library is asking for an increase in funding of \$2,500; the Village is aware that county funding has diminished over the years and now all funding is competitive in nature and the return is not worth the Village's or Leah's time and effort. Leah will provide the 2013 Report to the Community which substantiates the increase in circulation and new library card holders.

Fire Department: The Board had no questions regarding Chief Nieskes budget request; Brian indicated that the plan for three sets of interior fire fighting turnout gear, per year, is progressing. The fire department continues to wait on grant monies for air paks. Mayor Cheney commended Ron on his reasonable budget request.

Water/Wastewater:

Carl confirmed the Mayor's announcement of his upcoming retirement; his last day will be July 30th, 2014. Carl would like the Board to consider allowing him to work part-time on Beautification after he retires; specifically to install shrubs spelling "Phelps" on the Northwest bank at the Main Street bridge of Flint Creek. Not included in his budget is Adam's desire to have a radio transmit system installed at the lift stations to send notifications to the plant and his cell phone. A brief discussion of all of Carl's departmental requests followed.

Code Enforcement:

Jim Murphy unable to attend meeting; the majority of the budget requested is to make the code available online now that the large code revision has been completed.

DPW: Mayor Cheney outlined previous discussions had with Ken and the Clerk's office regarding equipment purchases and upcoming projects. Ken is looking to purchase a mini excavator (\$60,000), splitting the cost between Streets, Water & Sewer; he feels that it will prolong the life of the backhoe and be extremely helpful on Sidewalks. The project for this budget year will be Banta Street's water with the street itself being paved in 2015-2016. The street is in particularly bad shape and the water project will almost complete the upgrades on the north side of the Village. Ken informed the Board if the cold weather continues for too much longer, the Pearl/Pleasant Street Project will not be accomplished in the 2013-2014 budget year.

Police: The Board and Chief Storer briefly discussed salaries and scheduling, John continues to ask that each deputy commit to 10 hours a month, with 3 additional part-time positions now available he plans to increase staffing. Small equipment requests of tasers and guns also explained to the Board's satisfaction.

Phelps Community Center:

Janie discussed PCC's budget request letter with the Board, it is the one time every year that she gets the chance to make the Board aware of everything that is happening with the building. PCC is requesting an increase in funding of \$1,000 this year. The building usage continues to increase as do expenses. Janie previously provided a copy of PCC's total budget for the Board's review. Mayor Cheney brought up Trustee DeRuyter's inclusion of playground equipment in his YPR budget request; Greg indicated that he feels that additional equipment is needed for younger children somewhere in the Village not necessarily at the community center. Discussion followed and Janie will form a committee to look into playground equipment Village-wide and perhaps pursue funding from another source.

Salaries: Discussion followed regarding wage raises; the budget contains the normal starting point of 3% for full time employees. Jill is to provide the Mayor with the payroll roster.

Discussion items:

- 1.) Water: May need to increase the water rate from \$5.00 per 100 cubic feet to \$5.25.
- 2.) Sewer: Considering decreasing the rate per unit from \$17.25/month to \$15.00/month due to the bond payment being paid off in May of 2014. Both Ken and Carl have voiced their concerns over doing this in a "transitional" year.
- 3.) 8 Banta Street: May remove the \$15,000 in A1620.2* for a Generator for the building and put into Streets A5110.4 or .4* as the harsh winter caused many street issues.

4.) Transfer Station: Consider increasing rate per pound from .11 to .13, while this department is self supporting we are not generating the additional monies needed to put into a reserve fund.

Public hearing for proposed budget will be at the April Board Meeting; Monday, April 14, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Other Business: Ramsey Constructors, Inc. is interested in leasing Room 411 in the Business Wing for their Engineer in Charge from April 1st thru October 31st. Per Mayor Cheney's instruction, Clerk/Treasurer Seifert updated their standard lease agreement at the rate of \$10.00 per square foot. Motion by Trustee Hemminger, 2nd by Trustee Hughson and carried authorizing Mayor Cheney to sign the lease agreement on the Village's behalf.

Adjournment: With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill K. Seifert
Clerk/Treasurer