

# VLLAGE OF OSCEOLA SPECIAL BOARD MEETING PROCEEDINGS

## September 23, 2020

The Village of Osceola met for a Special Board meeting on September 23, 2020 at Village Hall. Village President Jeromy Buberl called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Buberl, Deb Rose, Bob Schmidt, Brad Lutz, and remotely Joel West, Bruce Gilliland, and Van Burch  
Staff present: Benjamin Krumenauer, Frances Duncanson, Ron Pedrys, Rick Caruso, Todd Waters  
Others present: Traci and Shawn Libersky

Motion by Rose and seconded by West to approve the agenda  
Ayes-7 Nays-0 Motion carried

### Other business – discussion and possible action re:

Motion by Schmidt and seconded by Rose to approve Resolution #20-18 “Resolution Formally Establishing the Boundaries of and Approving the Project Plan for Tax Incremental District No. 3”  
Ayes-6 Nays-0 Abstain-West Motion carried

Motion by Burch and seconded by Lutz to approval of Amber Krumenauer to the Library Board  
Ayes-7 Nays-0 Motion carried

### Approval of Class “B” Liquor License

Motion by Rose and seconded by West to approve the Class B Liquor and Beer license for S&T PYs Bar & Grill LLC at 107 & 109 Cascade Street  
Ayes-7 Nays-0 Motion carried

Motion by Gilliland and seconded by Burch to approval the Special Event Permit for the Chamber of Commerce to hold Sidewalk Sales on September 24-27, October 8-11, 15-18, and October 29-November 1, 2020  
Ayes-7 Nays-0 Motion carried

### 2021 Budget Workshop

Krumenauer reviewed projected 2021 revenues and expenditure and answered questions from the Board.

**REVENUES**-The Village is expecting an increase in net new construction of 2.68%. The closure of TIF#1 helps by values coming back online. The revenues from the State are flat; other miscellaneous revenues are difficult to forecast. The debt service levy is the same. Schmidt asks about hydrant rent going down and Krumenauer stated we are playing it safe and conservative because we don't know yet. The Utility owes the General Fund for their share of expenses. At his stage in the budget we are at a \$62,000 deficit. We could rely more on the utility paybacks to the general fund or become more aggressive on increasing revenues or decreasing expenses. Lutz asked what strategy was used in the past with Krumenauer responding to be conservative in the unknowns. Schmidt asked about more aggressive payback on the sewer. Krumenauer commented they do owe us the funds and we could amend the budget to pay us back faster. West asked about the \$62,000 in expenditures exceeding revenues. Krumenauer explained that a big chunk is staff with the administration department down and police up due to the WRS in the Police Dept. being underestimated due to human error. Lutz asked about financial commitments due to union contracts. Schmidt stated the 4% increase in the police is robust because they were not treated fairly in the past and the Board wanted to catch them up. Rose in the past we have hired and trained officers to have them leave. Gilliland commented on the fact that we are \$60,000 in the red, we did a good job of keeping ourselves above water this year and it's amazing we look so good. Krumenauer stated in 2020 we froze every project and had no excessive expenditures. Burch wants to discuss the hiring of an additional officer as our part time officer budget is high. Initially we assumed we were not getting the COPS grant, now we gotten it, and are moving ahead with the

position. Burch stated we are a 24-hr. dept., and even with some part time still feels we need one additional hire plus the COPS grant. Schmidt is concerned the COPS grant is only three years, then the grant funding goes away with all expense coming on line to the Village. Krumenauer reminded we do have the one position funded. Under the terms of the grant each year the Village pays more of the expense, and we must retain the position for one year after the grant is closed. Gilliland is hopeful we have revenue to support the position after the grant and is concerned if we get two new full-time positions now how we could afford them in future. Burch is hoping we figure out a way in the future to add another officer.

## **EXPENDITURES**

Krumenauer reviewed projected 2021 expenses. Administrative went down considerably with shifting the wages for one position more to utilities. With only two elections next year, there is no fiscal impact for election worker wage increase. Lutz asked if we are presenting a balanced budget and what the path is to get to there. Krumenauer stated it is a balanced budget. Krumenauer stated the Administration Dept. is thin, and even though we are the least thanked dept. our paperwork keeps the whole village running. There is not new work being done, but a reallocation of where it is being paid from. Gilliland asks about parks and public works 2020 projected insurance costs. Krumenauer stated the costs have been plugged in. Buberl asks about proposed airport expenses for 2021. Krumenauer has not inputted the airport yet as it does not count against our general budget. Rose asked if the Fire Dept. wages per fire were comparable to other depts. Schmidt is comfortable with what they are being paid and stated it was getting hard to staff the ambulance and we may need to ask fire dept to assist. Krumenauer recommended three options on how to get budget difference to zero: 1.) Be less conservative on revenues by reducing the amount of \$40,000 to reserves, proposing \$17,000 though RDA reimbursement for TID with the new district this amount will go up to \$25,000. 2.) Reduce expenditures by cutting contracts or services, increasing the percent of benefits paid by employees, reducing funding to the Chamber, Main Street program, PCEDC. 3.) Increasing user fees for things like title searches. Schmidt stated he doesn't want to balance the budget on the employees, as we need good morale. Rose and Buberl agreed. Gilliland supports being more aggressive with revenues. Lutz supports adding the special assessment search revenue. Krumenauer also stated we need to put in the in the fireworks permit revenue. Buberl asks about our building permit fees being low and Rose supported a modest increase to keep us comparable to others. Krumenauer is revisiting impact fee schedules. Our budget is lean and it may be tough to trim any fat. Perhaps we could decrease expenses in some areas such as watering all the parks, or doing some beautification but not necessarily a core need. Waters says for the amount of time and money spent the Village could develop a space for lawn brush and reduce our need for providing the services. Waters also said 2020 has been different in sanitation with a massive uptake in visitors it has taken his staff an extreme amount of time to keep downtown clean. Van asks about backup and Waters replied it has been a tough year with flu and covid resulting in the Parks budget almost tripling for the three of them to keep things up. Krumenauer wanted to cut the IT contract, but we have a we have a five-year contract and the small print says if we leave, we have to pay the discount back. We may want to renegotiate in another three years. We are saving by reducing cleaning services. We are decreasing some discretionary purchases. Buberl asks if we had debts to collect next year. Buberl wants to find long term solutions and not quick fixes. Schmidt asks if library is included in belt tightening. Krumenauer responded the library I in that by statute we allocate and they leave, spend. We also cover portions of debt related to the library and would not recommend any decreases at this point. Buberl asked dept heads for budget comments? Pedrys stated he has seen the budget and challenges presented. There were no special events this year resulting in reduced staffing, and off-site training was reduced as well. Caruso commented he is trying to keep a close eye on everything and still meet state requirements to maintain our infrastructure. Huge budget items are treatment chemicals, and biosolids. They are working on mapping and other things that cost labor and not materials. Buberl and Gilliland commented our rates were stagnant for a long time and we need to keep up with rates so we don't get behind again. Waters thanked Krumenauer for working with him, it felt like a team goal. Maintenance has not increased, mostly wages. More needs to be budgeted for signs that need replacement for safety and would like to concentrate on infrastructure moving forward.

Krumenauer commented the bulk of the budget is sitting OK and we have a path forward. Burch is impressed with the numbers being better than expected. Rose goes back to a year ago and the hard path

then that is better now and credits Krumenauer for guiding us. Krumenauer stated the proposed budget will be in front of the Board in October for public hearing and adoption.

**Discussion of and action on any other appropriate items**

Rose recognizes the recent passing away of former Village Trustee Wally Piszczek.

The meeting was adjourned at by Village President Buberl at 7:36 p.m.