

VILLAGE OF OSCEOLA
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING PROCEEDINGS
November 29, 2023

The Village of Osceola met for a Special meeting on November 29, 2023, at Village Hall. Village President Brad Lutz called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Present: Brad Lutz, Bruce Gilliland, Neil Kline, Van Burch, Arvid Maki, Bill Chantelois IV and Marsha Hovey
Staff present: Devin Swanberg, Carie Krentz, Tanya Batchelor, Ron Pedrys, Andrew Bach, Todd Waters, Paul Elfstrom, and Joey Cutts

Motion by Burch and seconded by Gilliland to approve agenda.

Ayes-7 Nays-0 Motion carried

Public Hearing - 2024 Budget

Tyler Norenberg at 101 2nd Ave, had two questions (1) in regard to the 2022 Audited Financial Statements from Johnson Block, why do we not have a management discussion and analysis? (2) What are the biggest financial challenges of the Village and what are we doing to address them?

Swanberg stated this is not a discussion and Lutz said issues would be addressed further in the agenda.

Motion by Gilliland and seconded Maki by to close the public hearing.

Ayes-7 Nays-0 Motion carried

Proposed amendments to 2024 Budget

Revenues & Expenses:

Swanberg started with the proposed balanced budget for 2024 with \$155,000 borrow to balance. This borrow does not need to be decided tonight. There are two options to keep a balanced budget (1) borrow option for equipment and maintenance or (2) comes from the General Fund, which would be made up of land sales, closure of the TID #2 and other revenues of the Village. Addressed Public Hearing questions one of the Villages biggest challenges is the low balance in the General Fund(GF). It's recommended to have a 6-month cushion in GF and currently we have less than one month – it's severely underfunded. His recommendation is to move forward with the borrow but does not have to be decided tonight. Revenues on budget are set for 2024. Discussion between board members on the options to fill the gap in the budget. An example of the effect of the borrow was given by Batchelor, with the same levy as this year but added the borrow of \$160,000 to it would be an increase on taxes of \$15 per year on a \$300,000 home, \$10 on a \$200,000 home, and \$5 on a \$100,000 home. Grant options were brought up and Swanberg stated they will be available, however; the guidelines haven't been given to the Village at this time. More discussion on the borrow. Swanberg stated the borrow would not take place until April 2024 and be included with the CIP borrow to reduce the cost and administrative fees that go with borrowing funds. Maki asked Swanberg to go through costs on tax payers if we move forward with the borrow as stated above the \$15, \$10 and \$5 increase depending on value of home. Gilliland reiterated that the taxes are collected for not only the Village but also the County, School District and the Technical School. Lutz will vote no to any borrow for any reason.

Swanberg went over expenses and said the Village is looking at a 3.9% increase in expenses from last year. That being said, both unions have accepted contracts with a 5% increase in wages for police and public works/utility workers. That was due to last year with inflation being 10% and only giving a 3% raise. This year its close to 6/7% inflation with raises still below that mark. All departments have kept their budgets as lean as possible. A large cut was for part-time police officer budget. The main reason for increase in expenses is due to inflation cost of equipment and materials. No questions for department heads or treasurer.

Resolution #23-10 “To Appropriate Funds for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2024 and to Authorize the Levy of a Sufficient Tax Upon the Taxable Property within the Village of Osceola”

Lutz read Resolution #23-10 “To Appropriate Funds for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2024 and to Authorize the Levy of a Sufficient Tax Upon the Taxable Property within the Village of Osceola.”

Motion by Gilliland and seconded by Chantelois to approve Resolution #23-10 as presented.

Ayes-7 Nays-0 Motion carried

Motion by Gilliland and seconded by Burch to go into close session proceedings at pm pursuant to Wisconsin Statue 19.85 (1)(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. This pertains to 2024 administration staff.

Roll call vote: Ayes- Hovey, Maki, Gilliland, Lutz, Burch, Chantelois, Kline Nays-0 Motion carried

Motion by Gilliland and seconded by Burch to come out of close session proceedings.

Roll call vote: Ayes-Kline, Chantelois, Burch, Lutz, Gilliland, Maki, Hovey Nays-0 Motion carried

Future agenda items and updates

n/a

President Lutz adjourned the meeting at 7:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Carie Krentz, Village Clerk