

VILLAGE OF OSCEOLA
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING PROCEEDINGS
October 30, 2024

The Village of Osceola met for a Special meeting on October 30, 2024, at Village Hall. Village President Lutz called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Present: Brad Lutz, Van Burch, Marsha Hovey, Neil Kline, Arvid Maki, and Ron Pedrys

Absent: Mike Sine

Staff/Others present: Devin Swanberg, Tanya Batchelor, Carie Krentz, Todd Waters, Rick Caruso, Andrew Bach, Paul Elfstrom, Joey Cutts, Deb Rose and Joe Greene

Motion by Burch and seconded by Maki to approve agenda.

Ayes-6

Nays-0

Motion carried

Other Business – Discussion and possible action re:

2025 Budget Workshop

Swanberg started by asking for a special meeting to approve final budget to be held on Wednesday, December 4th at 6:00 pm and was agreed by all.

Swanberg began by going over the Summary budget of General Fund, touching on insurance savings, sale of land and interest earned. Continued into Admin highlighting 10% of administrator's salary will be covered by TIDs, overall a slight decrease compared to 2024, savings in new phone system.

Airport was reviewed next and Greene, Airport Commission member, stated a new \$10K admin fee was added to their budget, which he feels hampers their overall budget. Asking for this to be removed. Swanberg stated that admin staff does a lot of work for Airport, such as hangar lease payments, renewals, fire inspections, commission packets and all account payables. If manager was willing to take on more of these tasks wouldn't be as large. The fee is much lower if they had to contract to do these services. This fee is also charged to other departments where services are used. Board asked for a more accurate budget and amount admin staff is doing.

No discussion on court budget. Swanberg highlighted Fire Department increases for budget, which were 5% wage increase, health screening and increase in maintenance of equipment. Lengthy discussion on increases and board agreed a \$.50 increase was more manageable due to increasing wages substantially in 2023.

Swanberg went into Library next, stating overall budget is not determined by him or board except for the amount the Village contributes to the Library. Rose, Library Board member, stated there has not been any additional funds given to the library since moving into the new building in 2018. Went over the need and good the Library does for the community. Discussion on the amount and need of the funds. Members agreed with the good the Library is for the community, with budget constraints felt a smaller amount of \$16K would be manageable.

Swanberg went into Police budget stated the budget is showing wages for the two new hires with one at the lowest scale and one at the highest scale (depending on experience of applicants). Currently interviewing two with less experience and feels this is a good number for budgeting. Chief Bach went into a need for a wellness program, paying for a gym membership for all officers. Board discussed at length and agreed to use current health insurance program to make sure it is being utilized.

Public works budget is more complicated due to having 8 different areas where their time is spent. Waters stated it's showing approx. 8% increase, mostly in wages but also in items that can't be controlled, such as snow removal, electricity, equipment maintenance, etc. Swanberg stated he is still looking into a storm water utility. Discussion took place on contract grass mowing with ideas to lower this amount.

Brief update on where utilities stand from Caruso. Hoping to have more for the November board meeting.

After changes discussed this evening the budget is showing a deficit of \$122K. Direction to staff to get it under \$100K for November's board meeting. Swanberg stated that the 2023 audit will also be presented at the November meeting.

Motion by Hovey and seconded by Burch to table closed session and move to November meeting.
Ayes-6 Nays-0 Motion carried

President Lutz adjourned the meeting at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Carie Krentz, Village Clerk