

**VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE**  
**WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN**  
(Official Minutes)

SPECIAL JOINT 2007 BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING of the VILLAGE OF FONTANA  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES with the FINANCE COMMITTEE

**Thursday, October 5, 2006**

President Whowell called the special joint session meeting of the Village Board and Finance Committee to order at 5:00 pm in the Village Hall, 175 Valley View Drive, Fontana, Wisconsin.

**Trustees present:** Roll call vote: Bidwill, Pollitt, Turner (left at 5:32 pm), O'Connell, President Whowell

**Trustees absent:** Petersen, Bromfield

**Finance Committee members present:** Roll call vote: Trustee Pollitt, Jim Feeney, Drew Gilchrist, Arlene Patek, Lou Loenneke

**Finance Committee member absent:** Rick McCue

**Also present:** Police Lt. Brad Buchholz, Village Administrator Kelly Hayden-Staggs, Fire Chief Jon Kemmett, Library Director Nancy Krei, Village Clerk Dennis Martin, Village Treasurer Peg Pollitt

**General Business**

**Little Chiefs Basketball Program Donation Request**

President Whowell stated the \$1,000 donation request was made by George Spadoni and Britt Isham at the October 2, 2006 Village Board meeting, at which time the matter was referred to the budget workshop meeting. O'Connell stated that she thinks the traveling basketball program is a very worthy cause and she intends to make a personal contribution to the program; however, it is not a good idea for the Board to approve a municipal donation for the private program. O'Connell stated that municipal funds already are allocated to the Big Foot Recreation Department. Trustee Pollitt stated that the Finance Committee also discussed the request, and it was the consensus of the committee that it would be a bad precedent to allocate funds to a private organization. Trustee Pollitt also stated that the Village already allocates \$4,500 annually to the Big Foot Recreation Program. In response to a question from Bidwill, Hayden-Staggs stated that Big Foot Recreation Department Director Keith Graunke handles the budget for the program. President Whowell stated that he is planning to make a personal donation to the program, and he does not think the Village should worry about setting a precedent if a municipal donation was approved. Hayden-Staggs stated that the use of municipal funds for a private club sport is probably not a good idea; however, there is about \$4,000 remaining in the Community Chest Fund and some of that money could be allocated to the Little Chiefs Basketball Program. Turner stated that he also will be making a personal donation to the program, but the Village should just stick to allocating tax funds to the Big Foot Recreation Program or the Village could receive similar requests from many other privately operated programs. Bidwill stated that he agrees the Little Chiefs Basketball Program is a private operation, and even though he would like to provide the needed financial support, it would not be appropriate to use municipal funds. President Whowell stated that it was the consensus of the Board that the donation request will not be approved, so he moved on to the next agenda item.

**Marvla Lindberg Request for Accident Reimbursement**

Hayden-Staggs stated that the total amount of reimbursement being requested by Marvla Lindberg

that is not covered by the Village insurance policy is \$104 in lost wages for the one day of work Lindberg missed because of her accident on Second Avenue in front of the Fontana Public Library. The insurance policy covered the cost of Lindberg's health insurance co-pay amount and the cost for new eyeglasses. Hayden-Staggs stated that Lindberg has agreed to sign a waiver if the Board approves the payment of the lost wages. At the October 2, 2006 Village Board meeting, Hayden-Staggs distributed an email she received from Lindberg that requests reimbursement from the Village for work time Lindberg missed following the accident on August 15, 2006. Lindberg tripped on the pavement in the construction zone and the injuries she suffered caused her to miss a day of work. Lindberg's email states, "I hope the Board will consider reimbursement for my time off work, due to my fall on the unfinished curb-pan across the street from the library entrance."

Turner/Pollitt 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve a payment of \$150 to Marvla Lindberg with the condition that Lindberg signs a waiver that releases the Village from any future claims regarding the accident, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

### **Fire Department Presentation on Fire Truck Purchase Plan**

Prior to the agenda item, Turner stated that he wanted to make a few general comments before he had to leave the meeting at 5:30 pm for another commitment. Turner stated that he attended the Finance Committee's final budget preparation meeting earlier on October 5, 2006 and he favors the preliminary budget as presented by the Finance Committee. Turner stated that the Finance Committee did a brilliant job on the budget, which calls for no increase in the municipal tax rate. Turner stated that some of the capital item requests cut from the Park Commission budget proposal may be picked up by the CDA and the Park Commission budget will be adequate as adjusted by the Finance Committee. Turner stated that if favored by the rest of the Village Board, the purchase of the new fire engine should be capitalized over a 10- to 15-year borrowing period to coincide with the life expectancy of the new truck. Chief Kemmett then presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Fire Department's proposal to sell its 1980 Pierce fire engine and 1967 Jeep and purchase a new rescue pumper engine for \$386,000 to \$500,000. Kemmett stated that he updated the PowerPoint presentation from the initial version that was shown to the Finance and Protection committees at a joint meeting last month. Kemmett stated that the Fire Department has been working on an engine replacement plan for the last 10 years, and the 26-year-old engine that was purchased new by the Village has to be replaced as soon as possible. The new engine has a 500-gallon water tank, a system for filling firefighter's air packs, the capacity to house an incident command post, and seating for six fully equipped firefighters, as well as the driver. Kemmett stated that the 1980 Pierce and the 1967 Jeep can be sold for about \$10,000-\$15,000 and \$5,000, respectively, to a department located in one of the southern states that don't adhere to the same high level of federal compliance safety standards that are required in Wisconsin. Kemmett stated that even if it were repaired, the 1980 Pierce cannot be brought back up to the current compliance standards because of weight limitations. Besides the funds the Village can derive from the sale of the 1980 Pierce and 1967 Jeep, Kemmett stated that the department also has \$200 in public donations for the purchase of a new truck. Kemmett stated that the department has no preference between purchasing the new engine from Pierce, a Wisconsin company, for about \$500,000, or from Central State, a South Dakota company, for about \$386,000. Kemmett stated that lease purchasing would allow the Village to delay payment until one year after delivery, and after one year, the engine could be paid for on a monthly basis. In response to questions, Kemmett stated that the Walworth Fire Department has a 1987 tanker, and the Fontana Fire Department made several unsuccessful attempts to secure grant funds for the purchase of a new truck. Trustee Pollitt stated that Kemmett answered all of the Finance Committee's initial concerns and he did a good job updating the PowerPoint presentation to address all of the aspects of the issue. The Village Board was in consensus that the new truck should be purchased from Central States for about \$386,000, and the purchase will be addressed in the budget.

### **VOF Budget 2007 Workshop**

Trustee Pollitt stated that the Finance Committee met prior to the joint session and finalized the

preliminary budget. Trustee Pollitt stated that he was going to present the proposed Capital Outlay and Improvements budget and Hayden-Staggs was going to present the revenues and levy limit information. Nancy Krei asked if the Village Board and Finance Committee could go through the proposed budget for the library because she had to attend another meeting that night. Trustee Pollitt stated that the only change made to the budget submitted by the library was addressed with representatives of the Library Board and it was his understanding that the change was going to be explained to Krei by the board members who met with the committee. Trustee Pollitt stated that the Finance Committee reduced the level of funding for the purchase of new computers from the initially requested \$10,000 to \$5,000, and if more computers are needed next year, more funding will be allocated at that time. Krei stated that upon further investigation, the Library Board determined that \$5,000 should be adequate to purchase the desired computers. Trustee Pollitt stated that there were no further cuts recommended by the Finance Committee to the library's initial budget. Hayden-Staggs stated that after the initial meetings with the department heads, the Finance Committee only reviewed the capital item expenditure requests. Trustee Pollitt stated that the Finance Committee and department heads reached agreements with regard to operating expenses. Trustee Pollitt stated that Turner indicated at the Finance Committee meeting that the CDA will help fund the budget items that were cut from the Park Commission's initially proposed budget. Trustee Pollitt stated that the Village has a lot of additional operating expenses this year that have been generated from the changes and improvements being made to the Village infrastructure and land. Trustee Pollitt stated that the budget proposed is preliminary and there will be one more workshop meeting held Thursday, October 26, 2006, at 5:00 pm, before the 2007 budget is set for public hearing. The public hearing will be held Monday, November 20, 2006, beginning at 5:00 pm. Hayden-Staggs stated that even though the Finance Committee and Village Board are in consensus that the preliminary budget is ready for publication, there are a couple weeks figured into the process to receive and calculate the final numbers from the state. Hayden-Staggs stated the Village was in a position to add up to \$131,000 to its total tax levy from last year and still maintain the same tax rate and meet the state imposed 2 percent cap on increasing the levy limit. Hayden-Staggs stated that because of an increase in the total value of the municipality, the Village of Fontana actually could increase its levy by up to 9 percent over last year. The general fund budget total for 2006 was \$3,930,655, and it currently is proposed to increase by 4.5 percent to \$4,212,965. The levy is proposed to increase 3.69 percent from \$2,361,957 to \$2,449,274. President Whowell asked the Finance Committee how the members felt about the street reconstruction budget, and if the current schedule will address all the roads before they exceed their total life expectancy of about 20 years. Trustee Pollitt stated that the committee cut the street reconstruction budget from \$370,000 to \$185,000 this year, but if there are any additional funds available after the final tax rate is calculated, they should be allocated to the roads budget. Hayden-Staggs stated that the Village could levy up to \$112,000 more than proposed in the initial budget and meet the state imposed levy increase limit; however, the tax rate would go up about 4.5 percent over last year's rate. Feeney stated that the Finance Committee felt that the Village will be in a position to address more of the road reconstruction priority list next year. President Whowell stated that he just wanted to be sure the committee members and Trustees are planning for the future with regard to road reconstruction. Feeney stated that Turner indicated the CDA will look into using more TIF funds to finance the road reconstruction schedule. Hayden-Staggs stated that the Village has to keep in mind that when the roads are reconstructed, there are accompanying expenses for water and utility construction. The Finance Committee and Village Board were in consensus that the preliminary budget was good as presented. In response to questions from Lt. Buchholz, Hayden-Staggs stated that it was discussed with Chief Olson at the last staff meeting that the items taken out of the Police Department's Capital Outlay and Improvements preliminary budget are going to be purchased with surplus funds in the 2006 budget. An approximate \$600 radar, \$5,500 squad digital camera system, and \$11,000 lease for a new squad car will be funded in the 2006 budget. Lt. Buchholz was directed to obtain price quotes for the items and to present them to the Protection Committee for approval. O'Connell stated if there is "wiggle room" found in the 2007 proposed budget during the next few weeks, the additional funds should be allocated to the road

improvements schedule. Bidwill stated that he was concerned the Village only receives a donation of \$7,500 from Frank Dobbs to cover the Village expenses in hosting the annual Lake Geneva Triathlon. Bidwill stated that participants pay an entrance fee of \$100 and there were about 2,000 participants in this year's event. Following discussion, the Village Board was in consensus that the donation from Dobbs should be increased substantially or the Village should look into running the event. Hayden-Staggs stated that one other issue that has to be resolved for the 2007 budget is the need to mud-jack the foundation of the Fontana Safety Building. The final 2007 budget workshop meeting will be held Thursday, October 26, 2006, and the public hearing will be held Monday, November 20, 2006, both beginning at 5:00 pm.

**Adjournment**

O'Connell/Pollitt 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Dennis L. Martin, Village Clerk

Note: These minutes are subject to further editing. Once approved by the Village Board and Finance Committee, the official minutes will be on file at the Village Hall.

APPROVED: 11/06/06