

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

SPECIAL JOINT 2008 BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING of the VILLAGE OF FONTANA
BOARD OF TRUSTEES with the FINANCE COMMITTEE

Monday, October 15, 2007

President Pollitt called the special joint session meeting of the Village Board and Finance Committee to order at 6:06 pm in the Village Hall, 175 Valley View Drive, Fontana, Wisconsin.

Trustees present: Roll call vote: President Pollitt, Petersen, Youngquist, Turner, O'Connell, Spadoni

Finance Committee members present: Roll call vote: President Pollitt, Jim Feeney, Drew Gilchrist, Arlene Patek, Lou Loenneke, Rick McCue

Also present: Police Lt. Brad Buchholz, Mary Kay Frazier, Village Administrator Kelly Hayden-Staggs, Rob Ireland, Fire Chief Jon Kemmett, Library Director Nancy Krei, Village Clerk Dennis Martin, CDA Executive Director Joseph McHugh, Sharon O'Brien, Police Chief Steve Olson, Village Treasurer Peg Pollitt, Dolly Schneidwind, Director of Public Works Craig Workman

General Business

VOF Budget 2008 Workshop

President Pollitt stated that although the final state levy limit information has not been received, the Finance Committee and Village staff drafted the preliminary budget using a 2 percent levy limit increase. In presenting the preliminary expenses, Hayden-Staggs stated that all of the employee salaries are slated to be increased by 3 percent, with the exception of the Protection Committee's budget request to raise the salaries of the chief and lieutenant positions at a rate greater than 3 percent. The Village Board decided to hold a closed session meeting to review all of the non-represented employee salaries and to determine if any salary increases should be greater than 3 percent. Hayden-Staggs stated that the Park Commission budget request for \$10,500 for basketball and hard courts at the Duck Pond Recreation Area was cut from the proposed expenses. Later in the meeting, Turner stated that the basketball and hard courts for the Duck Pond can be funded by the CDA through the TID project plan. Hayden-Staggs stated that the Library Board's preliminary budget includes the addition of another full-time employee. Benefits for a new full-time employee would cost the Village about \$20,000 per year. The Finance Committee also cut \$5,000 from the proposed Library Board budget for new public use computers, and directed the Library Board to plan a phased purchase plan for the computers used by the public. Krei stated that the Library Board wants to consolidate the part-time positions into a new full-time position and offer the position to a current part-time staff member. Krei stated that if approved, the library open hours would be expanded by five more hours per week. Drew Gilchrist stated that the Finance Committee requested employee scheduling and operating hour information to determine if the hours could be allocated in a different manner, or if another full-time employee is required. Turner stated that rather than looking at creating another full-time employee position, the Library Board should stick with hiring more part-time personnel. Turner stated that a full-time employee is very costly, especially considering the required benefits. Turner stated that a compromise is available in the scheduling without having to create another full-time position. Spadoni stated that the new computers for public use should be added back into the library budget because the computers are used by the children and elderly residents who live in Fontana. Turner stated that the Village Board should direct the Finance Committee to add the new computers back into the budget for \$3,000, to eliminate the new full-time

position, and to budget for additional part-time employees to fill the additional hours that the Library Board wants the library to stay open to the public. The Village Board was in consensus with Turner's proposal. The Village Board also directed the Human Resources Committee to draft a policy on how to handle the offering of benefits to part-time employees. Hayden-Staggs stated that the Park Commission's proposed budget does not yet include the figure for the services currently provided by Brickman. Brickman is no longer offering its contracted services in the area. Hayden-Staggs stated that another firm has submitted a bid for the contracted landscaping services for the Village planting beds. Hayden-Staggs stated that the Recreation budget was cut from \$4,500 to \$2,500 to reflect the reduction in the annual allocation made to the Ball and Glove Program. The Finance Committee recommended a donation of \$2,000 to the Ball and Glove Program to bring the Village of Fontana in line with the donations made by the other municipalities in the Big Foot High School District. The other \$500 is for the Village's annual Easter Egg Hunt. Spadoni stated that the donation to the Ball and Glove Program should not have been reduced, or the money should be left in the budget to be presented to people who come to the Village Board to request funds for programs or organizations that provide recreational opportunities for the children of the community. Petersen stated that Village residents already fund recreation programs for children through the Big Foot Recreation Department budget. Petersen stated that the Recreation Program prepares an annual budget for its programs, and the budget is funded with taxes. Following a lengthy discussion, President Pollitt stated that he would like to take a straw vote on a proposal made by Spadoni to add \$2,000 in undesignated funds to the Recreation Department budget to be distributed to organizations, clubs or sports teams that keep the children off the streets. Spadoni and Youngquist stated that they are in favor of the proposal. Petersen stated that the Recreation Department has its own budget and it is funded with taxes, so he is opposed to the proposal. President Pollitt and Turner stated that they agree with Petersen. O'Connell stated that she thinks all of the municipalities should be helping to fund the Ball and Glove Program, not just the Village of Fontana; however, she did not have an opinion one way or the other with regard to the proposal made by Spadoni. President Pollitt stated that Spadoni's proposal failed to earn approval from the straw vote, which was two votes in favor, three votes opposed and one abstention. The Village Board was in consensus that the Fire Department supplies line item should be increased to the initial level requested by Chief Kemmett. With regard to the Capital Outlay and Improvement Summary, Hayden-Staggs stated that the Finance Committee cut a Police Department request for a new sport utility vehicle (SUV) squad, and left in a \$5,500 request for a new digital camera. The Finance Committee determined that the current SUV squad does not have that many miles on it, and it can be used for at least one more year. Other Capital Outlay items in the preliminary budget are two new lifeguard stands for \$3,000; four computers, two scanners and a printer for the library public use stations, \$3,000; and \$580,000 for Highway Maintenance and a new tractor. The Highway Maintenance budget includes the Stearns Road drainage project, \$30,000; Timber Trail street reconstruction, \$385,000; and Indian Hills Road street reconstruction, \$140,000. The new tractor, to be split between the Public Works Department and Park Commission budget, is budgeted for \$25,000. President Pollitt stated that the Finance Committee wants to keep all of the proposed street projects in the budget, because it is an area that the Village has neglected in the past and it will be much more costly in the future if the infrastructure is not kept up and starts to deteriorate. Hayden-Staggs stated that prior to the changes directed that night and with the exact levy limit still not certain, the preliminary levy is \$2,542,022, which is 2.014 percent greater than last year's levy of \$2,491,827. President Pollitt stated that the workshop meeting was called in order to get the budget close to its publication form, not to debate policy. President Pollitt stated that once the levy is set and the budget finalized, the Village Board still can tweak the line items and deviate from the initially approved budget if desired. President Pollitt stated that the preliminary budget will be modified to reflect the direction provided at the meeting, and the revenue limit rate should be determined by the state in the near future. The final budget and levy proposal has to be ready for publication by Monday, October 29, 2007, and the public hearing for the 2008 budget will be held Monday, November 19, 2007, beginning at 5:00 pm.

Adjournment

Trustee Spadoni/Trustee Petersen 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the Village Board meeting at 7:39 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Loenneke/McCue 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the Finance Committee meeting at 7:39 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: 11/05/07