

**VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE
WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

**(Official Minutes)
Finance Committee
January 27, 2022**

The Virtual Finance Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Pat Kenny at 4:00 pm on Thursday, January 27, 2022.

Members Present: President Pat Kenny, Thomas Freytag, Mike Sheyker, Tom Marek, Rob Rowe, Bob Klockars, Jim Feeney

Members Absent:

Also Present: Jeff Cates, Kevin Day, Theresa Loomer, Wolfgang Nitsch, Stephanie Smith, Scott Vilona

General Business

Approve Minutes for the Meeting held on December 29, 2021

The incorrect date was listed on the agenda and the correct minutes will be distributed for the next meeting.

EMS/Paramedic Employee Staffing

Loomer stated the Village has been contracting with Metro for 24/7 service since the referendum in 2017. The referendum was passed in 2017 with overwhelming support. Due to staff shortages Metro has violated the contract on numerous occasions. Loomer stated there has been discussion of bringing the EMS/Paramedic Staff in house and making the Metro employees Village employees. The annual cost to keep the contract with Metro is \$649,282.80 and the approximate estimated cost to bring the staff in house as Village staff is \$618,418.74. Chief Nitsch explained they have lost five or six good paramedics to other departments because they are not receiving benefits. Many other departments are paying higher salaries and providing benefits. Nitsch stated the staff are all dedicated individuals that show loyalty to the department and the Village needs to show the loyalty in return. There was discussion if the Village has the necessary equipment and Chief Nitsch clarified the department has all the necessary equipment in-house and just needs the staff to run it. Loomer stated the contract with Metro expires on April 30, 2022 and Metro is aware they have breached the contract on numerous occasions.

Feeney/Sheyker 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of bringing EMS/Paramedic staff in house as Village employees, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Update on EMS/Paramedic Employee Staffing Discussions with Williams Bay

President Kenny stated Williams Bay has come to the Village with the same EMS/Paramedic staffing problems and would like to work something out together. Kenny explained there are many details to work out and only initial discussions have taken place.

Police Donations Account

Chief Cates stated on a regular basis the Police Department receives small donations that are spent on events in the same year. Just recently the Police Department received a donation in the amount of \$20,000 with the condition it stays with the Police Department. Scott Vilona with Municipal Financial Services, LLC stated statutorily only the Fire Department is allowed to have a separate donations account and he is waiting to hear back from the auditors in regard to their opinion. Vilona stated it is more of a problem if the funds are not spent within the year as then the funds would roll over to the general fund balance. Vilona stated the simplest approach would be to keep the funds off book and track the board approved expenditures on a spreadsheet.

Klockars/Marek 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of tracking approved expenditures in the amount of the \$20,000 for the designated Police Department

donation, subject to the opinion from the auditors, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Utility Billing Portal and Email Options Quote from Tyler Technologies

Loomer stated the quotes included in the packet are for having the capability to have an online portal for residents to login and view their utility account balances, make payments, and have bills emailed rather than mailed. The total cost of the entire suite is \$7,448 with an annual reoccurring cost of \$1,843. The annual cost should break even by the quarterly postage savings. Sheyker/Rowe 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the quotes from Tyler Technologies for Utility Billing Portal and Email options, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Proposed TID Infrastructure Projects

Loomer stated any projects with in the TID must be started by September 2023 in order to be funded by the TID. A couple of potential projects that have been identified are Parking Lot. No. 2 by the harbor, Fontana Boulevard, Lake Street, a portion of Wild Duck Road and Parking lot. Public Works Director Kevin Day is looking into the cost of replacing the sprinkler system on Fontana Boulevard. Loomer stated more information will be brought back next month.

Simple Water Rate Increase Update

Vilona stated the simple rate increase is dictated by the PSC and the Village will not be able to do anything until the final numbers come in from the auditors.

Adjournment

Feeny/Freytag 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 4:49 pm, and the motion carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Stephanie Smith, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

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

APPROVED: 02/24/2022