

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

**(Official Minutes)**

**Joint Committee Meeting of the Village of Fontana Finance Committee  
and the Village of Williams Bay Finance Committee**

June 23, 2022

The Joint Finance Committee meeting with Williams Bay was called to order by Fontana Chairman Pat Kenny at 10:02 am on Thursday, June 23, 2022.

**Fontana Members Present:** Chairman Pat Kenny, Mike Sheyker, Tom Marek, Jim Feeney, Bob Klockars, Rob Rowe

**Fontana Members Absent:** Thomas Freytag

**Williams Bay Members Present:** Jim D’Alessandro, Rob Umans, Lowell Wright

**Williams Bay Members Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Coco (student intern), Liz Baumann, Theresa Loomer, Drew Lussow, Chief Nitsch, Becky Tobin, Scott Vilona, Adam Jaramillo

**General Business**

**EMS/Fire Referendum**

- 1. Financing for EMS/Fire**
- 2. Language for Question on the Ballot**
- 3. Marketing Strategy**

Fontana Administrator Loomer stated that it was originally planned to hire seven full-time EMS/Fire staff members for each department for a total of 14 full-time employees. Based on a cost analysis, staff is recommending filling 12 full-time positions and covering the other two positions with part time staff which will result in a cost savings. There was discussion for purposes of the proposed referendum about whether to budget for 14 full-time staff members or 12 full-time staff members plus part time staff, and how far out to project costs. Loomer prepared a spreadsheet with projected costs over three- and five-year time period at a 3% and 5% increase per year for a department with six full-time staff members and a department with seven full-time staff members. Treasurer Scott Vilona stated it would be in the Village’s best interest to ask for the 7 full-time employees (FTE) at the 5% rate over a 5-year span to cover costs for both village’s during this time. President Kenny stated he believes it would be in the Village’s best interest to ask for the maximum amount now and use the language of FTE’s which would provide the flexibility of six plus part-time or 7 full-time staff members. There was positive discussion from both Committees regarding these ideas and both liked the idea of moving forward with what was being discussed. Chief Nitsch stated he has worked in both communities for a good portion of his career and believes partnering together will be a huge benefit for the residents of each village. He also recommended holding a Town Hall meeting to educate the public about what could happen if this referendum does not pass and how that could impact residents. In addition, since both communities are seen as growing and are continuing to do so, this would help ensure that all 24/7 shifts would be covered, and we wouldn’t be short staffed in supporting each community when they might need it most. Loomer stated that once the boards approve moving forward with the referendum and specified dollar amount, staff will need to work with attorneys and have the proposed question reviewed by the Dept. of Revenue. Lastly, an annual review process was discussed and would be instituted to review how things are working between the two communities and things could be revised and revisited at these annual review proceedings. Both Committees then discussed a potential rough schedule they would like to follow in order to bring these ideas to each respective Village Board Meeting in August and hopefully finalize additional details the next time they should reconvene.

Member Klockars/Member Sheyker 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve the proposal for the financing of 7 full-time equivalent EMS/Fire employees and to take an amount of \$928,000 to the Ballot as the proposed referendum amount, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Williams Bay members made a motion similar to the Village of Fontana to approve the proposal for the financing of 7 full-time equivalent EMS/Fire employees and to take an amount of \$928,000 to the Ballot as the proposed referendum amount, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Adjournment**

Member Klockars/Member Sheyker 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 10:53 am, and the motion carried without negative vote.

Williams Bay Members made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 10:54 am, and the motion carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Drew Lussow, Village Clerk

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: 07/21/22