

**Village of Fox Lake  
Finance Committee Meeting  
June 26, 2007  
6:00 p.m.**

**I. Call to Order**

The Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

Present were Chairman Ulasz, Trustee Koske, Trustee Bender, Trustee Murrey, Trustee Kiesgen and Trustee Working. Also in attendance was Mayor Irwin.

**III. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Ulasz asked if there were any questions or clarifications to the minutes of June 12, 2007. With there being no comments they will stand as presented.

**IV. Bills to be paid**

Chairman Ulasz asked if there were any questions regarding the bills to be paid. There being no questions or comments the bill list will stand at \$542,207.72.

**V. Ratification of Manual Check List**

Chairman Ulasz asked if there were any questions. There were no questions or comments, the manual checklist will stand as presented.

**VI. Grainger Bills**

Chairman Ulasz asked if there were any questions on the Grainger Bills. There were no questions or comments, the Grainger Bills will stand as presented in the amount of \$3,061.20.

**VII. Old Business**

None

**VIII. New Business**

Intergovernmental Agreement between the Village of Fox Lake and School District 114 and 124 related to the Route 12 TIF Project

Paul Christensen stated we have been working on this for the past 4-5 months. There has been a lot of hard work on all 3 of the agencies to bring this forward. We have worked in conjunction with the School Boards on this Intergovernmental Agreement. Both School Boards have approved the Agreement. Paul asked if there were any questions? There were no questions stated. Chairman Ulasz stated we would make a motion at tonight's Board Meeting for approval of the Resolution.

Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan & Project for the Route 12 Redevelopment Project Area

Paul Christensen stated this is the last step in amending the TIF Project. We have held the public meeting, and the Joint Review Board Meeting with very little comments. If there are any questions, I can answer them at this time. There were no comments stated.

### Discussion of 2007 IML Conference

Chairman Ulasz asked Mayor Irwin to speak on this issue. Mayor Irwin stated we are asking all of our Department Head to cut their budget. This is a very lean year and I think as Elected Officials we can also show good faith by cutting the expense of staying overnight at the IML Conference. We can take the train down and back and be reimbursed just expenses. I understand that some of the Trustee's are offended and I wanted to bring this up at Finance so everyone can express their opinion.

Trustee Murrey stated he has a real problem with this, this is very good training for the Trustees and for the \$3500.00 that we spend we get a big bang for the buck. This is where we network with other officials and we get information on possible grants etc. I think you are comparing apples to oranges. I can't sit on the iron horse for 3 hours a day any more. Even if I go to a night football game I stay overnight so if the Village won't pay for the hotel I will out of my own pocket. I give an abnormal amount of time to this Village and I feel this justifies the cost for the return of information we obtain.

Trustee Bender asked isn't the revenue up 15%? Chairman Ulasz stated no, it is equal to last year. Trustee Bender asked how much of a deficit are we projecting? Chairman Ulasz stated ½ million, the sales tax is less, we have added a part-time employee and employee came back from leave so the costs are up.

Chairman Ulasz stated she felt the training was very beneficial, but she reviews the classes she wants to take and then will take the train down and back because I feel the hotel is too costly.

Trustee Bender stated I can see both sides, but an example is there are two ordinances on the agenda this evening that we have because we learned about these at the last Conference and have been working on them to bring them forward for our municipality. I feel we can all still learn new information and should have that opportunity. The time is not the issue.

Trustee Koske stated no going to the convention would be a mistake, it is the only grounds for training for the job we are doing.

Chairman Ulasz stated we are not cutting the training only the staying overnight in Chicago. Chairman Ulasz stated we are cutting expenses I will not stay overnight and incur cost when we are cutting expenses in all departments.

Trustee Koske stated she does not consider 3 hours on the train an enjoyable day. Chairman Ulasz stated she understood but she drives an hour to an hour and 10 minutes every day to work. Trustee Koske stated that may be but I drive 10 minutes to work.

Trustee Murrey stated I want the room booked from Thursday thru Sunday for myself. Trustee Bender stated majority would rule. Mayor Irwin stated she wanted to make everyone aware and let everyone express their opinion. The Trustees that want to attend and stay downtown at \$180.00 a night to let Paul Christensen know so he can adjust the proposed budget to include that cost.

Proposed Budget

Paul Christensen stated at the next meeting we would be bringing the approval of the budget forward. Everyone will be provided with the final numbers and we will also bring forward a list of the revenue sources so everyone has an understanding of all of the revenue sources.

**IX. Committee Comments**

None

**X. Audience Comments**

Lisa Bittler, Hidden Glen stated she understand the cost of training for the Trustees, but I do not see how the taxpayer's can be expected to pay for the hotel costs in Chicago when you can take the train or make the drive; that would be ridiculous. The Village shouldn't pay for your hotel costs.

**XI. Adjournment**

There being no other business to discuss the Committee Meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Carol Ward  
Deputy Clerk