

Village of Fox Lake
Finance Committee Meeting
November 14, 2006
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 Murrey, Trustee Beskow, Trustee Bender, Trustee Borchers and Trustee Working. Also in attendance were Mayor Irwin and Treasurer Paul Christensen.

III. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Chairman Ulasz asked if there were any questions or clarifications to the minutes of October 24, 2006. Trustee Murrey stated he had not reviewed them he doesn't get his mail on Monday, but he would abstain and if there were any comments he would do it at the next Finance Committee Meeting. Chairman Ulasz stated there being no objections they will stand as presented.

IV. Bills to be paid

Chairman Ulasz asked if there were any questions regarding the bills to be paid in the amount of \$487,909.91.

Trustee Bender asked on page 5, DB3 if Paul Christensen could refresh my memory as to what the DB3 Broadband is? Paul stated this is the final payment and it is the system to allow us to have wireless communication with all the municipal buildings and to network us together. This brings in all the buildings and is the newer technology. Trustee Bender asked how many payments were there? Paul Christensen stated two payments. Chairman Ulasz stated we will potentially be wireless and what is great about this is we will be saving well over \$11,000 per year by giving up the T1 lines. Paul stated the original system was not very stable so we had to use in underground lines, and with the new system we don't need that redundancy.

Trustee Beskow as on page 17, Sign Appeal for \$4,750.00 is that for the Lakefront Park? Paul Christensen stated yes, you would also see a manual check for the deposit; they finished the sign in the same two-week period.

There were no additional questions and Chairman Ulasz stated we would make a motion to approve the bill list at the Village Board Meeting.

V. Ratification of Manual Check List

Chairman Ulasz asked if there were any questions. There were no questions or comments and will stand and a motion will be made at the Village Board Meeting for approval.

VI. Old Business

Update on Public Safety Building Renovation

Chairman Ulasz stated we have potentially one additional bill for the camera's (\$18,000) that wasn't included in the budget. Paul and Carol are working on this to be sure this is the final bill, so there will be potentially one more bill.

Update on Lakefront Park Renovation

Trustee Borchers asked if Jim Thillen had any thing to address. Jim stated really all they are doing in the final punch list; you really don't need me around here any more. Friday will be my last day, but I will work with Paul on all the final bills so I am not going far, but it has been a real pleasure. Mayor Irwin presented him with a gift and a pin for his dedication and hard work for the Village, the Board thanks you for all you have done for the Village.

Trustee Bender stated out of this Board Greg and I have worked with him on all three of the buildings. He did one hell of a job. He is a heck of a worker, and did a heck of a job; he brought in the Architect and Interior Designer. I really appreciate working with you Jim you did a wonderful job.

Electricity Procurement Update

Chairman Ulasz asked Paul Christensen to address the Committee on this item. Paul stated I don't know how many of you have been following what has been happening. With the Governor being re-elected, he has two things he wanted to do during the veto session, the veto session usually for two weeks starting today. The number one issue was raising the minimum wage to \$7.50 an hour, the second issue he wants to extend the rate freeze that has been in effect for the last 10 years for 3 additional years. If he put the rate freeze in place we certainly don't want to go out to the open market and buy electricity because the rate freeze is much less. What I am doing at this point is holding off to find out what happens in the veto session. We had talked to the vendors into possibly entering into an agreement with an out clause if the rate freeze was extended and they all stated they would not take that clause. We felt the best thing after working with the consultant is to hold and do nothing until we have more information. If for some reason the rate freeze does not pass I will have to come back; the group we have been working with has done all that can be done, they feel each agency is on their own to proceed at this point. I have talked with the consultant we were working with and he is willing to work with us on a one to one basis and the rate would be \$1,500 - \$2,000 dollars and remember the savings is between \$200,000 and \$300,000. I feel we need to hire the consultant to go any further if we need to; so we have the expertise.

VII. New Business

Management Letter Issued by Lauterbach & Amen

Paul Christensen stated the management letter was put in everyone's mailbox. There were really only two issues, one being GASB Statement 43 and 45. Financial Reporting for Post-employment Benefits, essentially this is a mandate that came down by GASB, beginning next year I must put in the audit all the liability for the post retirement health insurance. What we have basically at this time, we offer all out employees 3 years for free health insurance, so I have to price that out. It is a little more complicated that it sounds; I have to figure out what a senior citizen or person of that age costs the Village. I will deal with this next year, what we will do is hire an actuary; my original hope is we can use the same person we use for our Police Pension.

Second Issue, is GASB 40 Deposit and Investment and Investment Risk Disclosures. If you look in the audit you will see some of the disclosures in there such as having all the money in on location, colorization and similar items. It is now in there and we have already implemented.

IMLRMA Insurance Renewal

Nancy Schuerr stated that stands for Illinois Municipal League Risk Management Association. This is the same program we have been on that covers our workman's compensation, our liability insurance, property, and vehicles etc. The new year starts as of January 1, they call the program the Min/Max. Going with the program you start out with the minimum and if there is a lot of incidents we would have to pay the additional but there is a maximum cost. We are in the same program as previously years and there will be a motion to pass the Ordinance and authorize the Execution of the Min/Max Agreement.

Cell Phone for Network Administrator

Nancy Schuerr stated Tom Pederson; our Network Administrator that came on board November 1, 2006 uses his personal cell phone for Village communications. Our Network Administrator obviously needs a cell phone since he is called at all hours of the day and night and at different facilities. He currently has a cell phone and would like to keep his phone, so we would like to reimburse him the cost of a cell phone if we provided it on a monthly basis on his monthly expense report. We had turned in Tammy's cell phone so we are not incurring that cost. Chairman Ulasz stated he has a blackberry phone, so you are charged for phone as well as the minutes and data that comes through so this is cost effective for the Village. Mayor Irwin stated he really needs it; anything happens he can emailed and it gets it right on the spot. The Committee approved the reimbursement on the cell phone for Tom Pederson.

Agreement with Thomas Dyke and Associates

Paul Christensen stated the Thomas Dyke is under Trustee Bender tonight; I had originally sent a memo out to everyone just in case things had progressed and we would have an opportunity to put it on as it turns out we will need to table it this evening. It will be placed on the next Finance Committee Meeting, we may or may not be able to go forward but it does allow us the opportunity.

VIII. Committee Comments

Mayor Irwin stated she has given Paul permission to go home after this meeting; he has been working sick all day. If anyone has any other questions for Paul now would be the time.

Trustee Murrey stated he noticed we went out to bid and there was no movement on it, is someone going to make a motion to further table it for discussion so it is not just sitting out there. Paul Christensen stated we would like to talk to Attorney Teegen regarding that item upon his return. We will do that at the next Board Meeting.

IX. Audience Comments

Paul Jakstas, 305 Shady Lane, I just want to say kudos to the job Jim Thillen has done. It took us a few days to talk him into accepting the job but he has done an outstanding job. One of things Jim had brought up that Don Erickson had recently passed away and what he did for the Village is incredible and I would urge the Board to pass a Resolution

or something recognition to give to his widow the fact that he did this building, Police Station and he never charged for any of his personal work. I think it would appropriate to do that for the tens of thousands of dollars the Village saved.

Mayor Irwin stated we have purchased the largest brick available and it will be engraved with a thank you for Pat and Don, as well as he will be on the wall of honor for his work for the Village.

X. Adjournment

There being no other business to discuss the Committee Meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Carol Ward
Deputy Clerk