

**Village of Fox Lake**  
**Finance Committee Meeting**  
**April 25, 2006**  
**5:00 p.m.**

**I. Call to Order**

The Meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

Present were Chairman Ulasz, Trustee Murrey, Trustee Beskow, Trustee Bender, Trustee Working and Trustee Borchers. 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 April 11, 2006. 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. Trustee Bender questioned page 1 under Adamson Industries and Adams Outdoor same amount, same price, asked Treasurer Christensen to double check it. He also questioned what Artrageous was on page 2 for glasses for cente. Treasurer Christensen stated it was for the Centennial Celebration. Next item was page 4, Don Erickson. Trustee Bender asked if we were now paying him. The cost was for his draftsperson and copying. Don Erickson's time is still donated. Last item was page 9, New Pig. Chairman Ulasz stated she questioned that one also, it was for the NWRWRF.

**V. Ratification of Manual Check List**

Chairman Ulasz asked if any questions. Manual checklist stands as presented.

**VI. Grainger Bills to be Paid**

Chairman Ulasz asked if any questions. Grainger bills stand as presented.

**VII. Old Business**

Update on the Public Safety Building

Jim Thillen stated that Span Crete is in and done and that Joe Warden has the walls almost done, and that they will be cutting in the plumbing and heating vents on Wednesday. Roof will be done on Thursday. He met with the door people today and got that ball rolling. He would like to spray paint the entire inside before anything else is done. He hopes to have it completed by the end of May.

Jim Thillen also stated that the parking lot is in sad shape and needs to be redone along with the lighting. Chairman Ulasz questioned on whether the lights could be a Parks & Recreation expense instead of a Public Safety since the park is there. Trustee Working stated that it is walking the gray line really thin. Jim Thillen did again state that the parking does need to be looked at if not in this year definitely in next years budget.

### Lake Front Park Renovations

Trustee Borchers stated that they had gone back and the figures down to about \$93,000.00. They eliminated the sprinkler system and bring in a lower cost bid for the Fire Protection System. They also eliminated a few other items so as to do it in a single-phase approach. He stated that the electrical, plumbing and everything else that gets done on the top floor, is economically suited to be done on the bottom floor at the same time. Jim Thillen stated that since walls and floors will be open, it better to do them at the same time, then come back and cost twice as much. This would be a step to save money.

Chairman Ulasz asked if the \$241,000.00 would include the second level to be finished with 2 top rooms, 2 bathrooms and another meeting room. Jim Thillen stated that then downstairs would be 2 meeting rooms, storage closet and fire stairwell out the back.

Chairman Ulasz stated that she has been at the Lake Front Park for several events, 3 weeks in a row and it has been awesome, the residents appreciate it. Jim Thillen stated that there are residents there even when no events are going on. Chairman Ulasz stated there is approximately \$700,000 in the fund and that the mortgage payment has been made and that there is approximately 3 years of payments left in the fund. It is in good shape. Jim Thillen stated that he would also like to see the parking lot done at the Lake Front. He stated that Clark-Dietz did a wonderful job on the Village, and that maybe we could have them look at the Lake Front Park.

Trustee Murray stated that it is a wonderful building, but he will keep harping till the cows come home. Now the parking lot is mentioned. He asked if we are going to have another proposal again in fall. We need to have a restraint on what we are going to spend on just that part of the park improvement. He would like accountability. He asked if we are going to be doing the other parks. Need some kind of portfolio on our parks, as where we are at, where we are bringing it too. Trustee Borchers stated that they are trying to get their arms around it. We looked at where we could eliminate costs of about \$60,000.00. We would like to finish this off, so we have a facility to use. They looked at getting this done, and he would like input from others on what else they could do for the other parks. Move on this, get it done then move to the other areas.

Chairman Ulasz stated that motions would be made at the Board meeting tonight.

## **VIII. New Business**

### Supplemental Appropriations

Treasurer Christensen stated that it is something that is done every year. Housekeeping work that needs to be done. Changes were done at the Sally Port. So we basically need to increase the supplemental.

### Discussion of Water, Sewer and Refuse Rates

Treasurer Christensen handed out a spreadsheet to the Board. Trustee Murray stated that he would like to make it clear that the Board does not have to do anything and we could let everything go into a bigger and deplorable state. It is merely a band-aid on the problem. He some bigger and greater items that he would like to propose next year.

Treasurer Christensen stated that the system is in great need of upgrades. It would make sense to grab the financial component every year to make it easier. What we propose is to do a 3% increase every year. We also added in an extra \$1.00 to bring the north and south systems closer. Another big hit was the garbage rate; we did everything we could to bring those costs down. The Village cannot absorb these costs, so it is also in there to be passed on to the consumer. Trustee Bender asked if the increase now and then automatically every year be done by one motion. Chairman Ulasz stated that it could be done. Treasurer Christensen stated that we could put it out for a few years.

Trustee Murray mentioned that as far as the water rates, we do not have enough users on the system and the tremendous flux of change in the fuel. This is a month-by-month football that we keep hurdling. He mentioned that at a previous meeting that he requested that hook up fee be earmarked, so that the user will not have to come up with more money. Chairman Ulasz stated that this would be brought up in a motion tonight also.

#### Carryover of Personal Time for Diana Calvert

Nancy Schuerr stated that Diana is entitled to one personal day in this fiscal year and with everything going on at the Village she was unable to take it due to workload. Nancy is asking that it be carried over and that Diana will take it next week. Chairman Ulasz stated that it would be brought up tonight also.

#### Discussion of Façade Ordinance

Karen Jakstas stated that the façade program is going real well. They talked about how they could change it to make it more available to other people. One business owner, two storefronts would have been \$10,000.00 but we want to change it so that one business owner gets only \$5,000.00. She stated that she still is holding money that was earmarked for a façade that was done in 2004 and still has not given us their waiver of liens yet. We would like to put a time frame on it, like 90 days in order to get reimbursed. Also in the old information, you were able to get windows and doors replaced, we would like that changed also. They feel it is unfair if someone vandalizes a business window, under the old façade improvement program, it could be used to replace the window. We do not want this abused. Mayor Irwin stated she agrees with the time period. Chairman Ulasz asked if a schematic needed to be presented when they apply. Karen Jakstas stated that yes, and that it goes through the normal committees.

Trustee Bender asked how much was in limbo at the moment. Karen stated about \$1800.00 that she is holding and that she already has 6 people interested for the upcoming budget. Trustee Bender asked if \$30,000.00 was allocated and commented that it is gone already. Karen stated that if we allow \$10,000.00 for storefront it would only be 3 people. Trustee Beskow suggested that Trustee Working could call a planning committee meeting so that an ordinance could be done. He feels that painting should not be done, because of it being maintenance. Trustee Working stated that it could be just changed to the present. Trustee Beskow stated that if it is being changed, change the ordinance. Trustee Working stated that it would not be a problem. Mayor Irwin stated that you are talking about no doors, no windows, no painting and no signs, what is left. Trustee Bender stated a good example would be the marina down by Burger King. Trustee Beskow stated that painting could be part of the façade if it is in the new construction. Trustee Bender asked if Gordy's applied. Karen stated yes, and that she agrees that windows could be a part of it, if it changed the look of the building, new construction.

**IX. Audience Comments**

None

**X. Adjournment**

There being no other business to discuss the Committee Meeting was adjourned at 5:33p.m.

Dee Wittlieb  
Deputy Clerk