

**Village of Fox Lake  
Finance Committee Meeting  
August 8, 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 was Mayor Irwin.

**III. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Ulasz asked if there were any questions or clarifications to the minutes of July 24, 2006. Trustee Bender stated the agenda has the minutes dated July 25<sup>th</sup>, but the minutes are dated July 24<sup>th</sup>, which is correct. Chairman Ulasz stated July 24<sup>th</sup> is correct. With there being no additional 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 in the amount of \$283,343.66.

There were no 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 the Public Safety Building

Jim Thillen stated due the incident the Police were dealing with we have not been able to get in and have access to complete the remaining items. Radicom and Abbott are scheduled in to complete the wiring etc. in the mantrap and other locations this week.

We did have an incident yesterday, Commonwealth Edison had a line go down, generators were on and everything worked exactly as it was designed so it all paid off.

Update on Lakefront Park Renovation

Jim Thillen stated we do have an item on the agenda for this evening for the HVAC at the Lakefront Park. We did not receive any bids for the Installation of the Elevator. Chairman Ulasz stated we have a meeting tomorrow, August 9<sup>th</sup> at the Lakefront Building at 6:00 p.m. and maybe we can sit down and discuss all of

this at that time. Chairman Ulasz stated that she hoped all the Trustees could attend.

Jim Thillen stated on to other items, I do have the contract for ComEd for our service. The total is \$3,030.70, which is lower than I had expected. Trustee Borchers stated it is on the Board Agenda for this evening for approval. We priced out all the material for the conduit, buy the pad and set the pad and we have to have the CT cabinet with a disconnect on it. The quotes I received the price is \$9,700.00 for material and then our labor of about \$3,000.00. I would like this discussed either tonight or at tomorrow's meeting. Chairman Borchers stated that it should be discussed at the Lakefront Facility Meeting tomorrow. Trustee Beskow stated the Chairman could approve that.

#### Hiring status of Front Office

Deputy Clerk Ward stated that everyone had received her memo addressing the concerns regarding the completion of the background checks. As I stated in the memo apparently the State Police has lost the fingerprints for the full-time new hire Lesley Wood, which they have had for 3 weeks. It would take another 3 weeks to get the background check completed and we are so short staffed I am requesting to get authorization to hire starting Monday with the condition that background check comes back clean after the fact. I have discussed this proposal with Attorney Teegen and Human Resources, Nancy Schuerr and what I am requesting is for approval to hire Lesley Wood with a start date of August 14, 2006, contingent with an executed disclaimer agreement with the Village of Fox Lake until we receive the approved completed background check from the State Police. Lesley has agreed to sign the necessary form provided by Human Resources. We have provided the State Police with an Intergovernmental Agreement and once they execute it they will assign an ORI number, we will not have this problem in the future. Once we have that number, the turnaround will be done in 72 hours via Live Scan. Attorney Teegen stated we could make a motion even though it was not on the Agenda and we could ratify it at the following meeting on August 22, 2006. Chairman Ulasz asked if everyone was in agreement, the general consensus is we are in a crutch right now and to approve the motion to be made this evening. Carol Ward thanked the Board for their consideration.

### **VII. New Business**

#### Grant Township Municipal Auction

Chairman Ulasz asked Ron Hoehne to speak to the Committee on this item. Ron Hoehne distributed a list of vehicle that he would like to be included in the Grant Township Auction scheduled for September 9, 2006. Due to the limited time I am asking permission to have Attorney Teegen prepare the necessary ordinance so it can be passed at the next Village Board Meeting. The Committee authorized Ron to proceed with the Attorney on this matter.

#### Northern Lake County Lake Michigan Water Planning Group

Chairman Ulasz asked Trustee Murrey to speak on this issue. Trustee Murrey stated everyone should of received a letter directed to Ron Hoehne and it has to do with this Water Planning Group. I spoke on this issue at the last meeting, the County is the point person on this and they are requesting a letter from the Mayor

and the Village Board that we would want to look into the engineering so we can find out the true dollars and cents it would cost to bring Lake Michigan water here to Fox Lake, what it would all involve etc. I think that an \$8,000.00 gamble into tomorrow's future of harvesting the ground water and the way the EPA is starting to clamp down water aqua fords that we are in and similar items. I believe the Village should put their foot forward and start looking at this option. I am planning on making a motion this evening to have the Mayor and Board sign a letter of intent to be part of the \$48,000.00 technology feasibility study on the water district. Trustee Murrey asked if there were any questions? Trustee Borchers asked our commitment would only be the \$8,000.00. Trustee Murrey stated yes, that is what we are committing to, anything over that would have to be approved by this Board. The County selected Applied Technology; they have worked for the County before. This is just a start, next year we would be looking at possible costs. The Committee was in agreement to proceed with this proposal.

#### Land Acquisition related to Juras Lift Station

Chairman Ulasz asked Trustee Murrey to speak on this issue. Trustee Murrey stated we need to put this on hold until the next Finance Committee Meeting; we need additional information prior to discussion of this item.

### **VIII. Committee Comments**

Mayor Irwin stated she had a few items for the Finance Committee to consider.

The first item I know the budget is tight but Ron Hoehne is going to absolutely have to have one more full-time employee for the Street Department. We are accepting more of the roads; we have to get the Metra station completed in regards to parking availability. Ron cannot do all the projects needed with the help we currently have, I am asking you to please look into budget and see what you can do, and remember that for the employee that we are paying to be in the service, the government is paying us back and we should be able to apply that to the salary. I am asking if the Finance Committee would really look into it, it is a desperate situation. Chairman Ulasz stated she was very honored that someone has actually waited until the Committee meeting to ask for another person. That is really great because everyone in this Village is doing everything they can to remain extremely cost conscious. I know that they are a man down, we have a little wiggle room in one area that may be a possibility, and I will work with Ron regarding costs etc and bring it back to the Committee.

Second I would like to speak on regarding badges for the Police Department and Fire Department Centennial. Mayor Irwin stated some time ago the Centennial Committee asked if we could purchase the special centennial badges for the Police Department and Elected/Appointed Officials. Originally my thoughts were no, it is a police cost. I have had time to consider it in more detail and every department head is extremely budget conscious, I know that and everyone here knows that is the case, Carol you have trained us all very well. I feel it is very important for us to be able to buy the centennial badges, and I think the badge cost should come out of the Centennial funds. Thirty-six are going to the Police Department the rest of them are for people we want to honor with a badge. I am asking if you will consider letting the Centennial Committee bear the cost for the badges. Chairman Ulasz stated the badges have been budgeted through the

Police Department budget for 25-30 of them. Mayor Irwin stated but we have like 60 to order. Mayor Irwin stated we are adding extra people to it such as the Board, the Centennial Committee, appointed officials to make the total of 60 badges. Chairman Ulasz stated I understand that we have the money available in the Centennial fund, my only problem is we have other departments that make us great, Water Department, Fire Department, 911, Administrative, Building, Treatment Plant etc. Everyone in this Village makes us great; the problem when we were doing these badges is we are giving them to only the Police Dept. Mayor Irwin stated the second part of my request is the Fire Dept. Chairman Ulasz stated we need to look at a way to address the other areas. Mayor Irwin stated next year is the Fire Departments Centennial, and I would like to do the same for them out of the Centennial fund. I just would like to request the Finance Committee to take this under consideration.

Trustee Ulasz stated the Police Dept. needs a specialized camera so we can do a trade off, if centennial fund pays for the cost of the badges, the money not used in the Police budget would go towards the Camera that is needed for interviewing vehicular homicide suspects. Chief Behan stated any interview for vehicular homicides has to be taped and we didn't have that so we had to go off-site to have it done at Round Lake. We didn't budget for this item and it is around \$5,600.00.

Trustee Bender asked if all the additional tickets that were issued for seat belts and other income from the Police Department if all that goes in the Police Department hopper? Chairman Ulasz said she was glad you brought this up. What I have done is a summary page in addition to the budget to actual that you get every month from Paul Christensen. I will provide it to Paul and he can give it a little more detail and I will start providing it to you monthly as well. It will show the revenue verses the expenses for each department.

**IX. Committee Comments**

None

**X. Audience Comments**

None

**XI. Adjournment**

There being no other business to discuss the Committee Meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Carol Ward  
Deputy Clerk