

Finance Committee Minutes

November 10, 2021

Members present: Gale, Gremel, McCann

Staff present: Scott, Edmondson, Craker

Public present: 23 zoom connections

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM. Prior to public comment, Chair Gale reviewed the rules of procedure for public comment. She also answered a question posed during the Village Council meeting. Under the Rules of Procedure, the Finance Committee is responsible for Ways and Means and Property Use. Consideration of the use of the 7th Street parcel was referred to Finance. A recording of the meeting will be available for Trustees and members of the public to hear the full commentary.

Public comments opposing the development of four parcels on the 7th Street property were made by Joanne Swanson, Mary Cermak Betzoldt, Kathryn Frerichs, Suzanne Swanson, Nicole Arbury, Judith Jensen-Fowler, Nancy Peterson and Campbell McLeod. Written correspondence was received from several individuals, all in opposition to road construction, and will be included with the meeting materials. The committee did not receive any correspondence or public comment in favor of proceeding with the construction of Maude Ct.

The committee heard a compromise proposal from Will Harper that the Village sell the property as is so that he or another developer could place the wetlands area into a conservation easement or some other mechanism that would prohibit development and develop two buildable lots on 7th Street. The committee will take this option to the Village Council for consideration.

The committee discussed the need for a formal appraisal to complete the cost/benefit analysis. After consideration of various options, Chair Gale will prepare a document for the council to consider. The options will include:

- no appraisal and proceed with sale
- appraisal of proposed 4 lots as surveyed
- appraisal of compromise proposed 2 lots
- any other option suggested by the majority of Trustees

The summary of expenses to date is incomplete, but will be posted when the final numbers are in.

Clerk Scott explained the process for requesting ARPA funds from the Michigan Department of Treasury. The Village is eligible to receive slightly more than \$54,000 over two years. Treasurer Craker described the reporting requirements and limitations on how funds can be used. Application of these funds are being factored into the 2022 budget.

Clerk Scott shared her screen and walked the committee and public through the 2022 Budget Worksheet that captures major projects that are being prioritized by standing committees and the planning commission. DPW, Infrastructure, Waterfront and Parks and Trails have rated the condition of structures, property and equipment to establish a timeline for maintenance, repair or replacement. Finance Committee members will be given access to the worksheet as information is updated by the Clerk.

The Lot Division Ordinance previously distributed to Trustees is acceptable to the Township Assessor. The committee recommends adoption by the Village Council at the next meeting.

Joanne Swanson and Laura Cavendish thanked the committee for listening to the concerns of the public. A recording of their comments is posted with the Finance Committee meeting agenda and minutes.

Chair Gale thanked the members of the public for their courtesy and civility during public comment and for their attention to the additional agenda items.

Motion by Gremel, seconded by McCann to adjourn at 11:30 . Ayes - 3 Nays - 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Gale, Chair