

Finance Committee Minutes

December 13, 2021

Members present: Gale, Gremel, McCann

Staff present: Clerk Scott, Treasurer Craker

Public: several

The meeting was called to order via Zoom at 1:00 PM.

Chair Gale explained that the Dec. 8 agenda posted on the Village website was updated when the committee decided to reschedule the meeting for Dec. 13, following the Council meeting. The updated agenda was read to the public because it had not been posted online prior to the meeting.

Public comment: none

The Children's Center building lease will expire in February, The Leelanau Township Community Foundation Early Childhood Work Group will meet 12/16. Trustee McCann represents the village on the work group. President Wetherbee and Trustee Gale will also attend the meeting. The Village will ask to have the utilities restored as soon as possible. A cost sharing agreement may be a viable option.

The committee was directed to consider the request from Housing North to help fund a full-time Housing Ready Program Director for Leelanau County. Yarrow Brown sent a written request (received today) for \$5,000 annually for three years. Her correspondence included a sample agreement and links to the position description and a list of accomplishments. The committee will review the correspondence and discuss at the next meeting.

The Village Council approved payment of \$8,750 to Wade Trim to complete Tasks 1 and 2 of the zoning ordinance audit. The project was not budgeted, but monies are available in the General Fund.

To begin preparing the 2022-23 Budget, Clerk Scott has met with all of the committees to review new and existing projects, scheduled maintenance and repair to create a master list to inform the Capital Improvements Plan. The Planning Commissioners are completing capital project applications that will identify potential funding sources and establish priorities. The marina parking lot project is the top priority. Cost of upgrades to the Marina Park restrooms will be shared by Marina and Parks and Trails. Clerk Scott reviewed some of the 2022-23 budget assumptions. Based on discussions with Treasurer Craker and the township assessor we anticipate an increase in real property tax revenues; a possible reduction in personal property tax revenues; a reduction in state revenue-sharing due to population loss. The Committee recommends adopting a cost of living adjustment of 5.9%. Clerk Scott will complete the draft budget for review at a special meeting to be held via zoom at 1:00 PM on December 28. The members asked for a copy of the expanded projects list.

Proposed amendments to the current budget will be necessary to cover increases in bank service fees, attorney fees, and major and local street repairs.

Public comment:

Greg Nobles requested that the 4th Street water project be budgeted at \$40,000-50,000.

Karl Wizinsky asked if the revised RFP went out. (NOTE: Infrastructure will decide at the Dec. 15 meeting.) He also commented that the long-standing water problem on 4th Street requires repair of 100 year old infrastructure and residents should not have to wait any longer.

Motion by McCann, seconded by Gremel, to adjourn. Roll call vote 3 - 0. Meeting adjourned at 2:07 PM.