

VILLAGE PRESIDENT
Seth Speiser

VILLAGE CLERK
Jerry Menard

VILLAGE TRUSTEES
Denise Albers
Michael Heap
Robert Kaiser
Mike Blaies
Ray Matchett, Jr.
Lisa Meehling

VILLAGE TREASURER
Bryan A. Vogel

VILLAGE OF FREEBURG

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VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR
Tony Funderburg

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
John Tolan

POLICE CHIEF
Michael J. Schutzenhofer

ESDA COORDINATOR
Eugene Kramer

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
Matt Trout

VILLAGE ATTORNEY
Weilmuenster Keck Brown, P.C.

Committee as a Whole Meeting March 6, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

The Committee as a Whole meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m., on Monday, March 6, 2023, by Mayor Seth Speiser. Those in attendance were Mayor Seth Speiser, Trustee Denise Albers, Trustee Mike Blaies, Trustee Mike Heap, Trustee Bob Kaiser (absent), Trustee Ray Matchett, Trustee Lisa Meehling, Village Clerk Jerry Menard, Public Works Director John Tolan, Chief Mike Schutzenhofer (7:15 p.m.), Zoning Administrator Matt Trout, Village Administrator Tony Funderburg and Office Manager Julie Polson. Guest present: Andy Bittle (7:18 p.m.). There were no guests present via Zoom

A. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approval of April 13, 2022 Minutes: Trustee Ray Matchett motioned to approve the April 13, 2022 minutes, and Trustee Mike Blaies seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Resolution #23-01: Operating Budget for 2023-2024: Village Administrator Tony Funderburg presented the budget for 2023-2024. Under AD revenue, capital reserves has been reduced from \$60,000 to \$10,000. He stated out of this entire budet, only \$10,000 will be coming from capital reserves which is a significant accomplishment. The employee insurance program has been incorporated into the insurance stability fund which is found on the zoning page. Per the union contract, each employee receives \$21,000 pe year and is placed into the insurance fund. You will see the breakout of funds for each department. That percentage is assigned by the worker's compensation audit performed on a yearly basis. The health insurance expense line item is under 451 in each department Every expense is broken out by premium, deductible and other and can now be tracked easily. The reserves are any monies not used each year by the employees. Tony advised we still need to clean up from November 1st – March 31st. When he is done updating the numbers, he will get a copy to everyone. He said the employees may want to look at investing some of that money into a CD which would go to the board for approval. Trustee Albers stated this gives the employees ownership of their insurance fund. Tony commented he continues to worry about incoming revenues from the state.

PD: The \$33,000 in revenue for the police golf tournament is actual money brought in that day not net profit. The rest of the proceeds are incorporated into budget. There is \$6,000 in the police budget for ammunition for training. They would like to train four times a year, but they currently train twice a year. The tasers are on hold for now. Our current ones will be outdated soon, and there may be grant money available for them. Tony has also budgeted \$50,000 for a new vehicle. He recommends we purchase 4 in order to get rid of the cars. The body cameras are required by January of 2025. There is a lot of legislation in the works right now. Tony has put \$2,000 in the budget to fix the leak by the front desk.

Audit/TIF: We have received the numbers from the county to pay off the remaining money. This will be discussed at the Streets meeting on 3/15. The checks to the taxing bodies will be hand delivered. We want to get off this year's budget. The community relations fund was added, and currently has nothing budgeted. Tony stated this board will decide what projects will be done with that fund.

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ST: A backhoe, mower and flame resistant cabinets have been added to the budget. The equipment will be purchased through the state bid and are also included in the water, sewer and electric departments. Tony said for these types of items, a project request form will be brought to committee which shows the cost, breakout between departments and how it will be paid. The appropriate backup will be included.

GA: Rates were raised last year. Tony advised there is a bill right now being considered to make recycling mandatory for municipalities

ESDA: Tony included \$10,000 for a computer.

MFT: Tony said MFT is still not final but as close as we can get it. Since the budget is just a guide, Tony would like to be able to change the numbers once they have been decided upon. John said this year's MFT will total \$118,000 - \$120,000.

WR: Tony has budgeted \$240,000 for an EPA loan, and said that we should not pass a rate increase until we know where we are going. Tony and John have chosen two projects that they would like to start with and include in the 2024 budget. They are the Phase 2 water main upgrades for Hill, White and High Streets, and the Save Site water tower. The projected cost of those projects is \$3,423,414.20. We may have to borrow from Citizens again to cover the engineering costs, and once the projects start, we can pay them off. Tony thinks it will take about \$100,000 to get it started. Tony stated we need to have an idea of what projects we will do in the next 3 - 5 years and then decide rate increase. Trustee Albers asked John what the next project would be after the first two, and John said Phase #1, storage tank and 10" line from the tank running in front of the high school over to the west tower. This would give us a third connection point. Phase #1's proposed cost is \$1,121,965.52. Tony stated it is the board's decision on what projects they want done, and they will be discussed at the next committee meeting. John commented the EPA is hammering him about security and fencing. You will see lab fees added under water and sewer for samples that are being taken to a professional lab.


EL: A pickup service truck with tool cabinets on the side is in the budget at \$85,000. Tony believes we are close to the end of the generator upgrades, and he has budgeted the normal amount of \$35,000 under line item #517.

POOL: John confirmed we will need to purchase chemicals. Tony is worried about minimum wage, and part time employees getting vacation. This is an important service to the community, and we try to break even. If we don't have enough lifeguards to cover a shift, we may consider closing down the baby pool or slide.

C. GENERAL CONCERNS: None.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

E. ADJOURN: *Trustee Denise Albers motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m., and Trustee Mike Blaies seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.*


Julie Polson
Office Manager