

March 22, 2021

**MINUTES OF A
PUBLIC HEARING
OF
THE DWIGHT VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Held via Teleconference
Number: 351-999-3046
March 22, 2021 at 6:15PM**

The Dwight Village Board of Trustees met on Monday, March 22, 2021 at 6:15 p.m. via teleconference for a Public Hearing to hear public comment on the Tentative Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. The Public Hearing was called to order by President Jared Anderson at 6:15PM.

Roll call as follows:

PRESENT: Jared Anderson, Village President; Justin Eggenberger, Trustee; Randy Irvin, Trustee; Jenny Johnson, Trustee; Marla Kinkade, Trustee; Jerry Curtis, Trustee; Chuck Butterbrodt, Trustee

Others in Attendance: Kevin McNamara, Village Administrator; Jill Haacke, Village Clerk; Austin Haacke, Finance Director; Irv Masching, Village Attorney; Cory Scoles, PW; Christian Kobel, Carissa Gunty, Midge Fogarty, Meghan Horstead.

McNamara stated The Notice of the Public hearing by Teleconference call was published in the February 24, 2021 and March 3, 2021 editions of The Paper, a newspaper in general circulation in the Village.

Administrator McNamara stated he was *“pleased to present the proposed annual budget for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022. The budget serves as a guideline for the revenues and expenditures of the Village of Dwight during the fiscal year and is the result of staff and Administration Committee meetings and discussions. It has been prepared in accordance with Village of Dwight Ordinance #810, the Optional Municipal Budget Act of Illinois, the State of Illinois Truth in Taxation Act, and all other State and Federal financial reporting requirements.*

The Village's budget and accounting system is a modified cash basis system. All Governmental Funds are recognized when cash is received, and expenditures are accounted for when checks are written. All Proprietary Funds are accounted for using the accrual basis of accounting wherein revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

This \$9.678 million-dollar balanced Village budget, \$3.598 million of which is for the General Fund, is the revenue and expense plan providing for the day-to day operations of Village government. It provides the Village's Departments, Public Works, Police, Emergency Services and Administration with guidelines for expenses throughout the year.

The past fiscal year has experienced stagnant revenue due mainly to COVID-19 and General Fund Revenue remains flat, which this budget reflects. 2020 wasn't as dire revenue-wise as initially anticipated at the onset of the pandemic, but our struggles continue in this fiscal year with the ongoing pandemic and the unfortunate closure of LSC Communications, a 50+ year fixture in Dwight which transformed this community and the entire region when RR Donnelley settled in Dwight in 1969.

Despite the pandemic, there were many positives in the past fiscal year that are reflected in this budget. The first year of having EMS personnel as Village employees has been extremely successful. A second Tax Increment Financing District; the IL. Rt. 17/Old Route 66 TIF District (TIF II) was formed in 2020 and the anticipated

March 22, 2021

property tax proceeds are reflected in this budget. Tax Increment Financing remains an important economic development tool and you need to be applauded for creating a second Dwight TIF District. Also, as you are aware, the rainy-day fund has shown significant improvement over the past two years.

The implementation of this budget will result in continued delivery of current services to our residents that they have come to expect.”

McNamara continued by complimenting and thanking the Department Heads, the Finance Director, and all the Village employees who daily continue to provide outstanding service to the citizens of Dwight.

Finance Director Austin Haacke went over a few highlights of the proposed budget including:

- State Funds are consistent with current State estimates.
- Liquor License fees have been reduced 50% for those businesses who were required to shut down last year.
- A full year of Ground Emergency Medical Transport Fees
- The Village received a \$60k IHDA grant and a \$250k Brewster Run grant, which the budget reflects along with the annual IMIC/IPRF grant.
- The re-opening of Stevenson Pool.
- The 5% annual increase in water and sewer rates is not being implemented this year at the Board’s discretion.
- The budget reflects a 2% pay increase and an added holiday for all full-time Village employees, union and non-union.
- Per contract residential garbage rates increase 4% to \$20.20 per month per residence.
- Updates to Pinecone Path are included in the budget.
- Downtown tower, replacement of lab equipment at the sewer plant, and rebuilding of the excess flow pump, secondary building, and secondary vertical turbine at the sewer plant are included in this year’s budget.

Anderson asked if any written comments were received by the Village. McNamara read a letter from Tom Tock regarding projects he would like considered to be finished over the next year.

Anderson asked if any person attending the hearing wanted to speak and express their views regarding the tentative budget. Christian Kobel inquired on what the next streets are on the list for improvement and if St. Louis Street is included.

The Public Hearing closed at 6:30PM.

Finding no further business, President Anderson asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Butterbrodt, with a second by Trustee Curtis. All voted aye by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:31PM.

APPROVED:

Jared Anderson, Village President

ATTEST:

Jill V. Haacke, Village Clerk