

Richland Village Council
8985 Gull Road
Special Meeting
February 20, 2017, 7:00 pm

Approved as amended by Angela Rodino

Present: President Dave Greve, President Pro Tem Gail Koporetz, Trustees: Cindy Berg, Bob Prentice, Randy Walbridge, John Smith – 7:03 pm, Treasurer Mike Scott, Clerk Angie Rodino

Absent: Trustee Teri Springer

The meeting was called to order in the Richland Community Hall by President Greve at 7:02 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Greve.

Guests: None

President Greve stated that only the budget would be discussed at this meeting, despite some confusion with the agenda.

Citizen Comments: None

Public Hearing for 2017-2018 Proposed Budget

- Virginia Mejeur, 7890 N. 32nd St, questioned the Council as to how many full-time and part-time police officers there were and asked for an explanation of the Police Clerk's pay of \$6000. President Greve stated that there are currently 3 full-time officers and 2 part-time officers. He also stated that the pay scale was discussed at the Regular Meeting on February 13. Police Clerk's pay was increased to match what the new hired Village Clerk's pay is.
- Kim Lewis, 8220 Pattiwood, questioned the amount in the "Newsletter \$900/Letter" budget line. She stated that it does not look like \$800 will be enough to cover the costs for a minimal of 2 mailings (spring and fall). Treasurer Scott stated that amount was not correct, it is actually about \$500 per mailing. Council decided to increase amount to \$1,000 to allow for two mailings.
- Gary Drouin, 9207 E. DE Ave., stated he was worried the tree budget would not allow for the cutting of trees as was discussed at February 13 Regular Meeting. Mr. Drouin stated that the large tree can wait for one more year. President Greve asked for Kim Lewis' opinion on amount needed to remove the trees. Kim Lewis commented that as past tree commissioner, it does seem low. \$1,500 should be enough for the removal of smaller trees.

- Virginia Mejeur questioned if the tree across the road from her residence could be looked at by DPW. She stated that it has been hit by lightning twice and the center of the tree is hollow. If the tree was to fall, it could do damage.
- President Greve requested the tree budget to increase from \$0 to \$1,500.
- Rob Perks, 9213 Bunkerhill, questioned the increase in police salaries. He stated it was a 9.1% increase from last year's budget. President Greve stated that police salary increases were discussed at Feb. 13 Regular Meeting and explained the increases. Mr. Perks also questioned what the Fire line item was for and if Village residents are getting double taxed on this service. President Greve stated that this is the payment made to Richland Township Fire Department. He stated the village currently pays 10% of the total fire expense for the **previous fiscal** year. President Greve stated that we could discuss this issue as it was brought up by a citizen. He stated that the Village is currently looking into seeing if the payment can be suspended in the future. Treasurer Scott explained why this arrangement originated in 1998. Mr. Drouin stated that he would like to ensure that his insurance wouldn't go up without fire coverage. Treasurer Scott stated that fire services would still be need to be provided by the Township.
- President Pro Tem Koporetz stated that the line item for Building Permits needed to be adjusted as it was based on wrong information. It should be reduced from \$5,000 to \$3,000 which is a more realistic amount. She also stated that the line item for Newsletters needed to be increased to allow for two mailings (spring and fall).
- It was stated that the new insurance coverage was included in the proposed budget. That amount may be reduced pending decision on coverage.
- John Smith stated the Planning Commission will be meeting on Thursday, February 23 and will discuss the optional pay agreement.
- President Greve questioned the D Ave. loan payment. After discussion, it was decided that the amount needed to be increased from \$3,265 to \$5,000 in General Fund to make up for assessments that have been paid in full.
- President Pro Tem Koporetz questioned the reported amount for Act 51 revenue. Treasurer Scott replied it was a typo error and will correct it.
- President Greve recapped updates of totals. Revenue \$448,450 and Expenditures \$440,368.

COMMENTS AND REMINDERS - None

ADJOURNMENT – 7:38 pm **Motion to adjourn** - Koporetz/Berg - Carried

