

VILLAGE BOARD OF CLEVELAND, WISCONSIN  
SPECIAL MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2024

MINUTES

- I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL/AGENDA APPROVAL.** Village President Jake Holzwart called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:05pm on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, in the Sheboygan County Training Room at Lakeshore College, 1290 North Ave, Cleveland, Wisconsin.

Board Present: Jake Holzwart, Village President  
John Ader  
Rob Burkhard  
Jon Hoffman  
Jarrod Jackett  
Becky Paasch  
Tom Warosh

Board Absent: None

Staff Present: Stacy Grunwald, Director of Village Services

Also Attending: Rhonda Deehr, Cleveland Municipal Court Clerk

Motion Ader/Burkhard to take up Item IV *Contracts and Agreements* prior to the budget discussion and approve the agenda as modified; carried without negative vote.

**II. CONTRACTS and AGREEMENTS**

- A. POLICE POLICY MANUAL PROPOSAL: Lexipol.** Motion Warosh/Burkhard to approve the proposal from Lexipol to provide an annual law enforcement policy manual subscription and daily training bulletins in the amount of \$1,943.10; carried without negative vote. Costs up to \$2500 will be refunded through the Village's insurer, League of Wisconsin Municipalities Mutual Insurance.
- B. EMERGENCY SIREN MAINTENANCE SERVICES: Sheboygan Warning Systems.** Motion Warosh/Paasch to approve the 2025 Agreement for Warning System Annual Inspection & Biennial Preventative Maintenance with Sheboygan Warning Systems LLC in the amount of \$790.00 the first year and \$570.00 for the second year, to perform preventative maintenance at two sites; carried without negative vote.

**III. YEAR 2025 BUDGET**

- A. BUDGET REVIEW.** Director Grunwald asked if the Village Board had any questions regarding the budget that had been published for the hearing; there were none. She distributed and reviewed an updated Year 2025 general fund budget page by page, highlighting the operational deficit and key information such as fund balances, changes from the prior year and from the published budget draft, projects, and programs. The Board asked questions throughout the review. No values were changed in the budget.

- B. PUBLIC HEARING.** Motion Holzwart/Ader to open the public hearing on the Year 2025 budget; carried without negative vote.

*Christine Gabsch, 1130 W Jefferson Ave,* questioned the budget being discussed so close to the deadline to issue tax bills, when there was no time to discuss changes. She suggested beginning in July, similar to other municipalities. President Holzwart explained that it took time create Tax Incremental District No. 2 and the Village was considering a search for a new accountant. Director Grunwald explained the Village's low growth rate meant only a minor increase in the tax levy was available, and the natural increase in costs to the Village exceeded the allowable increase in the tax levy. Trustee Jackett added it was also detrimental to determine the budget too early, which would require to rely more on estimates than actual revenues and expenses.

There being no other input, motion Holzwart/Warosh to close the floor; carried without negative vote.

- C. DISCUSSION/ACTION.** Director Grunwald noted the Village Board could adopt the budget or wait until its regular monthly meeting so there was more time to consider how to address the operating shortfall. Trustee Burkhard reported he met the previous evening with Director Grunwald and reviewed the budget. His questions had been addressed in the updated version, and he was ready to support it. The Board had no new questions. Motion Holzwart/Burkhard to adopt the Year 2025 budget For Village Board Review 12-10-24 as written; carried with one negative vote (Paasch, who preferred to hold approval until the utility budgets were complete.)

**IV. YEAR 2024 PROPERTY TAX LEVY**

- A. 2024 PROPERTY TAX RATES AND CREDITS.** Director Grunwald reviewed the 2024 property tax rates and the school tax levy, lottery and first dollar credits, and state aids. The budget included a 7.02% levy increase for operating and debt service expenses. She estimated the overall net tax rate would be \$17.42 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

- B. SET 2024 PROPERTY TAX LEVY.** Motion Burkhard/Ader to set the 2024 property tax levy at \$650,164.00; roll call—all ayes. Motion carried. Trustee Jackett emphasized that the Village Board protected the taxpayers from a larger, double-digit increase in the local tax levy by locating other funding for debt service. This was necessary because the assessment revenue for the 2023 street projects was delayed due to construction rework.

- V. SET OR CHANGE MEETING DATES, IF NEEDED.** No additional meetings were needed.

- VI. ADJOURNMENT.** Motion Burkhard/Hoffman to adjourn; carried without negative vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:21pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Grunwald  
Director of Village Services

Approved on 12-18-2024