

VILLAGE OF WALWORTH
SPECIAL VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
Thursday, October 24, 2019, 6:00 p.m.
Village Hall, 227 N. Main St., Walworth, WI

MINUTES

Call to Order: President Connelly called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: President Connelly, Trustees Czaja, McMahon, Mizialko. Absent: Trustees Reiersen and Maynard. Also Present: Lt. Alonzo, Clerk Treasurer Waswo, Deputy Clerk Treasurer Rogers

Pledge of Allegiance

Comments from Citizens Present: Any item presented to the Village Board by a citizen will be heard and may be placed on the next regular meeting's agenda.

Patrick Grams, 932 Laurie Court, missed the previous meeting and questioned what happened with Oak Knolls. President Connelly explained the board approved an engineering drainage study around \$16,000 that will be finished next February. The study will include the drainage basin for Lake Petite and how it flows through the southern half of the village. Once that's complete, the board will have some options to help resolve our issues.

Communication & Miscellaneous Business – Discussion, Consideration, & Action on the following:

2019 borrowing in the amount of \$38,687 for the purchase of the Wacker Pump and additional hose
Per Ehlers, the IRS states we have 60 days from the date the check is cut to reimburse ourselves for the purchase of the pump. Additional hose has not been paid for yet. It makes sense to do a 3-year borrowing versus trying to absorb this amount all at one time out of cash.

Mizialko/McMahon motion to approve the 2019 borrowing in the amount of \$38,687 for the purchase of the Wacker Pump and additional hose. Motion carried 4 to 0.

2020 General Fund Budget, approval to publish, and set the public hearing date

Clerk Treasurer Waswo gave an overview of the budget. It's an overall increase in the levy by 2%, which is an increase of 8 cents per thousand. The mill rate would be 7.058698. This budget includes a 2% increase in salaries. In July the board approved an additional full-time officer. This covers the position that was lost due to being transferred to Big Foot High School as the School Resource Officer. That position has not yet been filled. The recommendation is to wait till July 2020 to fill that spot. The Clerk Treasurer's Office added a part time employee at 20 hours a week. The salary for this position is \$19,592 with \$9,796 being funded by the Utility. Health Insurance increased by 6%. The village pays 88% of the lowest cost plan.

As the budget was tight this year, the biggest change was moving John's Disposal recycling costs to the tax bill. The cost would be \$58.80 per household. John's Disposal increased their costs by \$12,634 from the prior year, and the village's budget is unable to sustain such a drastic increase. The total recycling cost is \$50,744. Approval for this change will be done after the public hearing by Resolution.

With the levy limit, the Village can only increase by the amount of net new construction which was 0.719%. This equates to around \$4,000. The total assessed value came to \$1,6680,700; a total value of \$218,899,000. Trying to balance the budget was very difficult with such a small increase. President Connelly explained next year will be challenging and feels we need to go to referendum to ask the public.

The borrowing for this year is \$366,420. The General Fund portion is \$222,922 and the Water/Sewer portion is \$143,428. The 5-year borrowing includes sewers and new computers for the Police Department and Clerk Treasurer's Office, communication upgrade with the high school, body cameras, a Police semi-truck scale, Fire/Rescue turnout gear, Baxter Woodman Engineering Drainage Study. The 10-year borrowing is for a Public Works loader, truck cab and body, and roadwork.

President Connelly would like some equilibrium between the protective and public works budgets. The trend has been to increase the protective budget while the public works dwindles. He would like to fund some of these infrastructure projects as the bill has come due on a lot of items in the village. Finance Committee agonized over this budget; and are disappointed there is no money to fix these issues. He indicated it's something to be mindful of as we go into next year's budget.

CT Waswo said with the increase in expenses, we will not qualify for expenditure restraint in 2021, about \$30,000. President Connelly feels we need to look at our fees more realistically. CT Waswo added 2021 will be very difficult as we will lose the \$30,000 expenditure restraint, have an additional \$42,000 for the Police Officer position and the debt payments for this borrowing will increase. Normally we make 2 debt payments in a year. In 2021 we are only making 1 payment for the current borrowing; and in 2021, there will be 2 payments. She stressed the board needs to look at a referendum to increase the general fund. Without having any net new construction, the village is unable to increase revenue. Without revenue, the village will have to look seriously at lowering expenses by cutting services or positions. Trustee Czaja noted we have several buildable lots that are not being developed.

Czaja/McMahon motion to approve the draft of the proposed 2020 budget for publication and set the public hearing date for November 19th at 6:00pm. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Adjournment

McMahon/Czaja motion to adjourn at 6:47pm. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Sabrina Waswo, Clerk Treasurer