

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
VILLAGE OF SAUK VILLAGE, ILLINOIS
21801 TORRENCE AVENUE, SAUK VILLAGE, ILLINOIS
December 5, 2023, 7:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Burgess called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

On Roll Call

Present: Trustees: Trustee Burns, Carter, Coleman, Johnson, Sapp, and Williams

Absent: None

3. DISCUSSIONS & PRESENTATIONS

i. Paid Leave for All Workers Act

- o Atty Roy Carlson of Ancel Glink presented on the Act. He stated that as a result of the Act, modifications to the Employee Manual was needed. The Act impacts part-time and seasonal employees, allowing for them to accrue one-hour leave time for each 40-hours worked, per year. The leave time can carry-over and accrue up to eighty hours. This item will proceed to the Board agenda for final determination.

ii. The Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Proposed Appropriations

Renee Lewis, Interim Director, Louis Williams Interim Treasurer, and Tim Williams, Interim Village Administrator spoke during the meeting on the subject.

Mrs. Lewis reminded Trustees that they had been asked to submit questions prior to the day but would entertain questions that evening. Trustees responded that their inquiries were too numerous to send by email and that their questions required Department Heads' input.

Trustees had additional comments and requests concerning the budget.

- The Budget was not available until Saturday, not allowing enough time to adequately review it
- The budget projects a deficit of one million dollars, the figures do not total, Line Items have no justification, yet the ones for Trustees meager \$1,000 included justification
- The 2023 Compensation Schedule was presented that evening, the 2024 is needed as well
- The budget process should not have changed by individuals who are so new to the Village without prior knowledge. When one mentioned that there was no template for how the budget was constructed in the past, Trustees advised that they should have been asked, and reminded those who drafted the budget that they had made many appeals to meet with the department heads
- Concern was expressed that part-time and full-time raises were inserted in the budget and was not communicated.

The subject of the timeline for submitting the Levy, Budget and when to post in the newspaper and present for resident review was discussed. A statue was read that was inconsistent with the normal 30-day posting for the budget.

Whether the Budget is fixed before the Levy or if the Levy can be fixed sans the budget was not evident or clarified. This led to a brief discussion on changing the Fiscal Year to 2024 in an effort to finalize all that is required for the passage of the budget and consideration for the levy.

It was reiterated that the Department Heads had input into the reallocations and the budget; the budget and the levy presented in the previous years were inaccurate, yet were passed

Rather than to continue with discussions as there would be no resolution, this item would continue at a Special Meeting to be held on Saturday, December 9, 2023, at 8:00 a.m. The Department Heads would be in attendance with Mr. T. Williams establishing a schedule.

- iii. Resolution To Establish the 2023 Dates and Times for Official Meetings of the Sauk Village Corporate Authorities
 - o Marva Campbell-Pruitt, Village Clerk presented the Resolution for the 2024 meeting dates and stated how it was accomplished. Trustees were asked to revisit the need to reschedule the meeting in November 2024 that presents as the same concern as the 2023 holiday. This item will proceed to the Board agenda for final determination.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- F. Harvey appealed for peace during the Christmas season
- D. Fields stated that he enjoyed the Tree Lighting and Photo Opps; Noted that if Trustees worked together, they could accomplish more
- E. Dodd asked where the other percent of the budget goes; spoke to the poor conditions of the streets and suggested that one street repair per year should be scheduled
- J. Burns encouraged Trustees to continue to ask questions and stated he would not expect them to approve a budget that they had just received.
 - o **Mayor Burgess' Responses**
 - Most were comments that required no response
 - Advised that 219th Street repairs are scheduled and will be paid from MFT Funds
 - Other taxing bodies create the overall increase

5. GENERAL COMMENTS BY TRUSTEES & MAYOR

- Trustee Williams reiterated that street repairs are accomplished through grants. Grants are hampered when audits are not completed, and we lose money. She stated that she manages to keep church and the Village's affairs separate.
- Trustee Sapp stated that this was the first budget meeting and the need to have questions addressed by line items

- Trustee Burns stated that the Village should not be bankrupt. She mentioned no bank reconciliations, no audit, no financial reports, caused budgets to be inaccurate. Trustees can not double check facts, but the Department Heads are not getting the work done.
- Trustee Carter announced the committee meeting on 12/19
- Trustee Johnson had no comment
- Trustee Coleman apologized for his outbursts, citing that he is frustrated, and asked for prayers for the leaders; announced that committee meetings were cancelled for the season
- Mayor Burgess affirmed that when comments are requested, Trustees should refrain from campaigning and pointing fingers at others. They should be professional. He ended with, if we don't come together, we will not progress.

6. EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION

There was no Closed Session

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by common consent at 8:44 p.m.
