

Minutes of the Finance/Budget Committee Meeting May 5, 2022

Pursuant to notice duly given Chairman Steve Siemborski called the meeting of the Finance/Budget Committee to order at 4:00 p.m. in the lower level of the Gates Mills Community House.

In attendance, were committee members David Atton, Jay “Chip” AuWerter, Beth DeCapite, Michael Press, Mark Prusinski, Ann Whitney and Janet Mulh, Finance Administrator. Absent were David Burke and Nancy Sogg. Also in attendance were Mayor Karen Schneider, Councilmembers Craig Steinbrink and Sandra Turner, and resident Jerry Bohinc.

Chairman Siemborski referred to his draft agenda with proposed quarterly meetings and suggested topics. The members agreed on the topics. They further suggested that dates be set in advance for the quarterly Committee meetings and the quarterly presentation to Council. Chairman Siemborski agreed to this and will schedule accordingly.

As the April Financial Statement was completed, he had copies for distribution to the Committee; as well as a variance report of changes between 2022 and 2021 YTD. Real estate tax revenue is straight forward, but income taxes are more dynamic. Work-at-home changes due to the pandemic may mean more personal income taxes coming to the Village instead of the city of employment. Chairman Siemborski will put together a list of questions for RITA for additional data of the Village’s taxpayers to be helpful in analysis and forecasting.

Mr. Atton suggested presenting to Council a refreshed look of what the rest of the year will look like after the quarterly meetings of the Finance Committee are held. Chairman Siemborski agreed to do so on a semiannual basis and is starting by looking at variances in the year-to-date numbers.

Chairman Siemborski reviewed the variances noted on the April Financial Statement. During this time, he noted the Service Department overtime numbers from 2020 through April 2022. Weather and the timing of storms is unpredictable, but this line item will be over budget by perhaps \$7,000.

Chairman Siemborski agreed the Committee will undertake updating the Long Range Planning Committee financial schedules. Mr. Atton desired to have those sooner than the third quarter. Mayor Schneider offered that we may know in June a decision on the three large infrastructure requests exceeding \$1 million. Chairman Siemborski agreed if we get such information in June or July, we could accelerate the LRP schedule updates. Several other members commented on construction, vehicle and other capital needs to be considered.

Ann Whitney, Michael Press and Jerry Bohinc updated the Committee on various possibilities for broadband and fiber optic improvements in the Village. Proposals are being gathered by the Broadband Committee.

ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds should be received in May. Chairman Siemborski will assemble a list of permitted potential projects for the funds and distribute that for comment.

Meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

Submitted by Janet M. Mulh, Finance Administrator.