

Rochester Village Board – Special Meeting
3/25/2024

President Suerdieck called the meeting to order at 6:59 pm.

Members present: Trustee Carver, Trustee Eandi, Trustee Kindred, Trustee Munroe, President Suerdieck, Clerk Gerberding; **Members absent:** Trustee Hendrickson

Public Forum
N/A

New Business:

1. Motion to approve hiring a full-time Public Works Assistant, Mitchell McDevitt. Trustee Munroe made a motion to approve hiring McDevitt. Trustee Eandi seconded the motion. He left previously to follow a dream and it was not what he expected. As a result, he has returned. Supt. Foster spoke highly of the individual and recommended rehiring him. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Discuss FY2025 Budget
Budget is currently balanced. Dept. Heads did an amazing job getting everything aligned. What questions are there?

Discussion followed to help explain what budget lines look like from experienced board trustees with newer trustees.

Any new major pieces added this year – new squad car, new machine for public works? Supt. Foster explained that he has a new vehicle built into his line to use as more of a management vehicle so his current truck can be moved into the fleet. The police line has a new squad car, office furniture, body cameras, radios, and computers.

Why is there a jump in the Interest Revenue line? The Village has consistently been close to \$50,000 each year, so Deputy Clerk Marsh increased the budget line from \$5 K to \$20. Pres. Suerdieck also explained that Village Treasurer (Jim Theis) did some shopping and put nearly \$400,000 in a CD for 1 year to earn up to 5%. This money came out of Water and Sewer. Since Deputy Clerk Marsh does not know what that interest will look like, the interest from that CD is not reflected in the budget anywhere.

Has the CWLP sent any notification of a rate adjustment for water? Nothing has been sent to the Village yet. So, the budget shows a 30% increase in expenses, but not in revenue.

Committee Stipends is for what and who – P & Z only. Village Board members are figured in to the payroll line. An administrative increase is estimated at 5% with police at 3% and public works (by union) at 3%.

The date for first negotiations with the Union is set for Friday, March 29th.

Small Business Relief/CURES has no deadline to spend but does have stipulations on how it can be spent.

ARPA money has been spent down, but still has more to be spent. N. Oak Hill Road mill and overlay (already approved) and E. Mill water main replacement (already approved) are the 2 projects to be spent out of this money. These were approved for last year but due to several issues out of the Village's control, they were delayed. Bids should come in during April on the Oak Hill Road project.

The Cannabis tax and Motor Fuel tax is divided by population across the county.

Garbage Disposal was not being divided evenly by the 3 departments so that adjustment was made so numbers look off, but it will be offset in other areas.

Does the Village have a slush fund? Pres. Suerdieck explained that the Village does to an extent. It shows up on financial statements. He has started slowly building an account with some "extra" money in it. It is used for the Christmas party, awards and recognition line, flowers for a funeral, etc.

Sewer and Rehab – budgeted \$17,000, spent \$3,000 this year, and re-budgeted for \$17,000 again next year – why? Because a new pump at a lift station costs about \$16,000. We haven't had one go out this year, so Supt. Foster will be spending money on some smaller projects with the remaining money for this year but wanted to budget for the highest amount potentially needed.

Continuing Education – public works has some costs, police has more consistent cost, office staff does not do any continuing education.

Board Members – Thank you, Deputy Clerk Marsh, for all the work you did on the budget this year. Pres. Suerdieck explained the 3 department heads have done a great deal of work over the past few years to clean up lines and have better ideas of what costs were and future costs, which has all led to a quicker budget turnaround for the staff.

Does the Village Board need to meet again before a vote to approve on April 8th? General consensus was no additional meeting is needed. If questions arise, trustees can reach out to Office Manager Marsh for answers.

President Suerdieck would like to spend some money in the parks this coming year. He doesn't have all his numbers together to fully explain everything yet.

Motion to Adjourn

Trustee Munroe made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Kindred seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Gerberding
Village Clerk