

MINUTES OF A BUDGET WORKSHOP OF THE TOWN BOARD OF TRUSTEES HELD THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2016 AT 4:43 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, ZION, ILLINOIS

Chairman Neal called the meeting to order.

On call of the roll the following answered present: Trustees Frierson, McDowell, DeTienne and Chairman Neal. Trustee McKinney was absent. Assessor Wicketts was present. Gail Gloudemans was present.

ZION TOWNSHIP BUDGET/FISCAL YEAR 2016/2017

Chairman Neal stated that Gail Gloudemans prepared a Taxing Body Breakdown, a copy of which is appended to these minutes, reflecting the history of the Zion taxing bodies' levies from 2010 through 2015.

Chairman Neal stated that the General Township Fund is capped at 2.5% of the EAV and the General Assistance Fund is capped at 1.5% of the EAV. She stated that the Township extension for 2016/17 is \$870,935.40, the EAV is \$227,123,714 and the tax rate is 0.383%. Assessor Wicketts stated that the City of Zion and all other taxing bodies should follow the Township's example with regard to the tax levy.

Chairman Neal presented the "Zion Township Annual Financial Report with Fiscal 2017 Proposed Budget Projected April 30, 2016" which includes year-to-date actual figures, projected year-end figures, annual budget figures, and proposed FY17 budget figures, a copy of which is appended to these minutes.

Ms. Gloudemans presented an Executive Summary of Changes for the General Township Fund. She stated that the total budget was reduced from \$664,663 last year to \$649,536 for the upcoming fiscal year. She stated that this summary identifies the differences between the current budget and the proposed budget. She stated that a decrease in the Personnel budget was due to contracting with a new health insurance carrier and the reclassification of worker's compensation. She stated that a decrease in Contractual Services was due to a newly negotiated IT contract. She stated that insurance for the building, auto and general liability increased. Ms. Gloudemans stated that the Township has chosen a high deductible, low premium health insurance plan which includes some reimbursement from deductibles. She stated that the company is under the Cigna Insurance umbrella and was highly recommended by other Townships covered by their plan. She stated that the Other Operating Expense budget increased due to reinstatement of the Township newsletter. Chairman Neal stated that the Township is investigating the possibility of publishing a joint newsletter with the other taxing bodies. Trustee McDowell suggested that the Township consider using the ZBGuide to dispense information rather than incurring the expense of printing a newsletter. Ms. Gloudemans stated that the Capital Outlay budget decreased due to interest reduction. She noted that this line item is predominately principal and interest on the building. She asked the Trustees to be aware that the principal payment is scheduled to increase in the next fiscal year by approximately \$5,000. Ms. Gloudemans stated that the Community Support budget decreased due to a small reduction in disaster relief funding and emergency transportation assistance per current usage estimates. She stated that the Youth Services budget was previously reduced, however, it was reduced too much, so the line item reflects a \$2,000 increase. This line item also includes mentor wages for four supervisors. She stated that the Senior Transportation budget increased due to a Dial A Ride contract increase. She stated that the Senior Support budget decreased due to birthday card costs decreasing to \$.50 per card. Ms. Gloudemans stated that the AO Personnel budget decreased due to the new health insurance contract and a reduction in staff salaries. She stated that staff salaries were adjusted due to the uncertainty regarding staff last year and the required funds to support it.

Ms. Gloude mans presented an Executive Summary of Changes for the General Assistance Fund. She stated that the total budget was reduced from \$315,255 last year to \$303,280 for the upcoming fiscal year. She stated that the Personnel budget increased due to a decrease in salary, benefits and worker’s compensation and an increase in educational benefits. She stated that the Contractual Services budget decreased due to the newly negotiated IT contract and the insurance for building, auto and liability insurance increased. She stated the Other Operating Expenses budget increased due to the need for new computers but shows a decrease in meeting travel. She stated that the Public Support budget shows a decrease due to usage estimates being adjusted based upon the previous fiscal year and increased partnerships and other agency application processing.

Ms. Gloude mans stated that the FICA Fund (Social Security)(\$37,000) reflects an increase due to the previous budget being lower than needed to decrease reserve funds. It was increased to meet current expenditures.

Ms. Gloude mans stated that the IMRF Fund (\$65,000) decreased due to the elimination of Township positions which lowered expenses and caused a greater reserve. She stated that the levy was lowered to deplete the reserve. She noted that the actual expense is \$25,000 more than levied which will need to be adjusted in the future fiscal year.

Chairman Neal stated that the Township is still budgeting more than its income, creating an “in the red” budget, however the Township does have cash reserves to cover one third of a fiscal year.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, it was moved by Trustee DeTienne, seconded by Trustee McDowell, and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 5:05 p.m. Motion carried.

Town Clerk