

**VILLAGE OF SUSSEX
SUSSEX, WISCONSIN**

**Minutes of the Village Board Budget Meeting of
October 22, 2020**

1. Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by President LeDonne at 5:42 pm.

Members present: Greg Zoellick, Lee Uecker, Ron Wells, Wendy Stallings, Michael Bartzen and President Anthony LeDonne.

Members excused: Scott Adkins

Also present: Administrator Jeremy Smith, Assistant Village Administrator Kelsey McElroy Anderson, Finance Director Nancy Whalen, and Public Works Director/Engineer Judy Neu.

2. Comments from Citizens Present

No one present wished to speak.

3. Introduction and discussion on 2021 Budget

President LeDonne asked Administrator Smith for updates. Mr. Smith updated the Board on the estimated tax rates for each taxing jurisdiction in the Village. He noted that State aid to the Hamilton School District resulted in their tax rate going down more than originally anticipated. Mr. Smith also answered the follow-up questions from the last budget meeting.

Trustee Uecker asked when the Village last reviewed the impact fees. Mr. Smith stated that the fees were last adjusted in 2015, but there is an annual escalation factor already factored in.

Trustee Uecker asked if revenue from impact fees was used for the sprinkler replacement in the Library. Mr. Smith stated that these funds weren't used for this project because it was considered maintenance and impact fees can only be used for new projects.

Trustee Zoellick stated that the Library needs to do a study to determine if they can expand the existing building or if they will have to building something new. Mr. Smith agreed that the Library Board will need to do this study in the next year or two.

At the request of President LeDonne, Mr. Smith walked through the peer city analysis in regards to residential and commercial occupancy fees.

Motion by LeDonne, seconded by Wells to increase the residential and commercial occupancy fees to \$75 and \$150, respectively. Motion carried 6-0

Trustee Bartzen asked Mr. Smith if he thinks the increase in State aid to the School District will be one year or ongoing. Mr. Smith responded that the State aid is likely to go down next year, but they are unlikely to see a huge swing down because the School District is growing.

President LeDonne asked if the Village started the pay-as-you-go system in 2009. Mr. Smith stated that this was correct.

Discussion followed about the streets depreciation and parks depreciation items on the extras list.

Mr. Smith, at the request of Trustee Bartzen, had identified the following changes to the budget, which could be made to offset the cost of depreciation items:

- Increase the sewer dividend (transfer to the General Fund): \$50,000
- Increased State Transportation Aids: \$36,469
- Increased recreation revenue: \$5000
- Increase the annual yard waste pass by \$5,000
- Increase the residential and commercial occupancy fee: \$1,800

There was consensus to make the changes listed above. Trustee Stallings stated that she wanted to make sure the revenue generated by parks and recreation functions went to the parks depreciation.

Discussion followed about how to fund the streets and parks depreciation funds, but not raise taxes for the average house in Sussex. Mr. Smith stated that they could also raise the annual garbage fee by \$1, which would generate \$2,500 annually. This would bring the total available funding for depreciation up to \$100,000.

Motion by LeDonne, seconded by Wells to make the following changes to the proposed budget:

- Increase the sewer dividend (transfer to the General Fund): \$50,000
- Increased State Transportation Aids: \$36,469
- Increased recreation revenue: est. \$5,000
- Increase the annual yard waste pass by \$5: est. \$5,000
- Increase the residential and commercial occupancy fee: est. \$2,000
- Increase the annual garbage fee by \$1: est. \$3,500
- Add \$70,000 in depreciation for roads
- Add \$30,000 in depreciation for parks

A roll call vote was taken.

Motion carried 6-0

Motion by LeDonne, seconded by Bartzen to direct staff to prepare the updated budget and notice the public hearing for November 24, 2020.

Motion carried 6-0

4. Adjournment

Motion by LeDonne, seconded by Stallings to adjourn at 7:04 pm.

Motion carried 6-0

Respectfully submitted,

Kelsey McElroy-Anderson
Assistant Village Administrator