

**VILLAGE OF CLEVELAND, WISCONSIN**  
**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE BOARD**  
**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2022**  
**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL.** Village President Jake Holzwart called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00pm on Tuesday, November 15, 2022, in the Sheboygan County Training Room at Lakeshore Technical College, 1290 North Ave, Cleveland, Wisconsin.

Board Present: Jake Holzwart, Village President  
Jason Berdyck  
Debi Cevaal  
Jon Hoffman  
Danielle LaLonde  
Barry Nelson

Board Absent: John Ader (excused)

Staff Present: Stacy Grunwald, Director of Village Services

**II. YEAR 2023 BUDGET PREPARATION.** In response to questions raised at the November 14, 2022, meeting, Director Grunwald explained the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) was funded this cycle at \$2,000,000, with a maximum grant award of \$500,000. Qualified projects would be construction-only projects with a minimum project cost of \$250,000. The latest State letting for the project would be November 2024, with plans due by August 2024. The information did not indicate the award date itself. Director Grunwald offered to forward the Board's questions to Village Engineer Dan Rammer, who will be at the next Board meeting. The Board kept the street projects in the 2023 budget pending the additional information.

Director Grunwald presented water and sewer utility information including draft revenue and expense budgets and potential rates for both utilities. The drafts estimated an approximate \$5,000 gain in the Water Utility and a deficit of less than \$1000 in the Sewer Utility. Staff was preparing a Water Utility rate case application for the Public Service Commission with a target to file by end of year; the adjusted rates would likely be effective mid-year based on the Commission's current review schedule. The Sewer Utility would implement an equivalent decrease in rates to reduce the impact to customers. Reversal of the 2022 budget deficits was accomplished by returning personnel costs to the general fund, increasing Water Utility rates, and eliminating Sewer Utility advances to other funds and contributions to committed funds, among other changes. The reduction in sewer rates would likely result in a negative financial position for the sewer utility. The Board made no change to the draft budget.

The Board discussed the balance of costs between the general fund and utilities, and the perception the Village's monthly water/sewer bill was much higher than similar billing in other communities. Based on comments this perception deterred new development, the Board considered moving additional costs from the utilities to the general fund. It was noted a lower utility bill would be welcome but moving costs back to the general fund would increase the burden on property owners while reducing contributions from exempt properties and renters. There was the additional difficulty imposed by the levy limit law, which restricted property tax growth to payments on debt financing or increases in net new construction. Staff suggested the Village Board could privatize the utilities or waive the Water Utility's payment of accrued taxes, which would reduce the additional amount needed to balance the utility's budget but decrease general fund revenues by more than \$30,000. Ultimately, the Trustees determined multiple factors contributed to the Village's low growth, including the lack of available development lots and amenities within the Village, and the Village's distance from other municipalities. The Board made no change to the draft budget.

By consensus, the Board directed Staff to publish the general fund budget summary as presented.

**III. MEETING SCHEDULE**

- A. THU NOV 17 ..... DEADLINE TO SUBMIT BUDGET FOR PUBLICATION ON 11/21**
- B. THU NOV 17 ..... HUMAN RESOURCES AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE, 6PM. Cancelled.**
- C. TUE NOV 22..... VILLAGE BOARD, 6PM**
- D. NOV 24-25..... HOLIDAY; STAFF OFF**
- E. TUE NOV 29..... PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE, 6PM**
- F. THU DEC 1..... FIRST DAY TO CIRCULATE NOMINATION PAPERS**
- G. MON DEC 5..... MUNICIPAL COURT, 5PM**
- H. TUE DEC 6 ..... VILLAGE BOARD 2023 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING, LTC, 6PM**
- I. WED DEC 7 ..... PLAN COMMISSION, 6PM**
- J. MON DEC 12..... FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE, 6PM**
- K. WED DEC 14..... HUMAN RESOURCES AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE, 6PM**
- L. TUE DEC 20 ..... VILLAGE BOARD, 6PM. To be rescheduled at the November 22, 2022, Village Board meeting.**
- M. FRI DEC 23 ..... HOLIDAY; STAFF OFF**
- N. MON DEC 26..... HOLIDAY; STAFF OFF**
- O. TUE DEC 27 ..... PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE, 6PM**
- P. FRI DEC 30 ..... HOLIDAY; STAFF OFF ½-DAY**

- Q. MON JAN 2 ..... HOLIDAY; STAFF OFF**
- R. TUE JAN 3..... LOCAL ELECTION FILING DEADLINE, 5PM**
- S. SCHEDULE OTHER MEETINGS AS NEEDED.** No other meetings were needed.

**IV. ADJOURNMENT.** Motion LaLonde/Berdyck to adjourn; carried without negative vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:21pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*/S/ Stacy Grunwald*

Stacy Grunwald  
Director of Village Services

Approved on 11/22/2022

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