

October 19, 2020 (Village Board Budget Meeting)

**ALLOUEZ VILLAGE BOARD BUDGET MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020
5:00 P.M., ALLOUEZ VILLAGE HALL**

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

President Rafter called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Genrich, Harris, Rafter, Sampson, Atwood, Green (via Zoom), Dart
Also Present: Lange, Beauchamp, Gehin, Clark, Zittlow

MODIFY / ADOPT AGENDA

Harris / Atwood moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

2021 BUDGET REVIEW / WORK SESSION WITH VILLAGE STAFF

Finance Director, Julie Beauchamp provided an overview of the proposed 2021 Budget.

Budget Highlights

- The 2021 Proposed Budget levy of \$6,939,247 is an increase of \$225,759 as compared to the 2020 Adopted Budget levy and results in an estimated 2.62% increase in the tax rate from \$7.36 to \$7.55 or just under \$0.20 per thousand of assessed value. The 2020 Adopted Budget included a levy increase of \$191,721 and a 2% increase in the tax rate from \$7.21 to \$7.36. The Village maintained a level tax rate of \$7.21 for 2019 and 2018 which was a slight decrease from the \$7.22 tax rate for both 2017 and 2016.
- The 2021 Proposed Budget includes the application of \$200,000 in General Fund balance using proceeds from the 2020 sale of the Community Center. The use of these one-time funds decreased the proposed tax rate from \$7.77 to the current \$7.55. Both the 2020 and the 2019 Adopted Budgets included a \$120,000 transfer from the Excess Stadium Sales Tax Fund to the General Fund to maintain the street paving budget of \$500,000.
- The Village's assessed value is projected to be \$919,266,000 for 2020 which is an increase of less than 1% as compared to the 2019 value of \$912,648,700. Equalized values (TID in) increased by over 4% from \$1,057,335,000 to \$1,104,298,100 resulting in an assessment ratio of 83% as compared to 86% last year. The Village is undergoing a market revaluation to bring assessed values more in line with equalized values. The updated valuation will be used to determine the 2021, payable 2022, tax rate.

Discussion:

- Do we want to make adjustments to the wage rates? And where would we like to see the health insurance premiums for employees?
 - o Consensus was to budget for a 2% wage increase and increase health insurance contribution for employees to 6%

Clark (Parks, Recreation & Forestry)

- Slight increase in Operating Budget (contracted out some park facility services)
- Facility options and costs for programs to replace use of Community Center
- Request for a new spring and fall seasonal labor position at a rate between \$13.50 and \$14.50/hour (would help full-time staff during those busy time periods). This position would utilize the budgeted funds from seasonal labor.
 - o Urban Forestry Program (dying ash trees have to be removed, takes a lot of staff time and will continue to)
 - o Park Projects (saving money by doing projects in-house whenever possible)
 - o Facility Maintenance
- Possible revenue generators. Explore methods to increase revenue thru park and recreation programming.

Gehin (Engineering / Street Department / Water Department)

- Recently hired Engineering Tech to fill vacant position. Derek will assist with the design and drafting of plans and maintenance of Village's mapping system.
- Budgeted \$7,500 for miscellaneous professional service needs
- WDOT General Transportation Aid funding of \$425,000. A \$12,000 increase compared to 2020 funding
- Recycling Grant funding is anticipated to match 2020 funding - \$98,500
- Decrease in expenditure of the disposal of recycles as a result of favorable markets/ Increase in cost to dispose of garbage due to a noticeable increase in volume
- Garbage and recycling carts are at the end of their useful life (no longer repairing them). Will be purchasing new ones; cost will be offset by revenue generated when we sell them.
- Street maintenance (paving) budget of \$500,000 matching 2020 budget funding
- Maintain street repair funding of potholes and crack filling at \$50,000 and \$25,000, respectively (doing more in-house)
- Separate fund activity has been created for sidewalk snow removal to better track cost
- Next year adding another leaf vacuum truck (should see a reduction in equipment cost). Hoping to eliminate baling process by next year.
- In discussions with DePere and Ledgeview to explore jointly operating the yard waste site at LeBrun
- To our best ability bid construction projects early in the year in hope of obtaining better unit prices. Have Started next year's street reconstruction and resurfacing projects
- Wastewater treatment costs continue to increase:
 - o A proposed 2021 increased operating cost by NEW Water (5.7%)
 - o Treatment of clearwater (I/I) due to the record levels of precipitation
 - o Additional loading in our service boundary (need to do testing to determine the source)
- 2021 Village is proposing to improve the condition of the Village's sanitary sewer system through the replacement of sewer and lining. Improvements will reduce the clearwater intrusion into the system
- Purchased water cost from the Central Brown County Water Authority to decrease:

- Projected decrease in water use (slight)
- Minimal cost increase for the purchase of water (1 cent)
- Continue yearly leak detection program to identify leaks and reduce water loss. Continue the joint bidding of the leak detection program
- Need to update the Village's Water Emergency Response Plan which includes putting together a Risk and Resilience Plan (Bonded expense of approximately \$30,000)
- Removal and replacement of chlorine analyzers at the connection station at an expense of \$15,000 (part of bonding).
- Kalb Water Station driveway will be improved under the Street Reconstruction Project
- Need to relocate a number of hydrants as part of the Safe Routes to School project
- Removal and replacement of cast iron watermains is proposed under next year's street reconstruction project
- Storm water utility fund
 - Village wide review of commercial ERU's to be completed this year. The capture of imperviousness associated with recent commercial developments will add approximately \$60,000 in operating revenue.
 - Continue repair of sink holes, storm sewer and inlets at a budget of \$50,000
- The proposed Equipment Replacement Plan includes the purchase of:
 - Sewer Vac Truck
 - Leaf Vacuum Truck
 - Used pick-up truck or van for Engineering

Discussion:

- NEW Water
- New legislation needed to include us in exemption from the costs we incur from a state facility within our municipality
- Budget process
- Beauchamp requested the \$24,000 savings due to decrease in health insurance cost and maintaining 6% for the employee premium be put toward equipment replacement charges (to add back what we took away last year) and keep expenditures the same in the general fund.
- Revaluation
- Shared Revenue
- Expenditure Restraint Funds
- Roselawn Blvd project
- Ambulance fee collection is projected to be \$10,000 less
- Street lighting costs (if replaced with LED, cost should go down)
- Room Tax

Consensus:

- Apply the \$24,000 savings in health care costs toward equipment replacement charges.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

(no budget workshop needed on Thursday, October 22nd / Budget Hearing on November 17th)

ADJOURNMENT

Genrich / Dart moved to adjourn at 6:35 p.m. Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by Debbie Baenen, Clerk-Treasurer (via audio recording)