

# Finance Committee Meeting

## March 12, 2025

Call to order at 6 p.m. by Dawn King

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Steve Thorn, Dawn King, Patrick Frost

Others present: Mayor Tammy Meyer, Police Chief Joe Urso, Fiscal Officer Maryann Fabian, Kevin Maloney, Denise DeLillo, Village Administrator Ryan Klemm, Crystal Klemm, Linda Clark, Sarah Harper, Miranda Brothers, Amy Miller, Tom Knipper, Ashlyn Weaver, Michelle Sweet, Tom Resler, Wendy Knipper, Jeff Benner, Eric Hummel

Citizens:

Linda Clark asked if there would be an opportunity for citizens to talk during the discussions portion of the agenda when the committee discusses the contract with MSFD dispatch. Dawn said that would be allowed.

Approve minutes

- ❖ The 2.12.2025 minutes were presented. Steve made a motion to approve the minutes; Patrick second. All ayes.

Financial Reports

The financial reports were reviewed.

- ❖ Steve made a motion to move financial reports to council. Patrick second. All ayes.

Review of Finance Legislation

ORD 2025-09 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 105, PUBLIC RECORDS POLICY AND ESTABLISHING A FEE FOR PREPARING POLICE DEPARTMENT VIDEO RECORDS IN RESPONSE TO PUBLIC CD'S RECORDS REQUESTS. Tammy explained that the state has allowed \$75/hour for up to ten hours, and this will allow us to charge those fees.

- ❖ Steve made a motion to move to council. Dawn second. All ayes.

ORD 2025-10 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ONE DUMP TRUCK AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Ryan explained the Dodge that the village owns now has reached the end of its value for the village. It has become unreliable, and costly in repairs.

- ❖ Steve made a motion to move to council. Dawn second. All ayes.

Discussions

CDs

Maryann explained that the two CDs at Middlefield Bank were maturing on March 24, 2025. When these mature she will be putting them into the NOW account at Middlefield Bank earning 4.25% guaranteed until May 31, 2025.

Contract with MSFD

Tammy shared that the contract with the Fire Department is set to expire at the end of December. She and Chief Urso have already had discussions with Chief Rossa to begin negotiations. Tammy mentioned that this matter was addressed at the Safety meeting and will also be brought up during the Budget Workshop. Patrick provided details on the discussions at the Safety meeting and the differing perspectives.

Maryann outlined the projected costs for the village to continue dispatch services with the Fire Department, as well as the estimated costs for a dispatch contract with the Sheriff's Department and an additional contract with

the City of Kent for CAD services. Chief Urso clarified that the village's current CAD system does not integrate with the Portage County Sheriff's Office (PCSO). He estimates that it would cost the village between \$50,000 and \$60,000 to modify the records system to make it compatible with the Sheriff's Department.

Kevin inquired about who decided to include dispatch in the budget proposal and to present two budget scenarios: one with dispatch and one without. Maryann responded that Tammy had instructed her to present it this way. Tammy explained that everything was open for consideration. Steve pointed out that the issue arose because the Fire Department's contract is approaching its expiration, which is why the council is reviewing the numbers. He also emphasized the need to evaluate the level of service the village would receive from the PCSO. Steve said another consideration would be the necessary upgrades to dispatch equipment.

Patrick reminded the council that they must consider the voters' intentions, and Tammy highlighted that they must also take into account how the ordinance was written and what voters approved. Tammy concluded by reminding the council that they would ultimately be the ones responsible for deciding how to allocate the funds as they see fit.

Linda Clark asked for clarification on the current status of negotiations and who is managing them. Tammy explained that she and Chief Urso were in the room with Chief Roosa.

Sarah Harper wanted to ensure everyone was aware of the cost involved in transitioning the records.

Ashlyn Weaver expressed her gratitude to everyone for taking the time to address the issue and its safety benefits.

Vickie Wilcox urged everyone to consider the service the village receives with its own dispatch.

Crystal Klemm felt the numbers should speak for themselves. Dawn agreed with Steve's point about the service the village might receive by outsourcing, noting that the issue is more complex than just the numbers. Crystal suggested that the village should obtain multiple quotes for dispatch services.

Jeff Benner, speaking on behalf of his mother, inquired about when the levy was on the ballot. It was in 2022. He stated it should be put back to the voters.

Tom Knipper shared his opinion about maintaining the dispatch service.

#### Contract SRO

Tammy said that she is nowhere with this contract, and we would wait to discuss this. Chief asked if negotiations had started? Tammy answered that it has, informally.

Dawn adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Please note: An audio recording of this meeting is available via public record request.