

**Village of Deer Park**  
**Public Hearing Minutes—Proposed Appropriations Ordinance**  
**June 21, 2004**

**p. 1 of 2**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Public Hearing of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Deer Park was held on Monday, June 21, 2004 at the Charles Quentin Elementary, 21250 W. Shirley Road, Palatine, in the Village of Deer Park, Lake County, Illinois.

President Gifford called the meeting to order at 11:06 p.m. Upon roll call the following were present: President Gifford, Trustees Dowell, Kizior, Plautz, Rotter, and Thrun. Trustee Ekstrom was absent. Other Village Officials present were Plan Commission Member John Lahr, Engineer Gordon, Administrator Diesen-Dahl, Clerk Smith, and Attorney Hargadon.

Guests present were: Mary Lahr (201 Rue Touraine); Vicki Jarvis (20884 Swansway); Roger Hankin (20856 Swansway); Marisa Privatsky (20455 Meadow Lane); Jean H. Elms (20324 Meadow Lane); Dave Elms (20324 Meadow Lane); Greg Suthers (2323 Suthers Lane, Palatine); Jim Kraner (113 Lois Lane); Libby Ferracane (109 Lois Lane); Evelyn Ferracane (109 Lois Lane); Margaret Kraner (113 Lois Lane); Nancy Kirby (112 Lois Lane ); Teri Bridge (23675 Hedgeworth Court); and Jim Peterson (20230 Lea Road).

**2. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING**

MOTION: by Dowell second by Thrun to open the Public Hearing on the Proposed Appropriations Ordinance. Upon voice vote:

YES: (5)

NO: (0)

ABSENT: (1) Ekstrom

Motion Carried 5/0

The Public Hearing was opened at 11:06 p.m.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Resident Mary Lahr:** Discussion regarding posting of the Proposed Appropriations Ordinance pursuant to notice. A copy was posted at the office in the outer lobby area; Mrs. Lahr requested through FOIA a copy of the proposed budget to be discussed at this Public Hearing (not a correct request). Questions regarding the Appropriations Ordinance:

1. Boundary Agreement Repayment—what is it? The Kildeer payment to the Village of Deer Park pursuant to the Boundary Agreement.
2. Interfund transfers—what funds does the Village have and who authorizes the transfers between funds? Trustee Dowell enumerated the funds, and discussed process for transfers between funds. Mrs. Lahr noted the budget showed funds transfers, noting she has not heard Board approval for the transfers. Trustee Dowell noted that in January or February the Board authorized the transfer of funds for park uses. Mrs. Lahr asked who oversees these transfers. Treasurer Stade directly oversees, along with other administrative controls, and the audit process.
3. Miscellaneous Income of \$15,000—what comprises? Trustee Dowell indicated this is a “catch all” item. The budget tries to anticipate activity across the Board. Mrs. Lahr asked which expenses are included; cannot discern by the breakdown of the budget. Trustee Dowell noted this is a shortfall of cash accounting. Who determines what that reimbursed amount (for budget purposes) will be? Fell grossly short of projected on a cash basis. Mrs. Lahr asked if consultants bill Village or bill directly for reimbursable expenses. Typically, Village funds up front then seeks reimbursement from the third party.
4. How is the Sales Tax line item derived? Proceeds from the Town Center drives the calculation; need experience; projected buildout of development affects—projected more completed buildout than actually occurred. Mrs. Lahr noted that this year, projecting \$1.3 million. If do not get income, what happens? Village must adjust. Mrs. Lahr asked if there is a plan for curtailing expenses if projected income is falling short. Treasurers’ Office and Finance Chair review monthly; Treasurer reviews almost continuously.
5. Water allocations income—what is it? Last year, budgeted for \$7500; got \$5000; budgeted \$7500 again. This is a fee charged under the water ordinance for certification of allocations for Palatine water.
6. Why does the Village incur bank charges? Miscellaneous charges for wire fees, etc.

**Village of Deer Park**  
**Public Hearing Minutes—Proposed Appropriations Ordinance**  
**June 21, 2004**

**p. 2 of 2**

7. Legal fees are estimated at \$25,000 per month; one month into the year, \$47,000 spent between Lord Bissell Brook and Nimz. Seems off-base. Trustee Dowell noted some fees may be reimbursable, etc. Would like to see more oversight.
8. Planning Reimbursable same amount as TIF study for Teska. If the TIF District is not approved, this money cannot be reimbursed.
9. Salaries for 2004 were budgeted at \$95,000; paid out \$77,956. This year budgeted \$105,000 with one less employee. Does increase in salaries account for \$10,000?
10. No numbers for Vehe Farm Foundation.
11. Paid engineers several thousand dollars to prepare a 10 year road plan; shortly into the plan, changing to fund Vehe Farm Foundation improvements. Why? President Gifford noted budgets are fluid; budgeting does not preclude changes as needed. Mrs. Lahr stated she understands the nature of the budget process, but some items don't seem realistic. President Gifford noted actions may not seem realistic to Mrs. Lahr, but have been deemed reasonable by the Board.
12. Cash Disbursements last month showed Lord Bissell & Brook bill with a line item as "confidential matters not for dissemination" totaling 41.46% of total disbursed--did any Trustees get a detailed breakdown of that part of the bill? President Gifford stated the Board was aware of what the expenditures were for. Mrs. Lahr indicated it is impossible to tell what that portion of the bill was for; President Gifford noted that is why the item is labeled confidential.

***Resident Roger Hankin:***

1. Disbursements, with one exception, tracked toward the original budget. Receipts, however, were way off. Particularly, Builders Reimbursements and Reimbursed Income from the SSAs were off over a million dollars from the budget. Did they pay after the end of February? Trustee Dowell noted the lag in reporting due to the cash basis. Mr. Hankin stressed the need for fees to be paid in a timely manner.
2. Have townhomes paid impact fees? Board was not aware of the status. Mr. Hankin noted timing is costing the Village money due to debt principal and interest payments. Trustee Dowell noted the Village does not run up debt; instead, use available cash resources. Mr. Hankin noted practice cannot go on in perpetuity; 2004 was a deficit year from a cash perspective. Have not heard a commitment to manage down controllable expenses.
3. Praedium developer not in good standing per the Secretary of State's web site. Had not filed financials; are in good standing now.
4. Running approximately double of budgeted legal fees; seems to be a continuing trend. What mechanisms are there to keep legal fees in check? President Gifford noted the Board is monitoring legal expenses.

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: by Thrun second by Rotter to close the Public Hearing on the Proposed Appropriation Ordinance. Upon voice vote:

YES: (5)

NO: (0)

ABSENT: (1) Ekstrom

Motion Carried 5/0

The Public Hearing of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at 11:31 p.m.

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H. Scott Gifford, President

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Sandra R. Smith, Village Clerk