

Finance Committee Meeting
Friday, May 9, 2025, at 3:15 p.m.

Present: Chairman Canton, Council Member Porter, Fiscal Officer Romanowski, Mayor Koons

The Fiscal Officer discussed implementation of the UAN financial software possibly occurring by fall. According to the auditor, the software allows for faster audits in that it provides uniformity throughout the state. In the next couple of years, the system should be cloud-based. Although there will still be some paper, the system will run more efficiently, and it will streamline some of the processes.

Regarding the Tax Budget, by law it must be adopted by July 15th and filed with the county by July 18th. However, the Council meeting this year is on July 14th, which leaves little wiggle room. She has the Building Department numbers, and the Safety Committee is meeting Thursday and should be providing those numbers. The most significant piece is the Street Department. If she can get those numbers from the Street Commissioner by May 27th or 28th, it would be possible to have the hearing on June 9th and adopt the Tax Budget in June. It must be advertised and requires a public hearing.

Porter asked for an update on the salt structure. The Fiscal Officer explained that one of the bids for a 1,500-ton facility was \$1.2 million. For a 2,000-ton, it was \$1.4 million. The second bid for a 1,500-ton was \$460,000 and 2,000 ton was \$510,000. The last was one bid for 1,500-1,700-ton which came in at \$780,000. The Engineer requested the Streets Committee meet next week to review the bids and hopefully have a recommendation for the second Council meeting in May. This will also help with the Tax Budget. The committee discussed various aspects of the bids and bidders and the process going forward. The Fiscal Officer noted that the approach for a design-build project is different than the normal bidding process.

The Fiscal Officer updated the committee on the solar tax credit, for which she will now have to file a 990 NT.

For the year, SRV cash balance is up \$515,000, but for the month of April it is down \$97,000 after paying for the new police cruiser and the park restroom. She explained that while income tax revenue is up, Village expenses are also up not only because of big projects but because of added services like IT. She asked the committee for input on any large projects anticipated for next year. She was aware of the paving of Bell Rd. east, possibly the bike path, and potential large equipment purchases. Canton offered that there might also be the bocce ball court. Porter shared that the Street Commissioner is discussing the purchase of a loader. There was a question of the installation of a second set of lights for the road crossing, and the Fiscal Officer would check to see if it had been included in this year's budget.

Porter asked if the Village had seen any appreciable difference with the solar panels, and the Fiscal Officer said no. She added that the Chief reported a need for repair for the second time, which were performed by YellowLite. Apparently, whoever did the installation did not do something correctly. They monitor the system and contacted the Chief to report the problem. Porter was wondering about putting solar panels on the roof of the new police garage, providing the solar panels work consistently. The Fiscal Officer pointed out that with the addition of the new garage and the increase in utilities prices, it will be difficult to determine the benefit of the solar panels.

The Fiscal Officer informed the committee of the IT aspect of the 2023-2024 audit. She had to provide diagrams from the county showing the safety precautions the Village has in place.

Regarding other Village projects, Porter relayed that there was a lot of sewer work needed on Maple Ridge, which is a big-ticket item. The sewer work would be combined with paving. Canton asked about the status of Manor Brook Phase II, and Porter said no one has expressed interest from Manor Brook Gardens. Canton asked if there was a need for it, and Porter surmised that Phase II should happen while there is money for it in the next couple of years. The Mayor advised that the HOA did its own Erosion Special Improvement District (ESID).

Porter concluded that the need for Manor Brook Phase II and its cost should be directed to the Engineer, if Manor Brook Gardens would agree.

The Mayor provided Ike Tripp with previous reports from Meeder Investments, and he assumed Tripp would be joining the Treasury Investment Board (TIB). He suggested appointing him at the May 27th meeting and he can attend the June 2nd TIB meeting.

The Mayor asked about the current NOPEC grant, and the Fiscal Officer advised the Village would have to come up with a project. He also asked about the status of the audit, and the Fiscal Officer said it should be wrapped up in the next two weeks. One elected official still needs to get the fraud risk assessment submitted. Distribution of Council packets were discussed relative to the website. Additionally, the Fiscal Officer explained the upcoming requirement to make the website ADA compliant so that all people with disabilities can access government websites. She reached out to Dynamics Online to ask what that would entail in the way of time and cost.

Canton adjourned the meeting at 3:48 p.m.