



VILLAGE OF BARTLETT COMMITTEE MINUTES February 18, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Wallace called the Committee of the Whole meeting of February 18, 2025, of the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Bartlett to order on the above date at 7:23 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Chairmen Deyne, Gandsey, Gunsteen, Hopkins, LaPorte (remote), Suwanski President Wallace

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Village Administrator Paula Schumacher, Assistant Village Administrator Scott Skrycki, Assistant Finance Director Matt Coulter, Director of Public Works Dan Dinges, Assistant Public Works Director Tyler Isham, Planning & Development Director Kristy Stone, Grounds Superintendent Matt Giermak, Chief Pretkelis, Deputy Chief Naydenoff, Village Attorney Kurt Asprooth, and Village Clerk Lorna Giless.

3. TOWN HALL:

Kevin Romejko, Executive Director Bartlett Park District

Mr. Romejko stated that he was here to answer any questions that the Board might have regarding the Park District's request to have the Village use its Home Rule Authority to exempt the Park District from the Cook County Paid Leave Ordinance. He went on to say that the Park District is in a similar position that the Village was in in December of 2023. He stated that's when the state was enacting its own paid leave for all Workers Act, park districts were exempted from that act but municipalities and villages were not. He stated that the same concerns the Village was facing then is what the Park District is facing right now. Mr. Romejko stated that this not only adds to the undue financial burden this places on the park district but also creates inequity for the park district part-time employees that work in Cook County but not in DuPage County. He stated that back in December of 2023, the Village astutely used its Home Rule Authority to exempt itself from the state Paid Leave for all Workers Act but also included verbiage exemption from any future Cook County paid leave acts or ordinances. He concluded by stating that the Park District is here to ask the Board of Trustees to exempt them from that ordinance under their Home Rule. He thanked the Board for their time and consideration.

4. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. LICENSE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE, CHAIRMAN HOPKINS

1. Bartlett Park District Paid Leave for All Exemption

Chairman Hopkins stated that this was discussed at length two meeting ago where it was turned down. He stated the Paid Leave for all Workers Act was enacted by the State of Illinois in 2023. The Paid Leave



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Act generally requires employers to provide employees with paid leave at a rate of one hour for every 40 hours worked, including part time employees. The Paid Leave Act specifically and expressly excludes park districts from complying with the mandatory paid leave requirements. He went on to say that while the Cook County Paid Leave Ordinance largely mirrors the State Paid Leave Act, the Cook County Paid Leave Act Ordinance does not exempt park districts from complying with the Paid Leave requirements.

Mayor Wallace asked why there seems to be a problem with helping the Park District. He stated that he wasn't present at the meeting when it was voted on. He stated that he was disappointed that there is an issue with this.

Trustee Suwanski stated that she would like the fees that our attorney has invested in this to be charged back to the Park District. Mayor Wallace stated that he didn't think that would be a problem.

Trustee Deyne stated that he believes the Community has to support one another. He stated that the Village is here to serve its residents as is the Park District, and we have to work hand in hand. Mayor Wallace stated that he agreed.

Trustee Hopkins stated that he had no problem forwarding this on to the Village Board for a vote.

Trustee LaPorte stated that he didn't think that Cook County taxpayers need any more increases in taxes. He stated that if Cook County gets their way, it's going to increase the taxes for the Cook County portion, and he didn't think they should have to pay that.

Trustee Gandsey stated that she didn't feel like people had a problem, she stated that they had questions and that it was the process to get more information and have their questions answered.

Trustee Hopkins stated that if there were no other questions, this would be forwarded over to the Board for a vote.

B. FINANCE COMMITTEE, CHAIRMAN LAPORTE

1. Proposed Budget Presentation

Chairman LaPorte stated that there would be a presentation regarding the fiscal year 2025-2026 proposed budget. He handed it over to Assistant Finance Director Matt Coulter to go over the presentation. Matt Coulter stated that the timeline for the next month and a half entails getting this proposed budget to the Board on Friday. He stated he would do a quick overview to go over revenues and fund balances, as well as going over the department reviews. He stated that the department reviews will be split between the March 4th and March 18th meetings and that in April they will have the public hearing to adopt the 25-26 budget.

Assistant Finance Director Matt Coulter stated that total revenues came in at 73.426 million, which is down 1.869 million or 2.48% from last year's budget. He stated total expenditures came in at 80.74 million



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which is down 4.87 million or 5.69% from last year's budget. He went on to say that the main reason for the overall budget change is the wastewater treatment plant rehab project being completed. He stated that other reasons are the divine excess flow project which should be wrapped up by the end of this year, as well as the golf irrigation project. He stated that total revenue is 73,426,927, 32% of that is coming from charges for services which is our enterprise funds, which is water, sewer, parking, and golf. He stated that 31% comes from other taxes such as income sales use, telecom real estate MFT and gaming tax. He stated 18% comes from property taxes and 8% comes from other revenues such as licenses, permits, franchise fees etc.

He stated that total expenditure is 80.74 million. 26% goes to capital projects for water, sewer, streets, the TIF, 25% goes to public works, 24% to public safety, and 11% to general government. He went on to say that 10% is our debt service, and 4% is golf. He then went over a graph detailing operating expenditures.

Assistant Finance Director Matt Coulter then went over operating expenditures by type so 51% is for personnel which includes 4.2 million for police pension, contractual services is at 21% which includes the DuPage Water Commission water bill, 21% for charges including debts and liability insurance and 4% for commodities and capital outlay.

He then detailed some of our general funds including the General fund, MFT fund, water fund, sewer fund, golf fund, central services, and vehicle replacement. He stated that 80% of our general fund revenues come from four sources. 24% comes from our general corporate property taxes, 24% comes from income taxes, 20% from regular sales tax, and 12% from our Home Rule sales tax.

For Motor Fuel Tax, he states total revenues 3.15 million which is an increase of \$965,000 or 4% from last year's budget. he stated that MFT fund revenues or allotments, we are budgeting for 1.8 million which is an increase of \$10,000 or 1% from last year's budget.

He then went over the Water fund, total revenues are 13.691 million which is an increase of \$140,000 or 1% from last year's budget, with total expenditures being 15.55 million. He stated that Finance Director Todd Dowden took out the water replacement program to make it work with the funds we currently had available, so in 26-27 we would normally budget 3.5 million for the water replacement program.

Trustee Hopkins asked what project he was referring to. Assistant Finance Director Matt Coulter stated the water main replacement project where we budget 3.5 million every other year. Trustee Hopkins asked why Finance Director Todd Dowden took it out. Public Works Director Dan Dinges stated that during the Capitalist discussion, they had discussed that year one was funded with funds that they had in reserve. He went on to say that years two through five, they assume no rate increase or additional revenue so urce. He stated that they showed year two through five of depleting their reserves to the point where if it got below, they would do a water and sewer rate study to determine what they need to do to fund the capital program. He stated they would see the water and sewer rates shortly as the plan is to get that done by the fall.

Assistant Finance Director Matt Coulter stated for the Water fund revenue they're budgeting 13.49 million which is an increase of \$90,000 or a 1% increase from last year's budget. He then presented about the



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Sewer fund and stated that total revenue is 7.335 million which is a decrease of 3.35 million or 32%. He stated this is due to the wastewater treatment plant being completed where the total expenditures were 8.98 million.

Assistant Finance Director Matt Coulter then presented on the Golf Fund where total revenues were 3.412 million, which is a decrease of 1.122 million or 25% from last year's budget. He stated this was due to the irrigation project being completed.

Assistant Finance Director Matt Coulter then discussed the Central Services Fund. He stated that they made a few changes in this year's budget where they created an Information Systems Department which includes IT and GIS staff. He stated now that they're their own department, they are no longer a part of the Finance Department. He stated they moved some items out of Central Services such as printing of the Bartletter, Code Red, Village weeds enforcement as well as Police building maintenance. He stated those items were moved to the other departments within the General Fund, mainly Administration and Police.

Assistant Finance Director Matt Coulter then went over the Vehicle Replacement Fund. He stated we have a total of 8 vehicles scheduled to be replaced in this budget totaling \$850,000. He stated they've received all vehicles that were on backorder. He went on to say that transfers into vehicle replacement are \$783,132 which is up 14% from last year.

Assistant Finance Director Matt Coulter concluded by stating that they are presenting the board with a balanced budget with the use of fund surplus that is within our budget policy. He stated this included no new taxes or fees. He went on to say that as of yet, there are no increases to the general corporate property tax levy, no proposed water or sewer increases. He stated Personnel costs included a 3.75% cost of living increase for non-union employees. He once again stated that the capital projects total 21 million. Assistant Finance Director Matt Coulter thanked Village Administrator Paula Schumacher as well as all the Department Heads and staff for making this a seamless transition and he thanked everyone for their time. He stated he would be happy to answer any question at this time.

Mayor Wallace gave a quick overview stating March 4th we will start department reviews.

Trustee Gandsey stated that the projection in terms of budgeting don't look great, she asked what else we are looking at for this year other than raising all the different taxes.

Assistant Finance Director Matt Coulter stated that we definitely have a lot of infrastructure projects this year and going forward which have been discussed. He stated we have a good cushion to work with within our fund balances but that's why they're looking at revenues going forward.

Mayor Wallace stated that this isn't to be confused with our audit and that Assistant Finance Director Matt Coulter was providing raw numbers with no increase in any type of fees, taxes, or anything else. He stated that the financial situation is solid when it comes to our overall picture of the village. He went on to say that it shows these balances going down just so we can prepare for what's going to happen in the future if we don't make any changes or adjustments, and small changes make a huge difference right now. He stated one fund balance of 2 million dollars put it right back in 27-28.



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Assistant Finance Director Matt Coulter wanted to reiterate that we usually end up in a better position than what we project since we are conservative in our revenues. Trustee Gandsey stated that it looked like we were in really good standing with the COVID money. Assistant Finance Director Matt Coulter stated that the COVID money definitely helped our position and that we've seen an increase in sales tax numbers and income tax numbers. He stated that we've been trending in a really good direction, it's just the infrastructure projects that cost 9 million. He stated it would be tough for any Village to sustain those kinds of numbers.

Trustee Gandsey asked if there was any outside funding to assist with Country Creek. Public Works Director Dan Dinges stated that they've looked for some grants to find revenue to help fund some of that project but have not been successful so far.

Trustee LaPorte said if there were no other questions, they would continue with Department Reviews` on March 4th.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Wallace moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting. Trustee Deyne moved to approve; the motion was seconded by Trustee Gandsey.

ROLL CALL VOTE TO ADJOURN

AYES: Chairmen Deyne, Gandsey, Gunsteen, Hopkins, LaPorte (remote), Suwanski

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

The Committee of the Whole meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Jackie Cardoza
Executive Assistant