

MEETING MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
OF THE VILLAGE OF SPRING GROVE  
APRIL 27, 2010

Council Chambers, Spring Grove, Illinois, April 27, 2010; a meeting of the Finance Committee was held this date at 6:00 p.m., at the Municipal Centre, 7401 Meyer Road; Chairperson Eisenberg presiding.

**Call to Order.** The following members were present: Chairperson Mark Eisenberg; Members Jim Anhalt, Del Houghton, Ron Kopke, Mike Lee, Pat Mazzanti and Bob McMahon – 7. Absent: None. Also present for the Village were Tome Sander, Police Chief and Executive Assistant; Laura Frumet, Deputy Clerk; Judy Olson, Village Treasurer; Matt Wittum, Public Works Crew Leader and Trent Turner, Building and Zoning Officer.

**Approval of Regular Minutes – March 30, 2010.** Member Lee moved, seconded by Member McMahon to approve the March 30, 2010 meeting minutes. Roll call vote: Ayes: Anhalt, Eisenberg, Houghton, Lee, Mazzanti and McMahon – 6. Nays: None. Abstain: Kopke – 1. Motion carried.

**Approval of Executive Session Minutes – March 30, 2010.** Member Lee moved, seconded by Member Mazzanti to approve the March 30, 2010 Executive Session meeting minutes. Roll call vote: Ayes: Anhalt, Eisenberg, Houghton, Lee, Mazzanti and McMahon – 6. Nays: None. Abstain: Kopke – 1. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer Olson said the 2011 IMRF employer rate will be 10.58%, down from 10.73% for 2010. IMRFs investment return for 2009 was 24.5%, up from a negative 24.8% in 2008.

The village's auditing firm, Eder & Casella has agreed to keep this year's 2010 audit price the same as last year. They have also proposed a smaller annual increase of 2.5% if the contract term is for three years beginning in 2011. She will be mailing out a Request for Proposal for auditing services to five other auditing firms.

Treasurer Olson is preparing the fiscal year 2011 appropriation for discussion at May's Finance Meeting.

**New Business. Presentation from CCI regarding electric and natural gas accounts.** John Puleo, from CCI reviewed pricing and analysis for the village's electric and natural gas accounts. They sent RFPs to three electric suppliers and found the ComEd charges for street lighting could not be had for a lower cost by another supplier. However, the electric bills for other services the village pays for could be. MC2, an electric supplier based out of Chicago, offered a potential annual savings of \$1,089.04 based on historical data.

Gas pricing is complex but after reviewing usage, they found one supplier who could supply the village which is Nordic Energy. There are two program structures: Index vs. Fixed and Non-storage vs. Storage, giving the village four choices. Natural gas pricing has been at historic lows, making index pricing



relatively low and flat. Fixed pricing is higher but provides pricing insurance against rising costs and is easier to use for budgeting purposes. The Midwest market allows for storage of gas, which means purchasing extra gas from April – October when prices are lower and then drawing against that storage in the peak season from November – March when prices normally are higher. He recommends a fixed 3-year term electric program and a 12 month Index plus storage gas program and then locking in a rate on a fixed plus storage program. As of today, electric savings would be \$1,089 and gas would be \$1,400. Prices are refreshed every day so they are for presentation purposes and typically will hold for up to 48 hours, but are not guaranteed.

When questioned about any risk to the village, Mr. Puleo said the companies couldn't be in the market if they weren't well capitalized. The companies don't service the lines or take care of the equipment and the village doesn't pre-pay. If they went out of business the contract would be void. The Board directed Mr. Puleo to supply the village with contracts for the village's attorney to review.

**Motion recommending to the Village Board the approval of April 2010 Bills Payable.** Member Kopke moved, seconded by Member Lee to approve the April 2010 bills payable. Roll call vote: Ayes: Anhalt, Eisenberg, Houghton, Lee, and McMahon – 5. Nays: None. Abstain: Kopke & Mazzanti – 2. Motion carried.

**Unfinished Business. Discuss Mailbox Replacement Proposal from US Post.** The Committee was not interested in taking part in the mailbox replacement program proposal from US Post.

**Public Comment:** Jack Kaminski, with the Spring Grove Fine Arts League told the Committee that the Fine Arts League is having a Spring Art and Flower Show on Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup> and he forgot to ask the Village Board for permission for off-premise events signs to put around the village. He asked for seven signs to be placed at intersections around town. The Committee said although this wasn't the correct Committee to attend, they approved his request.

**Other Business.** None.

There being no further business, Member Mazzanti moved, seconded by Member Lee to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 p.m. On voice vote the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Laura Frumet, Deputy Clerk