

The special budget meeting for the Village of Brooklyn was called to order by President Walsten with Trustees McNaughton, Frandy, Leavy, Hawkey present. Trustees McCallum and Klahn were absent. Others present were Clerk Strause, PW Director Langer, and Police Chief Barger. The Pledge of Allegiance was cited by all.

President Walsten reported many communities are using reserves to balance their budgets as was discussed at the League of Municipalities Conference. Walsten also stated the administrative functions she has been doing for a long time will go away in April as she is not seeking re-election. Business recruitment for the business park is the bottom line with the commercial tax base at 1-2%. Vierbicher was hired in 2012 for \$10,000 annually for two days a month to work on economic development services and recruitment. The recent InBusiness Expo cost about \$2,000 for booth rental and one-time expenses of creating posters, banner, table cloth, printing and graphic design services to promote the Business Complex at future business conferences. With the Business Complex completed, the clock is ticking to create 28 jobs, with 14 of them low to moderate income, by the summer of 2016. It is not clear if the CDBG contract can be extended, but if not, the \$261,000 CDBG grant would have to be paid back. Walsten continued much money has been placed in the Public Works budget over time, and recently the Police Department to create a professional department, however, it is now time to invest dollars to build out the Business Complex. Walsten requested a part-time administrator at ten hours a week and a part time economic development employee also at ten hours a week who is capable of grant writing to be added to the 2015 budget. The Village President's salary at \$6,000 annually included administrative work because Clerk and Deputy Clerk do not have time to do this plus economic development marketing, etc. Walsten felt this figure could be lowered as the next Village President will most likely be working full-time and more than likely will not have the time or availability to spend on economic development marketing or administrative tasks. Walsten felt at twenty hours a week/\$20 per hr with no benefits, \$20,800 should be placed in the 2015 budget. Trustee Hawkey stated she was not in favor of hiring an administrator as it is unknown what the next Village President can or will have time to do. Hawkey felt the Village should save every dollar for future fire/EMS increases. Walsten stated if economic development is a low priority, the outcome is the Board cannot expect to meet the CDBG deadline and recruit business to build and live here. Walsten asked Langer what is a reasonable length of time from the decision to build a commercial building until construction is completed and he estimated it could be as long as a year.

Clerk Strause reviewed the levy limit worksheet. The allowable increase from last year is \$2,272, excluding debt, which totals \$609,882. The full General Fund debt payment next year including debt from TID #2 (because there is no increment) is \$172,737. This allows for a full levy at \$782,619. The expenditure restraint formula for a 2016 payment allows for less than an estimated 1.8% increase. Several items were removed from the General Fund to Capital Projects Fund to accommodate the expenditure restraint formula as follows:

100-52150-812	squad car reserve	\$ 4,000	to 400 Fund
100-52150-813	police equipment	\$ 1,522	to 400 Fund
100-53311-822	street outlay	\$25,336	to 400 Fund
100-55510-821	PW-mower	\$ 1,000	to 400 Fund

The proposed budget at this time totals \$806,942.72 with \$24,323.72 to be cut to stay within levy limits. After line item review and discussion, \$17,867 was cut from several line items. Another special budget meeting will be held on Thursday, October 23, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. to continue review and lower the budget by another \$5691.37.

McNaughton moved, second Frandy, carried to adjourn at 9:25 pm.

Carol Strause Clerk-Treas.