Village President Besson called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

1.0 ROLL CALL – Present: Pres. D. Besson, Trustees: M. Bennett, T. Brinkmeier, J. Chesney, K. Meleski and I. Thomson. Trustee M. Eternicka absent. Staff: Administrator S. Kulik, Public Works Project Manager S. Houte, Library Director S. Lewin-Lane and Library Board President T. Kiernan and Library Trustee E. Leonard. Audience (0).

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT – none.

3.0 AGENDA ITEMS

3.1 **2025 Budget** – D. Besson reported on status of changes to date, ERP still needs $53,000 reductions, and the balance budget matter still needs $223,000 in reductions.

3.1.1 **Public Works (517, 542, 543)** – S. Houte reported on the requested budget. **He referenced 517 – Maintenance and Sundry** is a request to remove the crab apple trees in front of Village Hall due to age and condition. He has a civic group who will replace them in the spring from a garden group who is celebrating a 100 anniversary. He commented on 810 – Village Hall maintenance includes funding to address landscaping around the facility of $5,000 to remediate mulch beds and increasing grass areas to ease maintenance of the site.

M. Bennett inquired about the increase in MADACC fees based upon intake of animals from the Village and how can the Village recoup the increase. S. Kulik stated that it cannot be recouped. M. Bennett commented that there is no restitution option. S. Kulik commented this is a criminal matter and should not be discussed in open session. The option to convene in closed session over this department as relative to performance evaluations is included with the notice and this issue would be to review my response to an animal intake matter in terms of my performance.

Motion (Bennett, Meleski) to convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. §19.85(1)(c), for consideration of the employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility for the annual request for compensation for personnel assigned to the Public Works Department over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, and to re-enter open session at the same place thereafter to act on such matters as discussed therein as it deems appropriate. Roll Call: Ayes: Bennett, Besson, Brinkmeier, Chesney, Meleski, Thomson. Nays: None. Board convened in closed session at 6:45 p.m.

Motion (Thomson, Chesney) to re-enter open session. Roll Call: Ayes: Bennett, Besson, Brinkmeier, Chesney, Meleski, Thomson. Nays: None. Board returned to open session at 6:50 p.m.

D. Besson asked about $10,000 included to complete a parking lot project for the Village Hall. S. Houte reported it is to crack seal, seal coat and restripe the lot.

S. Houte reported on department 542. He reported that the Storm Water rate included in fund 202 is proposed to increase from $25 to $45.18 to address maintenance that has been deferred. S. Kulik reported that the last time this rate was raised was five years ago. S. Houte commented that he has worked with raSmith on the feasibility study rates that need to address the funding for the program which has been an ongoing request since 2007. The majority is born by the commercial properties. S. Kulik reported she had contacted the three highest commercial properties impacted by this and they had no concerns about the increase to their property tax relative to this matter. S. Houte commented it should be looked at annually and adjusted based upon projects but the reserves should not accumulate beyond a reasonable amount with no projects defined.

Motion (Thomson, Meleski) to approve the increase in Storm Water fees as presented; motion passes 6-0-1.

S. Houte commented on the equipment replacement issues. The $21,000 for deicing equipment can be removed as it has already been funded in 2024.

Motion (Thomson, Meleski) to remove $21,000 request; motion passes 6-0-1.

S. Houte commented on $10,000 in diagnostic equipment for the air conditioning units in village owned vehicles. S. Kulik commented this is a good candidate for prefunding as it affects three departments. S. Houte commented that both Police & Fire Chiefs support this purpose. J. Chesney inquired if the mechanic is certified on this equipment. S. Houte commented he is and is the requestor of this item.

Motion (Thomson, Chesney) to remove $10,000 from 2025 and prefund as requested; motion passes 6-0-1.

D. Besson discussion on the inclusion of a tilt trailer, smooth drum compaction roller and pickup truck request. S. Kulik commented he would need approximately $52,000 in equipment transfer tax levy. S. Houte commented that the compactor needs to be replaced as the maintenance is nearly more than the cost to replace it when we need one and have to rent one. M. Bennett inquired if all of these items if removed would assist in meeting the ERP goal. S. Kulik commented that they have reduced it by $30,000 if they approve the purchases in 2025 or 2024. If the Board prefunds the pick up as well, you would still need to cut $153,000 to balance the budget.

S. Kulik reviewed her recommendations to meet the balance budget requirement. She would recommend removing the $55,000 transfer to the Sanitary Sewer Fund, to prefund the Highway $82,000 and you would still need to cut another $79,000. The transfer requested by the Police Department for ERF could be prefunded and your budget would balance. D. Besson asked for additional information on the $55,000 item. S. Kulik reported that the General Fund routinely deposits $55,000 to the Sewer Fund as a transfer. Also included in the current year General Fund 542 Department is a request to increase sewer maintenance which is not part of the allowable Sewer Utility Fund costs by $55,000. She commented she recommended removing the $55,000 transfer and leaving the $55,000 in cleaning which leaves ample reserves in the Sewer Fund and aids in deferred maintenance as well as in reducing the balance budget cuts needed. There is a typo on 100-542-390 utilities should have been $900 not $9,000 which can be reduced as well. This gets the budget to revenues balanced. She commented that perhaps the

Village Board should direct her to do whatever she has to in order to balance the budget, maximize ERP and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

Motion (Chesney, Meleski) to prefund $82,100 in equipment replacement transfers, remove the $55,000 transfer to the Sewer Fund and allow the Department Head the discretion to move to the Sewer Fund any monies remaining after the proposed CCTV project; motion passes 6-0-1.

D. Besson commented that another option is to increase the amount of prior use of surplus by 2% which adds $55,000 and it may be a use of reserves if all is expended. S. Kulik commented she would present the changes at the next meeting.

Motion (Brinkmeier, Chesney) to direct the Administrator to proceed with adjustments necessary to maximize ERP and balance the budget through the use of reserves and prefunding options and present it at the next meeting; motion passes 6-0-1.

S. Kulik read through questions provided by memo from M. Eternicka that they had not already covered. An item in 517 to replace UPS batteries for the server was questioned. S. Kulik reported that these batteries keep the server running and computers. As the Village now has VOIP phones, if the server goes down, so does telephony. M. Eternicka provided question regarding equipment repairs which she explained needs to be reflective of an average expense which is still being requested at a bit less than the average. M. Eternicka posed a question regarding the air card charges for DPW. S. Kulik reported that it is for the use of an iPad in the field which would not have a Wi-Fi option. She reported that she spoke with him on his initial questions and he accepted the responses to those items.

M. Bennett inquired what a $10,000 item was for to raSmith. S. Houte commented it was road rating and other general engineering costs as we no longer have an engineer on staff.

D. Besson asked S. Houte to review 543 items. S. Houte reported on an exhaust fan replacement. Other than that item, it is routine costs.

Motion (Brinkmeier, Meleski) to approve proposals with adjustments previously noted for 517, 542, & 543 departments; motion passes 6-0-1.

3.1.2 **Library – 551** – S. Lewin-Lane reported on her proposal. She reported that they have made some staffing changes to adjust for FSLA guidelines to have the one position move to salaried from hourly. Therefore, the only two employees are now salary, herself and the assistant director, the other full time employees are hourly.

I. Thomson inquired on what the status of MCLFS reductions will be. M. Bennett asked if she could explain how the two options for funding. S. Lewin-Lane reported that MCFLS chose the opposite option that the Library Board voted for, which is there program reciprocal funds will be reduced in 2026 but does not affect 2025. D. Besson question regarding wages and sustainability if MCFLS funds are proposed to be reduced and that the Library Board should be looking into what the options will be. E. Leonard commented that the City of Milwaukee is taking most of the funds that used to go to the outlying communities under the new funding structure. S. Lewin-Lane commented that she could go into it but that it doesn't really affect the 2025 budget that is being discussed. S. Kulik commented that the revenues go into their Special Revenue Fund and a transfer from that fund to the General Fund of $67,000 has been the norm. If funds are not available, then it will affect the tax levy needed to support the Library at its current level or some other reductions will be required. She commented it is a long range planning problem.

D. Besson commented that the Library is the third most expensive department per hour to fund and it is a sustainability issue. Further, she has included a 10% raise and the FLSA increase that are going to be a long term impact. He is just bringing it up to keep it in mind going forward.

S. Kulik reported on the use or transfer of surplus from Library operating expenses which were unbudgeted, but if the funds are available, they can transfer the $10,000 to the funds under their statutory authority.

D. Besson addressed the capital repairs for the Library. He reported they are reviewing the funding options and exploring a borrowing to address the roof, siding and windows but the larger $2.5 million project is no longer recommended.

Motion (Chesney, Thomson) to accept as presented; motion passes 6-0-1.

3.2 **2025 – 2029 Capital Plan –** no additional discussion on this item.

4.0 ADJOURNMENT – Motion (Chesney, Meleski) to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.; motion passes 6-0-1.

Sandra M. Kulik, Administrator/Clerk