Village President D. Besson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

1.0 ROLL CALL –Pres. D. Besson. Trustees: M. Bennett, J. Chesney, M. Eternicka (virtual) and S. Riemer. Trustees T. Brinkmeier & I. Thomson absent. Administrator S. Kulik. Audience (0).

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT – none.

3.0 AGENDA ITEMS

3.1 2026 Budget

3.1.1 Public Works (517, 542, 543) – S. Houte presented his requests.

517 - M. Bennett inquired about the metered line water utility line item. S. Houte reported on the use of a hydrant for bulk water used by DPW and Fire Department that was recently added.

M. Bennett inquired about the charges to the Risk Management – 400 accounts. S. Kulik reported that her statements will apply to all departments as this line item is for insurance for property, equipment, cyber coverage and workers compensation coverage. The primary increase is due to the replacement value coverage on buildings and equipment. The carrier recently completed a biannual review of the Village's assets and adjusted their values for market conditions, similar to residential reassessments. Based upon those values our insurance increased. Further, allocation among the departments was adjusted for cyber policy coverage to allocate those costs based upon the number of pieces of computer / electronics devices supported. The rate of increase for the entire Village was only $10,021 for 2026 coverage.

D. Besson asked for information on costs in the 810 – Building Projects requested for masonry, parking lot crack sealing and landscaping. S. Houte commented on the masonry repair that was needed for the chimney. He reported on the request to insert a sleeve into the chimney and related HVAC before the masonry can be addressed that is estimated at $15,000. He was told that it would need to wait until funding or surplus would be available before he could proceed. S. Kulik commented that as part of the administrative proposal before them, she recommended prefunding the entire $35,500 requested and if the Board desired then the $15,000 could be added to that using existing revenue surpluses or expenditures underutilized.

Motion (Bennett, Riemer) to prefund the $35,500 as recommended; motion passes 5-0-2.

Motion (Bennett, Riemer) to prefund the $15,000 needed for the chimney sleeve work to be completed this year; motion passes 5-0-2.

542 – J. Chesney asked for information regarding the conference request. S. Houte reported it was for a water conference.

S. Riemer inquired about Sewer Maint. Account 428. S. Kulik reported on 2025 Budget Adopted that allowed the DPW Manager to utilize $50,000 in this account as needed and removed the funding from 950 Transfer to Sewer Fund as the initial proposal was for $110,000 increase. She is recommending that the same $50,000 be removed and prefunded through a transfer for any remaining from the adopted 2025 budget and that the same process be done in 2026. The recommendation is to remove $50,000 from 428 and approve $130,000 in transfers to he may use the funds were needed.

D. Besson inquired about funds proposed for 435 – Engineering. S. Houte commented that it is for general engineering assistance and design that may be needed for sewer repairs or storm water.

D. Besson asked for additional details on the 533 Patrol Truck box repairs / replacement. S. Houte commented that if they replace the box it will last another 7 to 10 years. A repair is $6,500 every other year versus the requested replacement at $28,000. There is no need for both which are currently in the budget. The $6,500 is in 543- 330.

D. Besson asked what the life expectancy and return on investment would be for the $21,000 stump grinder. S. Houte reported that the annual rental of the stump grinder is $3,000 so ROI would be 7 years but the equipment would last 20 years.

S. Riemer asked for additional information on the fuel system funding. S. Kulik commented that it is not the pump or tank, but the software used to allocate the usage by department. The current system was end of life when it was purchased and was a value engineered item when the building was constructed. The system is all manual on the pumps themselves. The proposed system is web based and accessible at any desk top.

M. Bennett stated she was uncertain that the stump grinder should be included in the proposal.

S. Kulik commented that she recommends prefunding up to $30,000 regardless of whether the stump grinder is included or not to build up that reserve. The stump grinder being included in the budget line item does not mean that he can purchase it without your approving it. You could require that he come back and ask or provider more information or you can remove it completely. D. Besson commented that he became aware that when WE Energies does their line work, they leave the stumps and debris behind on private property and it happens in the right of way areas too. He feels that being able to address tree work more timely is a benefit. Consensus to prefund $30,000 and retain all equipment as requested.

543 – J. Chesney inquired about salt expenses and whether we could fit that much material in the dome. S. Houte reported that they can store it but that the funding includes calcium chloride product that has been beneficial in deicing operations. J. Chesney asked what the raSmith culvert engineering funds were for. S. Houte commented that the Village has 3 or 4 a year requested by residents on private property and there is a corresponding revenue that funds this expense.

S. Riemer commented that if we are funding the $28,000 box permanent repair that the $6500 should be removed. S. Houte agreed. Consensus to remove $6500.

D. Besson reported that he would like to remove the unfilled permanent part time position and related benefits to contingency consistent with prior budgets. He commented that the position, when filled or if filled, would then be funded by the contingency appropriation. Consensus to move funds.

D. Besson commented on the request to double the safety shoe allowance and that he would agree provided that they are steel or composite toe shoes and that staff will no longer be allowed to combine the shoes and uniform funds for just uniforms if they do not purchase the shoes. S., Kulik commented that staff should be informed specifically about the change that they can no longer combine those costs so there is no issue when payments are requested.

Consensus to increase as proposed and not allow combining funds with notice to staff.

3.1.2 **Fire (523)** – P. Jaskulski reported on proposal. M. Bennett asked if copier was a new request. P. Jaskulski reported that the copier was 13 years old and no longer supported, so yes it is a new but replacing unit.

S. Riemer inquired about the Spectrum large increase in utility costs. P. Jaskulski commented it was unbudgeted for in 2025 at $884 per month. The yearend project for the 350 account reflects that. It has been moved for 2026 to utilities.

D. Besson asked for clarification on the new equipment request – was it kitchen flooring or the LDH roller. P. Jaskulski responded it was the LDH roller.

D. Besson inquired about increases for supplies for flooring. P. Jaskulski reported that it was for the chemicals to clean the newly installed vinyl plank flooring and that staff would be doing the work.

D. Besson inquired about the ambulance billing contract. S. Kulik reported that the contract does say 6% of costs, but that the actual experience is 4.6% and she would recommend reducing the item to $21,000 knowing that any increases would be funded by the revenues collected. Consensus to reduce to $21,000.

D. Besson inquired as to how many referrals the Department is getting from the "Join the Fire Service" support. P. Jaskulski reported five or six currently enrolled from there and that all part time referrals are coming from it.

D. Besson asked for additional information on the request for wellness software. P. Jaskulski reported it was an app offered and recommended by the League of Municipalities to support wellness for mental health, fitness, financial and provides referrals for all Fire Department staff and their families as a peer support product. M. Bennett asked if it was specific to public safety. P. Jaskulski commented that it is and that he had contacted the Police Department but has not heard back. M. Bennett commented she is in favor of the proposal. S. Kulik commented that she is in favor of it but wonders why it is not available for all departments and customizable. S. Riemer commented he is in favor of the program but wants to know what it will replace. S. Kulik commented that the EAP contract is $2,000 per year and there are funds in the Police budget for this as well. Consensus for Administration to investigate similar product for the remainder of Village personnel.

D. Besson asked how many kitchen chairs are being replaced. P. Jaskulski indicated 7 or 8.

Motion (Chesney, Riemer) to prefund $30,000 for sprinkler system; motion passes 5-0-2.

3.2 **2026 – 2030 Capital Plan** – S. Kulik commented that they have the option to discuss this on all budgetary meeting dates. They had already addressed most of the items. The Library is coming up and they did not include the $40,000 air handler in their submission so that would need to be reviewed and a $125,000 Whitnall Lift Station upgrade is also not included in the 2026 proposal as both are indicating that the funding is bonds and the Village is not going to be issuing any debt.

4.0 **ADJOURNMENT – Motion** (Chesney, Riemer) to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.; motion passes 5-0-2.

Sandra M. Kulik, Administrator/Clerk