Village of Withee

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The Withee Village Board met on October 19, 2026, in the Municipal Building, Conference Room, for a 6 pm Budget Meeting.

ROLL CALL-President Klabon called the meeting to order. Roll call was answered by Klabon, Trustees Shelton, Amacher, Kroeplin, and Kalepp. Clerk Niemi recorded the meeting. Also present was Cindy Cardinal.

REVIEW OF 2027 BUDGET-Clerk Niemi said DPW Schad was not able to attend but wanted to mention he is looking at trading in the half-ton truck while purchasing a new one, washing the outside of water tower, and pulling well#3 to see if it needs to be rehabbed. The board reviewed the budget proposal for the year 2027. The increase for the tax levy this year will be 1.774% for net new construction which increased the levy $2,578.40. The water PILOT payment remained at $52,696 which comes from the PSC report. Shared revenue increased due to supplemental aid. TIF amounts are not known yet until mid-November so kept the amount the same. Fire insurance rebate is unknown, but whatever is received must be paid to the fire department General transportation aid is increased. License revenues decreased as the softball association doesn't plan to rent the park next year, and it will be the off year for operator licenses. The municipal building budget was increased as Xcel and WE Energies plan rate increases. Board wages could be increased if the board wanted. Legal was set the same, hoping not to spend over the amount. Election expenses were decreased due to holding only two elections in 2027. Publication expenses increased due to the Visitor's Guide through Clark Co Economic Dev Corp adding $450 in expense. The auditor expense increased $500 which is spread between general, water, and sewer. The assessor's contract shows a $100 increase. The clerk's office budget increased due to regular increases and additional internet costs. Mobil home parking fees and lottery credit is a guess every year and a portion gets paid to the school. The police budget increased from $131,378.97 to $152,827.37. The fire budget increased from $25,640.63 to $27,058.75. Fire protection remains at $59,776 according to the PSC rate case. Many municipalities charge the fire protection fee to the parcel owners. That may be a future decision to make but not at this time as the budget is able to cover. The DPW's budget was reviewed, noting the increase in wages due to a part-time person. DPW Schad set aside savings monies for future equipment purchases. Garbage/recycling income and expenses are higher as the rates change from $18.00 to $18.34 per residence per month. Streetlight's expenditure was increased due to predicted increase from Xcel. The cemetery stayed the same at $6/resident, but a few more residents live here. Library apportionment was kept the same unless the board wants to change. Debt service is the same as last year, which covers the municipal building and endloader loan payments. Summer rec/donations were put at $1,000 to cover the surveying expense share for the bike trail. For the ballpark expense $600 was included to cover meter expense. We have heard that two ballparks were recently built, so don't know how much the Village's will be used next year. Monies listed on the right-hand side of the budget worksheet were put into savings. A Kroeplin/Amacher motion to approve the proposed 2027 budget as presented carried with all ayes.

BUDGET HEARING-A Shelton/Kalepp motion to set the budget hearing for November 16, 2026, at 6 pm carried with all ayes.

A Kalepp/Amacher motion to adjourn at 6:53 pm carried with all ayes.

Ellen Niemi
Village Clerk