



Village of Reminderville
Finance Meeting
October 22, 2019

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Mr. Petrovich at 6:00pm

Roll Call

Mr. Wiggins, excused
Ms. Smalley, present
Mr. Petrovich, present
Mr. DiCarlo, present
Ms. McCaffery, present

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Smalley moved to approve the minutes from October 8, 2019. Mr. Petrovich seconded. All in favor.

Mr. Petrovich started going through the payment register. There were no questions.

Mr. DiCarlo moved to accept payments totaling \$74,623.82. Mr. Petrovich seconded. All in favor.

The Police Department presented their 2020 budget. Chief Buck handed out a staff schedule and showed a video of a Fox News interview with former police officer Phil Holloway talking about how difficult it is now to recruit and retain officers due to, in part, lack of public support for police. Chief Buck stated right now there is the biggest shortage in history so there is a very small pool to select from. He is having difficulty finding someone who can pass psychological testing. Departments across the country are paying more and offering more benefits to officers already employed in another city since recruiting is low. He feels Reminderville does not pay a premium pay rate and that is a problem. He understands the Village cannot pay what Solon or Aurora pays so he would offset that by paying for cell phones and laundering their uniforms so they last for 3-4 years more than if they wash them at home to save on uniform allowance each year. The shift schedule, he said, has been the same for several years and will never have to change. The Village will never need more shifts than what he

has on right now with two officers a shift except between 3am-8am with one officer on shift. He would like another officer for the late shift and he is having a hard time staffing the shifts. He added that they also assist Twinsburg and Aurora at least three times a day for life-threatening calls like violent offenders, shooters, hostage situations, and accidents on the roads because those cities are short staffed as well. Ms. Kovach asked about retired officers looking for part-time hours or officers in other police departments looking for more hours elsewhere. Chief Buck said officers who retire are done with the industry and most departments don't allow dual commissions due to liability. Tyson Dinda, a part-time officer in the Village for 15-18 years has legislation tonight to revoke his commission with the Village because his current chief doesn't allow dual commissions. Ms. Smalley asked how many officers are in the department now. Chief Buck replied there are three part-timers and five full-timers. Mr. DiCarlo said he would love to have 40 officers in the Village, it depends on the budget. Chief Buck said it will cost more in civil suits down the road if he puts untrained officers or officers by themselves out there. He continued that he always returns money and will be returning \$150,000-\$200,000 of his 2019 budget because he didn't spend it. Ms. Kovach said if there is a history of not spending the requested budget, they should lower the amount budgeted and he can request more if needed throughout the year. Chief Buck disagreed and said if he doesn't spend it, he will return what is not used at the end of the year. Ms. Smalley said he shouldn't have to go back to Council. Ms. Kovach said it is overbudgeting and those funds could be used elsewhere in the Village if they are not needed in the police department. Chief Buck said he is fine with the same budget of \$1.5 million as in 2019 with 3% added in personnel for pay increases. He then asked for thoughts about getting a new vehicle in 2020. Mr. Hoffmann asked for mileage, Chief Buck said one is over 100,000 miles and one is close to 100,000. Mr. Petrovich said as a Finance Committee, they are not approving or denying the budget request. They are reviewing the requests from each department and then reviewing the total Village budget before recommending to Council.

Old Business

New Business

Mr. DiCarlo moved to adjourn. Ms. Smalley seconded. All in favor.
Meeting adjourned at 6:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Task, Clerk of Council

Rodney Wiggins, Finance President