

**Finance Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Village Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Room 212**  
**March 24, 2023**  
**8:30 am**

**Call to Order**

Analyst Conor Schultz called the meeting to order at 8:31 am.

A motion was made by Ray Czarnik, seconded by Jack Drexler, to nominate Al Weel to serve as Acting Chair in the absence of a designated chairperson. On roll call, all concurred.

**Roll Call**

Management and Budget Analyst Conor Schultz called the roll for Committee Members:

**Committee Members Present:** Alan Weel, Ray Czarnik, and Paul Drakontaidis, Jack Drexler

**Committee Members Absent:**

**Old Business**

None

**Approval of Minutes**

None

**FY24 Capital Budget**

**@3:45**

Management Analyst Conor Schultz began the presentation of the Capital Improvement Plan for fiscal year 2024. Finance Director Kent Oliven also included a brief explanation of the purchase order (PO) budget carryover process. Village Manager La Margo clarified the finance committee's role is to approve the projects identified for fiscal year 2024, specifically.

**@6:00**

Analyst Schultz began presenting projects from the draft CIP project list. Not every project on the list was discussed in detail at the meeting, as many are simple infrastructure improvements or otherwise self-explanatory.

Fitness Center Locker Room Remodel: the project includes lockers but will also focus on showers and other washroom amenities. Manager La Margo noted that updating the facilities will improve membership growth and retention, and it is important to undertake the project now, as Power Wellness will be attempting to increase membership.

Vehicle Replacements: The CIP includes major fleet replacements for the Village. Some of the replacements include

Replacement of Civic Center motor pool vehicles with electric vehicles: Staff expressed interest in a limited range of EV models, such as the Chevy Bolt and Nissan Leaf, but remains concerned about availability in the short term. Village Hall facilities would be upgraded to charge electric vehicles if the shift is made to EVs.

**@17:55**

Analyst Schultz moved through the other vehicle replacements on the list, many of which are public works trucks for heavy duty hauling and/or plowing. Some of the other vehicles include a large conversion van for the village electrician, a community service officer truck for the police department, two new police squad cars, a Ford Ranger for Animal Control, and a vehicle for a new engineering position.

03/24/2023

Finance Committee Minutes 1

**@21:35**

Annual Street Improvement Program: This project includes the expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, as well as Village Funds, to undertake a significant repair of multiple streets. The intent of the project is to complete it without borrowing money in any form, and to do so in order to achieve a specific measure of 65 on the Pavement Condition Index, which rates the quality of street surfaces. Public Works Director Tom Powers explained the pavement condition index, and that it's a 0-100 rating that uses various measurement inputs. Village Manager La Margo reiterated that the project will be completed without producing debt or using borrowed money. After the completion of the project, Manager Lar Margo notes that there will be about \$3 million budgeted annually for road maintenance, to prevent deterioration of the roads being fixed right now. Those funds may be levied with the Village's Street and Bridge property tax levy will be used for continuous maintenance.

**@31:35**

Public Works Salt Dome: The project is to rebuild or rehabilitate the salt dome at the public works campus, along with some of the infrastructure around it. There is about \$2 million in grant money from the State of Illinois for this project. A larger salt dome offers benefits including the ability to buy salt in larger amounts, which improves cost-efficiency, and improved safety for employees working in and around the structure.

**@34:00**

Additional projects were explained including pedestrian safety improvements, the redesign of Village Hall's exterior, sidewalk infill, the teen center relocation and buildout, bulk computer purchases for police vehicles, a safety radio system upgrade for public works, AXON equipment for the police department, police training room upgrades, Fire Station #2 redesign & rebuild, Milwaukee Avenue improvements, upgrades for the Village Hall parking garage for electric vehicle access, village lobby redesign, public works kitchen & kitchenette remodel, upgrades to IT software packages, upgrades to some conference room audio/visual capabilities, tree planting, and updates to the North Branch Trail connection.

**@43:00**

Member Weel asked a question about performing some work, such as the Village Hall kitchen remodels, in-house. Director Powers explained that the costs of the projects on this list reflect only the costs of materials or the work that must be done by external actors. Manager La Margo also noted that sometimes issues with labor agreements, risk management, or employee bandwidth also come into play, and in-house work remains a focus where it is efficient and effective. Analyst Schultz then returned to listing or speaking about projects, including the Niles sign over Caldwell Avenue, license plate readers for the Police Department, brick crosswalk repairs on Milwaukee, police detective room hardware upgrades, an air conditioner replacement for Fire Station #2, the Touhy Bridge Project, Village Banner Signs, Touhy Avenue pedestrian safety improvements, Caldwell & Cleveland pedestrian safety improvements, and Milwaukee Avenue Streetscape.

**@54:00**

Analyst Schultz introduced the Water Fund projects, including the Green Alleyway Project, Oketo Stormwater improvements, and lead service line replacements.

**@58:00**

Analyst Schultz explains the grant funding totals for FY24, which amounts to about \$7.8 million across all Village Funds. He notes that TIF funds and Water Fund money is kept separate from General Fund money.

**@1:05:00**

Member Weel suggested that there are opportunities to reduce the annual increase in the budget, relative to last year, down to a roughly one percent range or something similar. Member Czarnik raised concerns about the volume of projects, and the feasibility of completing each one listed. Manager La Margo stated that it is his priority and that of staff to ensure only feasible projects are listed on this CIP.

**Other Business**

None

**Public Comments**

None

**Executive Session**

None

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:45 am by Ray Czarnik, seconded by Paul Drakontaidis. All concurred.