

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
VILLAGE OF SAUK VILLAGE, ILLINOIS
21801 TORRENCE AVENUE
SAUK VILLAGE, ILLINOIS
January 17, 2023, 7:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Burgess called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

On Roll Call

Present: Trustees: Bell, Burns, Coleman, Grant, Jasinski, and Williams

3. DISCUSSIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- **Fire Chief Stephen Barrett**

The topic of the purchase and program agreement for the Brightstar & Precision EMS program was revisited.

- Chief Barrett presented documentation that depicted the funds that could have been generated if the Village were engaged in the GEMT Program. He presented the loss of revenue. He indicated that we lost potentially a million dollars, but we can back-bill for eight months. He asked for a check for \$45,000 for the down payment.
- There was discussion on the Request for Payment to Secure the Ambulance from BrightStar for the GEMT Program. Chief Barrett reported that he followed up with the insurance company. The policy would not be affected.

Mayor and Trustee comments/questions

1. Commented on the time schedule for payments and the Chief clarified that the timeline had changed so three payments were no longer an option. It must be two payments for the total of \$90,000.
2. Which line item would be used to make the payments? When items are discussed and the Trustees approve it, it should go forth without additional conversations that exclude the Board
3. Would BrightStar be completely out of the picture? No, we still require its certified staff. The Village will need three – four paramedics to start.
4. The process was held up awaiting feedback from the attorney.
5. The IDPH inspection is February 7th. The ambulance can then be put into service and allow us to conduct our own billing and then we can get into the GEMT Program.
6. The line-item for payment. From the funds allocated for the roof replacement.

Approval for the check allocation for the purchase agreement with the needed changes for the price point and the payment schedule, was sought and asked to be included on the next Board agenda

- Discussion of the Renewal of BrightStar Contract
The discussion centered around if the contract should be bid. The chief stated that we would not get a better offer and recommended that the negotiated price be presented at the next Committee meeting.

- **Trustee Debra Williams**

- **Review of Job Descriptions for the following Positions:**

- Finance Director Consultant
 - Human Resource Consultant

Trustee Williams stated that the lack of timeliness to requested documents was problematic. The Board was told by the Attorney that the positions could not be discussed in Executive Session. The requested documents were not produced, thus no discussion towards the items ensued.

Other questions were asked towards who is responsible for day-to-day operations (Mayor Burgess responded that Director Finch had direct oversight over all departments.)

Trustees addressed the lack of ability to reprimand consultants, lack of accountability of ARPA funds allocated, funds requested for the \$750,000, and the Line of Credit, lack of receiving the Budget-to-Actual reports, outstanding bills on the Aging Report, staff members fear of answering Trustee questions, if trustees must approve funding allocations, why approve without the necessary and proper documents?

HR Consultant's hours were questioned, and the Mayor responded that she is available by phone.

- **Trustee Gary Bell**

- Reviewed the Rescinded Ordinance for Hiring and Spending Freezes.
It was stated that the Village is on a Spending Freeze without the needed documents.

Trustee Bell asked that they be reinstated. It was determined that the actual document required was the actual Ordinances, not the rescinded Ordinance.

- Questions/Comments**

- A question was asked if, when there is a spending freeze does that mean that any purchases aside from day-to-day requirements.
 - A Hiring Freeze is not necessarily needed, however the Consultant cannot simply state a hiring or spending freeze is in effect.
 - The consultant must be more specific regarding the spending freeze. A Budget-to-Actual would determine if a freeze is needed, does the Department heads know of the proposed freeze
 - The actual Ordinances were requested
 - The ordinances will be reposted to the website.

- **Police Chief Malcolm White**
 - Discussion of Financing for Two (2) Police Vehicles
Mayor Burgess discussed the contract as was presented and asked that it be placed on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

- **Director Antonio Cooper**
 - Request for Approval of Abandonment Petition Fees
Asked for allocation of \$125,000 to the Attorney Denzin <sp> for the already approved agreement

Trustee asked where the funds would be generated during this period of a spending freeze. The funds would come from the General Fund and would be repaid by the grant.

A couple of Trustees asked various questions. The Clerk suggested a committee or focus group to determine how the program would be developed. A couple of Trustees asked to be included on the focus group to further develop the plan. The Community Development Committee requested involvement.

- **Village Clerk Marva Campbell-Pruitt**
 - Wikipedia Updates
The Clerk shared illustrations from a portion of information on Wikipedia and asked who was responsible for updating the information. No one knows for certain. Investigation is needed and Trustee Williams offered to take the lead.
 - SEI Filers
 - The Clerk suggested that the consultants, who have significant responsibilities be listed as filers for the Statement of Economic Interest going forth. After discussion, it was decided that their names would be listed with the stipulation that they are not required. All consultants (Robinson, Kane McKeena, etc. would not be required as they relate to firms)

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None

5. GENERAL COMMENTS BY TRUSTEES & MAYOR

Village Clerk asked to take a Board Picture at the next meeting

- Trustee William reiterated the need for taking pictures and asked all to dress appropriately; announced a meeting on January 27th and that Sauk Talk would be available on the first of February, with or without requested reports and bios.
- Coleman announced the next meeting on February 4th
- Trustee Burns announced the meeting on January 20th, and the festival in June, Juneteenth Father's Day Event with a parade
- Trustee Grant, Jasinski and Bell had no comments

6. EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION

- A Motion to Recess to Closed Session was made by Trustee Bell and seconded by Trustee Williams at 10:03 p.m.
- Reconvene Committee of the Whole Meeting
A motion to Reconvene Committee of the Whole Meeting was moved by Trustee Jasinski, and seconded by Trustee Bell at 10:31p. m. Roll call was taken, all Trustees were present

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting immediately adjourned with a motion by Trustee and a second by Trustee at 10:32 p.m. by a unanimous vote.