

Special Meeting of Council
Monday, October 12th, 2020
9:00 AM
Put-in-Bay Town Hall

The Council of the Village of Put-in-Bay met for a Special Meeting on Monday, October 12th, 2020 at 9:00 AM

Mayor Dress called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM

Roll Call: Koehler, Market, Boyles, Berry, and McCann all present. Mr. Faris absent.

Susan Anderson present via Zoom.

Three Township Trustees present; Mr. Cooper, Mr. Engle, and Mr. Miller.

Mayor stated the Purpose of this Special Meeting; for the discussion of contract negotiations between the Township and the Village of Put-in-Bay. Council may enter Executive Session for the discussion of the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official.

Safe Island Task Force finance committee urged Township and Village to meet and discuss 2021 and 2022 finances.

Ray Fogg explained the work he has been doing regarding revenue and budget for the Island.

Impact will be made in 2022. Actively looking for new ways to bring in revenue and cash flow.

*A lengthy discussion took place on creative ways to bring in revenue and cash flow including the Township in the ideas. Major points being:

Pursuing a head tax, a loan from the Township, Township facilitating payment for police services earlier than normal, using cash reserve at the end of the fiscal year, exploring more grants available.

Fogg was involved in a meeting with the County Commissioners and dept of taxation to discuss the transparency of the resort tax collection issue. There is a discrepancy in the resort tax reported revenue between the State and the Village.

Comment [VP1]:

Mayor Dress explained that the Police Contract the Village has with the Township is up for renewal in 2021.

Anderson stated that there are creative ways for the Township and Village to work together financially. Also, there are creative ways for the Village to structure the Township Police Contract payment; depending on what the two entities agree on.

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Dress discussed the current police operating budget; \$750K and does not see the Village slipping below that number in the future.

Dress discussed the carry over balance at the end of the year. Berry stated the Village operating with around \$250k at one time.

Market asked the Township if they are interested in helping the Village.

Township Trustee Matt Miller stated the current financial state of the Township. They had to expend emergency funds for road construction due to high water.

Mr. Engle stated that the Township is also strained, and they will also be down a considerable amount in 2021.

Mr. Cooper questioned the possibility of a levy.

The discussion took place on the possibility of a joint levy between the Village and the Township. Special Levy could only be out on for November 2021 and then the entity would see funds in 2022.

Dress asked the Trustees about their carryover at the end of each year.

Miller explained that their share of the Police Contract was funded by resort tax revenue. The fluctuation is scattered, and it is now hard to budget when the amount coming in is unknown.

Meetings with the department of taxation was put on hold due to Covid and the administration change.

Koehler questioned the cost of a special election, and what a levy of 1 or 2 mill would raise.

Fiscal Officer will contact the Ottawa County Auditor for those numbers.

Miller questioned the Police Department on how the year went, how many officers were on staff all summer.

*Lengthy discussion took place on the Police department budget, and the pros, cons, and effects of potentially cutting the budget.

Market started a discussion of a School Resource Officer at the school. Either the school would contribute to the cost or take on the whole cost. Lengthy discussion took place on the pros and cons of SRO being financially beneficial.

Mayor Dress stated she would reach out to the school for a meeting.

Discussion of the Police Contract with the Township was started by Boyles; who also suggested that the Township pay two total installments in 2021, and then in 2022 and 2023 pay only half

of the full installment. It would have to be an intergovernmental agreement which Anderson said she would look in to.

Council and Trustees will work towards a contract agreement as soon as the budget process has started on both ends.

Fogg stated the need to explore all options and creative ways to source new revenue, and not just wait until the revenue comes back, if it does.

Fogg suggested committee chairs changing; discouraged that the current finance committee chair was not present for the meeting.

Mayor Dress scheduled an Audit/Finance Committee meeting for November 3rd, 2020 at 8:00 AM at the Village Townhall. The purpose to discuss the 2021 budget.

Market moved to adjourn the special meeting. Koehler second.

Roll: Voice Vote; all yes.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 AM.

Mayor: _____

Attest: _____