VILLAGE OF BENTLEYVILLE, OHIO

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

JANUARY 18, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:05. Present were Fiscal Officer Nickol Sell; Committee Chair, Kathleen Hale; Mayor Leonard Spremulli; and Council Members Kathleen Esposito, Ken Kvacek, and Ryan Rubin. Council President John Bourisseau joined the meeting while it was in progress.

**Minutes** of the December 21, 2016 Finance Committee Meeting were reviewed and approved.

**Accounts Payable** were reviewed and approved, with the following discussion:

 The continued monthly expense for **AT&T UVerse** service at Village Hall was discussed. Kathleen Esposito, through the Village Utilities Committee, offered to research whether continued UVerse service is necessary, what requirements there may be to separate internet service for the Police Department from the Administration offices, and whether a simpler, more cost effective configuration might be possible.

It was unclear what the $830.00 charge for **Davey Tree** represents. Before the next meeting, the Service Department will be asked to verify the charge, and let the Committee know whether this represents an annual fee or a fee for service, and what it covers.

**Other yearly charges** (such as those for Police MDT Service/Support and ASCAP) were discussed and verified. The amount charged to the Village annually for **Fire and Rescue Services** by the Chagrin Falls Suburban Fire Department remains the same this year as last ($8,911.12), but is scheduled to increase in coming years.

The Committee recommended the adoption of Ordinance No. 2017-1 for the payment of bills for the month of January in the amount of $56,082.86.

**Financial Statements** were reviewed and approved. After keeping a tight rein on expenses throughout 2016, and helped by somewhat higher than projected RITA receipts, the year closed out with a surplus of $84,292.00.

**Old Business**: There was no Old Business.

**New Business: There was discussion as to whether to allow any surplus to remain as part of the General Fund, or** **to** **allocate it to the largely depleted Streets Fund**. The Budget for 2017 anticipated that the Village would be unable to carry out road repairs beyond standard maintenance. The Committee discussed whether the transfer of the surplus to the Streets fund, combined with the $85,000 generated for that Fund under the previous Levy, would be sufficient to undertake more ambitious roadwork. The Mayor discussed with the Committee two **other options to raise additional sums for road work**:

1. borrowing under the terms of a 10 year bond, principal and interest to be paid annually from the proceeds of the previous levy; or
2. applying for a loan under a State of Ohio no interest lending program, with a 20 year payback, with proceeds only to be used for roads.

If adequate funds could be made available, the Village Engineer will explore whether the Village would be permitted to reopen its (granted) application for other funds for roadwork, which the Village had been compelled to decline in 2016, since at that time it did not appear that the Village could generate its contribution to the project.

In the meantime, it was agreed that the surplus should remain in the General Fund, with the subject of reallocation to be reexamined quarterly. The needs of the Capital Fund will be reexamined at the same time.

Because of difficulty in providing adequate Police coverage for the Village during **holiday shifts**, the Committee recommends that the Mayor request the Law Director to draft legislation to permit the payment to part-time officers of time and a half pay for such times (with an annual maximum of $2,500).

The Committee also recommends that the Administration Staff be granted a day’s pay for those holiday closures which might occur on a day on which any employee would not normally be working.

The Financial Officer will discuss with the Law Director the disposition of **accumulated unclaimed funds** left from bonds submitted by contractors pursuant to Village Building Permits. She will generate a list of such funds’ date, amount and contractor named. It will then be determined whether the Village is entitled to any such funds, what steps should be taken to take to return the rest, if possible.

The Meeting was adjourned at 6:47 PM. Minutes prepared by Kathleen Hale.