

VILLAGE OF BENTLEYVILLE, OHIO
STREETS AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
December 11, 2023 MEETING
8:00 AM, BENTLEYVILLE VILLAGE HALL

MINUTES

Attendees:

Alex Goetsch
Ken Kvacek
Kathleen Hale
Robert Chalfant
Matt Maistros
Chief Barone

The Meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The minutes from the November 2023 meeting were approved.

SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The service director reported that everything is going well with the service department. Leaf season is complete, and all equipment is ready for salt/plow season. But, as previously reported, the tractor needs some repairs, including new tires, tire-rods, and hydraulics. At a minimum, this will require about \$3,000 in repairs as soon as possible. Serious consideration should be given to a replacement, as noted below.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

The Chief reported that everything is going well. All 2024 requirements are allocated in the proposed Budget.

OLD BUSINESS

Leaf Machine: The recommended replacement equipment costs \$139,042. Financing is available through Huntington for up to 7 years, with annual payments of about \$24,000/year. This is a more capable machine that should be long-lasting, can be operated with a two-person crew, and could allow pickup across the entire Village in one day. Used units, especially in working order, are rare and hard to locate. Cheaper options exist but would require additional expenses for leaf box and cannot be operated with only two

workers. Council must determine whether to replace or discontinue this service. Committee Chair Goetsch voiced his opposition to purchasing new equipment.

Tractor: The tractor is extremely important because it is the only current equipment that can be used to load salt onto the plow trucks. That duty is very taxing on this tractor, which is not really designed for that purpose. The Committee is recommending that Council approve a transfer of approximately \$30-40,000 to the Capital Fund from the 2023 expected surplus in order that the Village may purchase a used skid steer, which would be much safer and appropriate for salt loading, and which could be used for road repairs and other Village needs. With total repairs of around \$10,000, the current tractor could have 3 or more years left if it is taken off of salt duty. Because we have various PTO equipment, we could continue to use that with the tractor, and use it for mowing, lighter loading needs, etc. Spreading the task requirements across two pieces of equipment will also reduce the risk that the Village would completely lose capability if/when repairs are needed. The Committee asked the Service Director to begin a search for a used skid steer.

2024 Budget: Councilman Kvacek discussed the line by line needs of the service department for the proposed 2024 Budget, and recommendations were made for modifications to Mayor-elect Hale. Additional funding will be added for seasonal help, more conservative fuel cost estimates, and uniform and safety equipment expenses.

Police vehicles: The Chief reported that the 2016 Explorer is the oldest vehicle in the Department, and once the new Durango is outfitted and delivered, that Explorer will be designated for use by the Service Department. The Taurus is the next oldest in the fleet, and the proposal would be to sell that vehicle if a second new vehicle is purchased in 2024, as the current proposed Budget anticipates. The Chief reported that there are currently no issues with the Taurus, but the plan is to avoid holding cars until significant repairs become unavoidable, as in prior years, especially because the supply chain now requires significant lead time to order, outfit, and deliver new vehicles. The Committee recommendation is to add 2 new police vehicles in 2024 as currently in the proposed Budget, and that there would be no vehicle purchases in 2025. This Committee should examine next year whether to implement a policy for replacements on a regular cycle.

NEW BUSINESS:

- none

The meeting was concluded at 9:05 a.m.