

Village of Schuylerville
Budget Meeting Minutes
Monday March 7, 2022

Present;

Mayor Carpenter

Trustee Drew

Trustee Colvin

Trustee Baker

Absent

Trustee LeBaron

A link to a shared spreadsheet had been shared with the board several weeks prior to this first budget meeting. Each board member was allotted a column in which to enter numbers for each account line to begin the budget process.

Mayor Carpenter stated that he proposes using fund balance to balance the cost for the repairs to the building and the proposed purchase of the excavator. Together, these are about \$136,000.00. Using other revenues and reducing some of the expenses he was able to bring this number down to \$121,794.00.

The spreadsheet has been updated to show the amount that we plan to levy for taxes, Heyman has already completed the constitutional tax limit form to determine the amount to be \$573,754 for this year, which is an increase of about \$17,000.00 from, last year.

The board discussed each revenue line, using the current expends and revenues that were entered by Heyman to annualize and forecast the amount that they will be by year's end.

There was some discussion regarding the possibility of obtaining the backhoe from the water board, which would then be used to trade in for the excavator budgeted for purchase for 2023 by the village of Schuylerville. There have been conversations with the water board members that represent Victory on this matter, as the backhoe that belongs to the water department was recently red tagged by Supervisor Decker as unsafe to operate. The excavator will be used to do water repairs that cannot be done with a backhoe, as the backhoe is not able to maneuver in tight spaces, such as repairs that need to be done on Broad Street. The village will not charge the water board for use of the excavator for water work. The Village will compensate the water board by providing \$10,000.00 towards the engineering report that is needed to move forward with the water master plan. The backhoe, at this point has more value as a trade in against the purchase of the excavator than it would if it were sold outright. The ARPA funds that the village has already been awarded can be used for the engineering for the water master plan but cannot be used to purchase the excavator.

The board then moved on to the expenditure side of the budget.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding salaries. Mayor Carpenter stated that with the addition of zoning to the village law, he felt that it would be appropriate to raise Attorney Klingebiel to \$11,000.00. Treasurer Heyman also pointed out that Klingebiel has volunteered to do the BAN renewals for \$500 each, which is a much lower rate than we were previously paying Bond and Schoeneck (approximately \$1,300 to \$1,400 each time) This revenue should be posted to Law Contractual and there are currently two BANS that will need to be renewed.

The raises for the DPW crew were discussed and agreed upon as necessary to recruit and retain quality personnel for the DPW department. The board decided that they would like to raise the rate of pay for the DPW by 5.86 immediately, as opposed to waiting for the new fiscal year to begin. This would allow the village to offer a starting pay of \$18 per hour as opposed to the current \$17. There are funds available in this year's budget, as the DPW crew has been undermanned for most of this fiscal year.

Buildings contractual is being budgeted at \$135,000 to take into consideration the cost of the repair to the building and the increased cost of energy. Central Stores Fuel was also increased for the same reason.

The amounts for retirement, payroll taxes, workman's comp and health benefits will be supplied by Village Clerk Patterson for the next budget meeting.

Treasurer Heyman had entered the debt payment amounts for all general fund BANS. She had also provided the board with a spreadsheet which contained all debt principal, current payments and the lifespan of each Ban or Bond for both the sewer and general fund as per the request of Trustee Colvin.

After the agreed upon changes to the expend lines, it was decided that the amount that the board would need to use from fund balance should be \$171,612.16. The majority of this is for the building repair and the excavator and the balance is to help offset the increase in energy costs.

Trustee Baker made the motion to adjourn, Trustee Drew seconded the motion, all in favor, meeting adjourned.