

August 21, 2023 Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting Summary v2

This provides a summary of the August 21, 2023 Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting. The meeting started at 4:31 p.m. and ended at 5:25 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Glenn Ewing, Councilman Larry Prues, Councilman Dennis Dalton, Mary Allen, Councilwoman and Committee Chair, Fire/EMS Chief Tim Feldkamp, Police Chief Eric Williams, Fiscal Officer, Joel Gilpin, and Interim Administrator, Bob Lindhorst.

Absent: None

Guests: Councilman Ryan Woodruff, Councilman Richard Feldkamp, and Curtis Boggs, resident, and employee.

Discussion Topics:

There were discussions in the normal four broad areas: Finance, Village Administration, Police Department, and the Fire & EMS Department. But primary emphasis was on planning for the tax levy.

Levy Planning

We started the meeting with Miscellaneous Discussion on the levy. We discussed Matt Carey's suggestions and developed a task list to be completed by the end of September 2023. Fiscal Officer Joel Gilpin shared the graph and visual aide for our communications. Chief Tim Feldkamp said he and Chief Eric Williams had provided some photographs to Matt for the website. A detailed list of levy planning information is at the end of this summary.

Police Department

Chief Williams stated he wants to hire Kirk Begue as a part-time officer starting August 25, 2023 at \$18.00 per hour. He'll serve the normal six-month probation.

Motion: Motion to hire Kirk Begue as a part-time police officer starting August 25, 2023 at \$18.00 per hour and serving a six-month probation.

EMS/Fire Department: Chief Feldkamp had no personnel issues to share during the meeting.

Fiscal Officer: Fiscal Officer Joel Gilpin didn't have any Finance matters to share during this meeting.

Village Administration: Interim Village Administrator, Bob Lindhorst, has received a number of applications for the Street Dept. Lead and has begun conducting interviews.

Guests: No comments

Task List - 2023 Police & Fire/EMS Levy

1. Insert the letter (Joel's version) that's on the website into the utility bill envelopes (Joel talk to Bobby)
2. Yard Signs
 - a. Create the content (Joel and Tim)
 - b. Identify the best supplier (Joel and Glenn)
3. Town Hall Meetings
 - a. Create list of potential questions and answers (Mary)
 - b. Prepare handouts for attendees (Larry, Joel, and others)
 - c. Create Agenda (drafted during 8/21/23 meeting by all attendees)
 - i. Welcome and introductory comments (include limit on the number of questions per participant)
 - ii. Key points we want to share with the audience
 - iii. Q&A
 - d. Ask Kelley to communicate a Public Town Hall Meeting to discuss the levy for 6:00 – 6:45 p.m. prior to the two October Council Meetings (Bob talk to Kelley)
 - e. Conduct the Town Hall Meetings (All – Planned)
4. Web site creation – Matt Carey (Tim and Eric)
5. Create election day handouts or something that can be handed out whenever (Mary)
6. Prepare a personal note and send it along with our letter on the website (Mary will send to a number of people – others will consider doing this)

Matt Carey's suggestions during the August 7, 2023 Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting:

1. Establish a group of community influences
2. Make sure our communications
 - a. Justify the need
 - b. Advise where all the money goes
 - c. Depicts breakdown of the taxes on the property tax bill and point out just what the Village receives from the individual tax bills
 - d. Highlight they pay property tax on the assessed value, not actual value, of their homes
3. We should create a website and a Facebook page and we should all point to that vs. trying to educate everyone on the message to be shared.
4. We should use "Facebook live"
5. Reminded us that the Village can't pay for promotional material. Individual residents and councilman, as residents, can
6. We should consider placing inserts in resident's doors
7. We should consider creating a polling handout for use on election day in November
8. We should review Monroelevy.com and springfieldlevy.com to insights into what they did
9. We should be clear in our message who our Police, Fire and EMS Departments provide services to and emphasize there isn't much mutual aid readily available, should we not have adequate services

Mary's initial list of potential Town Hall audience questions

1. What do you do with all the money you already have in the budget?
2. Why don't you cut costs vs. just ask for more money?
3. I thought we already have a police and fire levy? What's that money being used for?
4. What do you do with the RITA money?
5. If you're short of money, why did you give raises?
6. Why can't you use the money you're spending on Liberty Landing?
7. Why can't you just get more grants?
8. According to the news, Clermont Co. property taxes will increase with the upcoming assessment. Won't you get more money with that?
9. What are you going to use the additional money for?
10. If passed, how long will it be before you ask for more money?