

**Leland Township Board
Budget Workshop Meeting
March 1, 2022 – 11:00 a.m.**

Leland Township Office
224 W. Main Street, Lake Leelanau, MI 49653

Minutes

PRESENT: Supervisor Susan Och, Clerk Lisa Brookfield, Treasurer Shirley Garthe, Trustee Mariann Kirch, Trustee Clint Mitchell
Guests: Skip Telgard, Steve Mikowski, David Kareck

Ms. Och called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Skip Telgard – He commented on the maintenance of the Harbor rest rooms. He submitted a letter to Ms. Och which she distributed to other Board members. Mr. Telgard has heard there is another round of ARPA funds coming to the County. Ms. Och spoke with Patricia Soutas-Little and she said those funds would most likely go to the broadband expansion. Mr. Telgard objected to others who say they don't use the Harbor bathrooms, so they shouldn't have to pay for them. He cited other concerns.

He also asked about the jump in budget money for Provemont Pond in 2020. It was explained to him that the was the rebuilding of the culvert. Mr. Telgard is in favor of developing that area. He would like to see parking meters in the Harbor area.

David Kareck – He is also concerned about the maintenance of rest rooms and commented that the parking spaces are full by 8:00 a.m. during peak tourist times.

BUDGET DISCUSSION (General Fund 2022-2023)

The *Parks and Rec* budget was discussed first. Ms. Kirch researched other cleaning companies for a less expensive way to get the Harbor rest rooms cleaned and maintained. She is recommending a company who will do it for \$14,615.00. They would charge \$750 for the first day deep cleaning. Jeremy Anderson is happy with the present company because they respond to emergencies very promptly. He is not sure if another company would do that. Mr. Mitchell has suggested that the Township take care of the cleaning from April 1 to October 1. The time before and after those dates, the businesses in Fishtown could be responsible for the cleaning. We could also have porta-johns available during the peak season. Ms. Brookfield is opposed to porta-johns.

Mr. Kareck commented that he thought the new bid was a good idea.

The Township would need to put a request for bids in the newspaper. More information is needed on the new bid presented.. The public would like the rest rooms to open on April 1. It was decided to budget \$16,000.00 for the rest rooms instead of \$27, 891.00.

There was discussion about the supply order for the rest rooms. Mr. Anderson plans to keep the supply orders for the Harbor and the rest rooms separate this year.

Mr. Telgard – He noted that sewer costs have tripled. Supply costs have increased considerably as well. He would like that looked at carefully to see if money could be saved in those areas.

Mr. Kareck – He stated that the Township may be able to find another company for the supplies.

Ms. Kirch had questions about projected legal expenses (\$1200) and misc. expenses (\$500). Ms. Och explained the budget line by line. It was decided to remove \$400 from the legal line and put it in the misc. expenses line.

General fund

Mr. Mitchell asked about reimbursable funds for the sidewalks and funds paid by the residents for their share of the sidewalks. He also had questions about the Assessor's budget, particularly the best option for the litigation concerning a property that recently went before the Tribunal. It is necessary to have the property appraised, but the issue is not about the appraisal but the process. He feels that there is a small amount of revenue that would be the result of this litigation to offset the cost. Ms. Och expressed her concern of how this outcome will affect all the assessments throughout the Township. Ms. Kirch and Mr. Mitchell are in favor of settling this case and were against the amount in the budget in line 209-804. For now, the amount will remain the same.

Line 101-590 should be noted that some of these funds are reimbursable.

Fire and Rescue

There was some discussion about what is included in a few of the line items. Mr. Besson sees that ambulance fees are part of the Operation fund, training is part of the equipment fund, and leftover funds can be used in the equipment fund.

Steve Mikowski – He stated that a budget that goes up 10-15% a year needs to be examined. He also felt the Township needs to apologize for building the second fire station.

Harbor

The proposed budget shows a \$9,000.00 increase in salary for the Harbormaster. Previous Board minutes do not show support for this raise. Several questions were raised and will be addressed with the Harbor Commission. The Harbormaster's salary was changed to \$55,650.00 and the shift supervisor salary was changed to \$54,233.00.

Ms. Och will talk with Jeremy Anderson. The next meeting for the Harbor Commission is March 11, 2022.

Sewer

Sewer wages were discussed. The Sewer Administrator gets a salary and per hour payment for other duties. (\$15.30 an hour). Ms. Och suggested that Steve Patmore should be paid \$20.00 an hour. \$23,000.00 was put in the line item.

Steve Mikowski – He asked about the septic pumping contract. Mr. Patmore is working on finding other sources for pumping. He was also concerned about the increase in the IAI contract. He suggested that performance reviews should be done with employees before the budget meetings.

The meeting was adjourned 1:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Kacin

Susan Och, Supervisor

Lisa Brookfield, Clerk