

**VILLAGE OF GERMANTOWN  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES  
November 1, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Wolter called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Trustees Baum (6:25 p.m.), Hudson, Kaminski, J. Miller, R. Miller, Myers, Neureuther, and Tr. Pieper. Also present: Administrator Kreklow, Clerk Treasurer Braunschweig, Manager Uselding, Director Retzlaff, and Manager Heinen.

**MINUTES:** Motion (Kaminski/Pieper) to approve the minutes of October 13, 2021.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**2022 Recommended Budget:**

Administrator Kreklow updated the Committee of the Whole on the upcoming Budget Hearing to be held on November 15, 2021. Changes can be brought up or motioned at this meeting.

**A. Update on Property Tax Levy.**

Manager Uselding reported on the 2022 Levy Overview with a comprehensive look at the levy. He reported on the current recommended budget and the impact on individual properties. Currently shows a tax rate reduction. The TID in and TID out rates were reviewed. The recommended budget includes the net new construction less the TID net new construction.

**Motion (Pieper / Neureuther) to use the insurance savings to offset the increase in levy by \$93,605, levy increase to be at zero. Zero levy increase.**

Library board meeting last Wednesday. The library budget was approved less the \$60,000 for the fire suppression system. The Village Board could replace the \$60,000 with property insurance savings, bond issuance or to eliminate the project.

Discussion ensued of the other taxing jurisdictions and to be good stewards with no increase on the levy. Present a zero increase in the levy.

**Amendment Motion (Hudson/Pieper) approve zero increase and to use \$60,000 out of the 2020 surplus for library fire suppression system. This will leave the 2020 surplus at \$107,000.**

**The Library Board has earmarked the fund monies for expansion of the Library. The library fire suppression system is a replacement item. This was treated similarly to the previous roof replacement. It is important to complete the project and replace the library fire suppression system.**

**Tr. Baum arrived 6:25 p.m.**

**This will reduce the amount the Village will pay for the addition.**

**Amendment Motion Carried Unanimously.**

**Motion as amended carried. Baum and Kaminski voted no.**

**B. Police Staffing.**

**Police Chief Snow came to the podium. He commented on the additional patrol that is needed. Flock cameras are helpful. Need to increase the sworn patrol personnel. This could also increase the Sergeants, and Community Service Officer. The cost to add an officer is \$118,750. Need to look at how much to add a Community Service Officer. Discussion ensued to add the positions incrementally, from a vote of the public via referendum, or look at an alternate funding source to free up tax levy. Discussion ensued of an alternate funding source such as public fire protection or other type of fee such as wheel tax.**

**The total dollar value would be three people and one additional squad vehicle. The estimate to provide three additional is \$255,000 and takes into account personnel changes, plus a squad vehicle. Following years would be additional.**

**Discussion ensued of the incremental processes used to add personnel to the Fire Department.**

**Discussion ensued of the current needs to be at zero levy when there is a need for Police Force. The Germantown Police Department patrols the interstate.**

**Discussion ensued of funding the additional officer from the 2020 surplus, and additional from reserves. Discussion ensued of the needs of a growing Village. This is comparable to the utility water billing.**

**Discussion ensued of the road repair, increases, and parking lot items.**

**Discussion ensued of the needed additional officers and the move of the dispatch to Washington County. Discussion ensued of the Community Service Officers to Patrol. The Dispatch is dependent on the type of services. Previous communities then replaced dispatch with Clerks.**

**Discussion ensued of the process used for the incremental Fire Department increases. There is a building boom right now. The Fire Department's first additional were floaters.**

**Discussion ensued of the grants for Flock Cameras and Drones.**

**Motion (Myers/Baum) to use \$107,000 2020 surplus to fund one additional police officer. The \$118,000 is the cost for one year. It will take time to fill and hire. The \$107,000 will allow for the funding for partial year,**

**Discussion ensued of statistics to support the additional officer to justify the need for officers. There should be a plan and to see why it is needed and to justify it. Discussion commented to view the monthly reports to see the statistics needed to justify the increase in staff. The dispatch item, there could be a cost savings.**

**Discussion ensued of the phase in plan for someone that started with the referendum of the fire department that was unsuccessful. To get the new command structure to be done by attrition and takes a little bit of time. Looking at this over a stretch of time. There is possible funding available.**

**Motion carries. Neureuther and Pieper voted no.**

**Discussion ensued of a multi year plan is needed to understand the implications. Look back over the years. Discussion ensued of the annual report and go back five years.**

**C. Parking Lot Issues.**

**Not looking to address any parking lot issues based on previous motions and discussions.**

**D. Other Budget Issues.**

**The public hearing will be on November 15, 2021, at 7 p.m.**

**Pres. Wolter inquired if there were any other items for change.**

**Meeting adjourned 7:11 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Deanna Braunschweig  
Village Clerk Treasurer