

Committee of the Whole Meeting to discuss:

- Video Gaming
- 2025/2026 Budget Planning – Parks, Recreation, Cemetery, Public Safety, Public Relations, Personnel & Finance

President Mire called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 6:00pm.

Roll Call:

Physically Present: Polenske, Robertson, Fowler (entered at 6:09pm) and Mire
 Absent: Peschang and DeMarlie, Fiems

Others:

Physically Present: Treasurer Barber, Clerk Housenga
 Virtually: None

Mire opened this meeting by reviewing documentation provided by Clerk Housenga which indicated normal expenditures for all topics for this meeting.

Mire requested Barber be prepared to discuss run rate for all income and expenditures for the better planning of the next fiscal year budget. Additionally, Mire would also request each public event be subcategorized under Public Relations with their own budget. Under public relations an event is to be added Public Relations for co-hosting a shred event at the River Valley Library. All items planned for budgeting at this meeting included:

Parks & Recreation -

Schuler's Shady Grove Phase I	\$ 300,000.00
Mulch - all parks	\$ 8,000.00

Cemetery -

None	
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Public Safety -

Police Protection	\$ 81,901.88
Police Other	\$ 750.00

Public Relations -

Military & First Responder's Luncheon	\$ 1,500.00
Senior Luncheon	\$ 2,000.00
Halloween - Candy, RCFPD & RICO Sherriff's Dept.	\$ 650.00
Christmas	\$ 400.00
Easter	\$ 400.00
Donations	\$ 1,000.00
Co-Hosted Shred Event	\$ 150.00
Total Donations / Events	\$ 6,100.00

Clerk Housenga noted she needed employee wages determined prior to calculating and budgeting for other wage liabilities. Clerk Housenga informed the board that the Social Security COLA for 2026 is 2.8%. Bump and Housenga are to receive a 5.5% wage increase and Barber, Hoodjer and Meier are to receive a 4.5% increase as discussed by the board for budgeting purposes. Once the final budget is adopted the new wages will be effective May 1st, 2026. Clerk Housenga will determine wage liabilities for the budget with these increases.

Additionally, under finance discussions it was determined that water and sewer increases will be going into effect as of June 2026, therefore requiring passage as of the April 2026 Regular Board Meeting. Further discussion on this matter will be discussed at the April 24th, 2026 Committee of the Whole Meeting. Discussed under finance identified that Liability Insurance will be budgeted at \$28,500.00 and Medical/Dental/Vision employee insurance will be budgeted at \$36,500.00.

Robertson motioned to adjourn this Committee of the Whole Meeting; Fowler seconded. All members of the board concurred, motion passes. President Mire adjourned by consensus of the Board at 7:06pm.

Missy M. Housenga
 Village Clerk