

**Hiram Village Council Public Hearing  
Minutes on the Proposed 2023 Budget**

July 12, 2022

The following Members of Council were present: Mr. McCreight, Mr. Smith, Mr. Spencer and Mr. Szell. The following were also present: Mayor Lou Bertrand, Fiscal Officer Susan Skrovan, Village Administrator James McGee, Assistant VA Steven Schuller, Police Chief Brian Gregory and Fire Chief Bill Byers.

Others: Ed Frato-Sweeney, Keith Holmes, Stacy Turner; reporter with The Weekly Villager and Mike Wilkinson.

Mayor Bertrand called the hearing to order at 6:50 pm.

The Fiscal Officer explained the 2023 Budget will need to be approved tonight at Council and turned into the County by July 20, 2022. The tax budget is the certification of revenue funds from the Portage County Auditor that we anticipate to have for next year. Susan spoke with Auditor Janet Esposito's assistant, Beth Wagner, who indicated that the auditor's office is only concerned right now with the revenue that is estimated and certified for next year. As long as our Village does not plan to change revenue in any fund. The appropriations will be reviewed and discussed at Finance and will need to be decided by year end. Susan had provided Council with the financial worksheets on the budget by email. She printed off the final budget, revenue only, for their review tonight. Susan went through the worksheet with Council. Susan did remind Council that the estimated amount of revenue for next year is just that, an estimate. The bottom line does include the current estimated carryover, which will increase by year end because we never spend all that has been appropriated for the current year. In addition, the revenue is estimated conservatively, if we receive more than we anticipated, that too improves our bottom line.

The Mayor asked the Department Heads if they had anything they wish to bring up regarding the budget. Susan did say they will probably have more to say on the appropriation side of the 2023 budget.

Ed Frato-Sweeney asked about the recent discussion regarding the income tax increase and/or credit reduction, has any of that been figured into the 2023 budget? Susan said no, she cannot take any of that into consideration at this time. We do not have a levy going on the ballot nor have we had any action to do anything else with our tax credit. Susan can only send into the County and have certified what we expect to get in, unless something changes. It can be amended by the County should something change between now and the end of the year. Each page is its own fund; most of which receive their own funding.

A motion to close the public hearing on the 2023 Budget was made by Mr. Spencer and seconded by Mr. Smith. The result of the voice vote was 4-0 in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.

These minutes are pending approval by Council.

  
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Mayor Lou Bertrand

ATTEST:

  
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Fiscal Officer Susan J. Skrovan