

**VILLAGE OF TUXEDO PARK
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PUBLIC HEARING ON
2007-2008 TENTATIVE BUDGET
APRIL 11, 2007
7:30 P.M.**

Present: Trustee Lawrence Darby
Trustee Oliver Parker
Trustee Houston Stebbins

Absent: Mayor David McFadden
Deputy Mayor Christopher Hansen

Clerk: Deborah Matthews

Also: Richard Morrow, John Ledwith, Celeste Gebhardt, Alan & Sue Heywood, Jim Hays, Susan Goodfellow, Judy & Neal Wittels, Greg Libby, Linda Miller, Sally Spooner, Dena Steele, Uli Pendl, Michele Lindsay, Kent Kroeber, Tinka Shaw, Bill Royan, and others.

In the absence of the Mayor, Trustee Stebbins opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. He read the notice of hearing that was published in the Times Herald-Record. He reported on the time line of the budget process and the meetings that have been held.

PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Statements previously submitted by Mayor McFadden and Deputy Mayor Hansen were read into the record.

Mayor McFadden's statement and attachments proposed adding \$20,000 over two years and \$30,000 over two years for capital improvements to the Village Boat Club area and the Wee Wah Beach area respectively. As an offset, charging a parkland fee to developers is suggested. A copy is attached.

Deputy Mayor Hansen's statement suggested ways in which to reduce the proposed dollar amounts in many line items resulting in a 0.8% increase in taxes versus last year. A copy is attached.

The public expressed dissatisfaction about the confusion over whether the March 21, 2007 Tentative Budget or the changed proposed budget dated April 11, 2007 is under review.

Speakers: Susan Goodfellow, Jim Hays, Michele Lindsay, Tinka Shaw, Joan Riccardi, Linda Miller, Allen Heywood, Uli Pendl, Neal Wittels, Judy Wittels, Bill Royan.

Comments: One budget workshop is not enough; give advance notice to the public; some recommendations of Deputy Mayor Hansen are policy changes; why isn't there an increase shown for garbage collection; legal fees should be based on this years total; allocation to Beach Club and Boat Club not a good idea; Garden Club has done improvements at entrance to Beach area; there is sewer moratorium so how can you depend on parkland fees from developers; put \$63,000 that is unspent in Buildings Equipment category into reserve for infrastructure and add \$75,000 more; support for Beach area improvements; Beach Club itself needs more money to operate; need to replace dock, grills, tables,

ropes, and the slide is dangerous; Wee Wah dam is leaking; Village Boat Club area is small, what can be done there; should look at maintaining tax base; safety concern if police presence cut back; county sales tax underestimated last year; underestimating revenues is as bad as overestimating expenditures; what happened to charging more for water to large consumers; Village shouldn't pay for boat club and beach club improvements-increase membership fees; Tuxedo Road, the Racetrack, and the guide rail are unsightly-have fundraiser to pay for upgrades; what are we paying for with our Town taxes; replacement for DPW employee who resigned three years ago was promised but never authorized by BOT.

Written statements and e-mails read into the record:

Chris Sonne suggested ways to reduce some of the proposed line items. A copy is attached.

Statements read regarding the spending money for Village Boat Club and Wee Wah Beach areas:

For: Kerrienne Cavada, Todd Yannuzzi, Tony Skutnik, Michelle Wu, Cami Fischer, Jean & Richard Donnelly, David Morton, Joe Capella, Jackie Urrea, Star Jospe, Alexis Hughes, Linda Strohmeyer, Denise Tavani, Lucile Edwards.

Opposed: Greg Beard, Philip Lobkowicz, Bill Royan, Drew Goldman, Dan Laukitis

Clarification requested: Michael Collins

Other comments made by speakers: Who will do the work over the next 9 days of making revisions to the budget; it's suppose to be a collaborative effort of the Board; process is one month behind.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

A motion was made by Trustee Stebbins, seconded by Trustee Parker that the public hearing be closed at 10:25 p.m. The vote was 3-0 in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Stebbins, seconded by Trustee Darby that the meeting be adjourned at 10:30 p.m. The vote was 3-0 in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Matthews
Clerk-Treasurer

These minutes were approved at the 8/15/07 BOT meeting.