

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
PLANNING MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2017  
VILLAGE OF CLAYCOMO, MISSOURI**

The recessed Regular Meeting of August 28, 2017 was called to order at 6:06pm, by Chairman Barker.

Trustee McClure moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting of August 28, 2017, seconded by Trustee Sulzberger. All yea. Motion carried.

The Planning Meeting of September 11, 2017 was called to order at 6:07pm. Those Present: Trustees Daryl G Hook, Roxanna McClure, Norma Sulzberger, Greg Thompson and Chairman Marina Barker, Police Chief Matt Coonce, Fire Chief Eric Miles, and Village Clerk Sheri Chapman.

Chairman Barker shared that Clerk Chapman had provided the sales ballot language and ordinances for the 1%, ¼% and ½% previously passed by the voters. She then presented a list of discussion items and points that could be gathered and placed in a presentation to share.

They should include anticipated income figures, copies of the budget, and current restricted funds showing totals. It would be important to explain each one.

Trustee McClure stated the message had to be straightforward. It should represent to the residents and businesses “this is my cost and this is my benefit”. She added it would be of benefit to do a comparison of \$100,000 home and what the potential tax would be on their taxes each year.

Trustee Thompson asked if the levy could be on real estate taxes only and to leave personal property tax alone. It was stated, the levy is required to be applied to all property taxes.

Trustee McClure reminded everyone, Ford and the local businesses are included in the levy increases.

Fire Chief Miles stated Ford has about 8,000 employees, including the stamping plant in Liberty.

Chairman Barker shared, that the Village should communicate to the residents they would like to ask for \$.50 on the levy for the new ceiling maximum. The current allowable maximum is \$.33 and has been for years. This would be to set the levy ceiling maximum allowed by the voters but may not need reach the maximum each year. It would allow the Board to meet needs each year.

This would help with ideas such as putting a pay step program in place to compete with surrounding wages. General fund cannot carry a step program as it fluctuates. Sales tax could also be used to help increase the pay scale. A bond issue works best for larger vehicle purchases or sewer fund.

Trustee Sulzberger stated the trash fee is high and going up each year by 3%. She recommended doing a sales tax and no longer do trash. The current sales tax as of May 17, 2017 for Claycomo is 6.975%. She noted the cost of everything keeps going up but the budget is remaining the same, as the revenues have not changed a lot.

Clerk Chapman shared if they wanted a levy increase they need to do it in the even number years, which is coming up in 2018.

Trustee McClure stated that without discussing the actual dispatch contract they need to stress the need for items such as the quicker response time and the service is extra expense for safety. People need to look at the budget.

Trustee Sulzberger commented everyone sees Ford and thinks there is a lot of money.

Trustee McClure stated that any initiatives would need to be marketed in the newsletters, flyers, and on the website. Chairman Barker stated the Village would have to be careful as there were issues in the past and the message has to be presented in a certain way to not break any campaign laws.

Trustee McClure added that a Public Safety tax would be important for Ford as well. It was noted that they use the services of our fire and police department.

Fire Chief Miles noted, if the levy was increased to .495, the amount estimated to be collected based on this year's assessment numbers would be \$208,000.00. Chairman Barker stated at \$.50 would be \$213,209.00. The current tax levy for Oakview is \$.9386, Holt is almost \$1.50, Village of Oaks is .5588, Lawson Regular and Fire District combined is almost \$3.00.

It was noted to compare the local wages of the police and fire department to other neighboring communities. It would be best to compare in hourly rates and not salary based. The fire department is 53 hours a week and the police department is 43 hours a week by fair labor laws.

Trustee McClure commented the Village needed to get back on schedule for major purchases such as police vehicles and fire trucks. Fire Chief Miles noted a replacement pumper would be about \$450,000. A ladder truck is \$675,000 and in 2020, it would be about \$716,000.

Trustee Thompson stated inflation is an issue. He had hoped Fire Chief Miles would get a new chief's vehicle and pass the other down to public works. The old truck could be sold as it starting to cost too much money to fix.

It was stated that bond issues make sense to assist with a portion for sewers and a new pumper. The current pumper is having issues and we need a backup pumper.

It was confirmed that the following things would be needed:

- Copy of all levies for various communities.

- Budget

- Anticipated Income

  - Best option is the sales tax separate from levy

- Comparison for \$100,000 home

  - Important to increase maximum tax ceiling in the amount of \$.50


- Wage comparison rates

  - 53/43 per fair labor standard act before it becomes overtime

- Sales tax rate for the surrounding taxing jurisdictions.

- Recommended to raise sales tax and raise the tax levy to new maximum ceiling of \$.50.

There being no further business with the board, Trustee McClure moved to recess the meeting subject to the call of the Chairman, seconded by Trustee Hook. All yea. Motion carried. Recessed at 7:15pm.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sheri Chapman  
Village Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Marina Barker, Chairman  
Board of Trustees