

PUBLIC HEARING
DOWNERS GROVE TOWNSHIP AMENDED BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS
4340 PRICE ST, DOWNERS GROVE, IL 60515
AUGUST 19, 2021

The Public Hearing on Downers Grove Township Amended Budget and Appropriations was called to order at 7:15 PM at the Township boardroom, 4340 Prince St., Downers Grove, IL by Supervisor Coultrap.

Roll Call: Present: Trustee Ferguson, Trustee Ockrim, Trustee Ricordati, Trustee Stoll and Supervisor Coultrap.

Officials Present: Clerk Lorraine Grimsby.

Others Present: Attorney Alongi

1. Motion to Waive the Clerk Reading of the Public Notice.

Supervisor Coultrap asked for a motion to waive the reading of the legal notice as it had been published in the Downers Grove Suburban Life newspaper, posted in the hallway, on the Township website and copies were made available to all attendees.

Trustee Ferguson made a Motion to Waive the reading of the Legal Notice for the Township Budget Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Trustee Ockrim.

Roll Call vote: Trustee Ferguson, "Aye", Trustee Ockrim, "Aye", Trustee Stoll, "Aye", Trustee Ricordati, "Aye", and Supervisor Coultrap, "Aye". Ayes - 5, Nays – 0. Motion Carried.

2. Amended General Fund Presentation by Supervisor.

Supervisor Coultrap welcomed everyone to the Public Budget Hearing. He stated this hearing is being held to review and discuss the budget amendment for the 2021/2022 General Fund budget. Supervisor Coultrap stated that, after reviewing the statements from the DuPage County State's Attorney, the Township Board voted in June to hold this hearing to ensure the budget is processed in compliance with applicable law.

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A little history behind tonight's meeting: On December 24, 2020, Assessor Boltz, in accordance with his statutory duty, gave the former Supervisor and members of the Board of Trustees a copy of his proposed budget for 2021-2022. The budget represented a 6.8% decrease from the previous year. Sometime between that date and when the budget was hung in January, the Assessor's budget, without consultation with the Assessor or other Board Members was unilaterally revised downward by the former Supervisor. Due to amoralities in the budget process a citizen filed an Open Meetings Act violation with the State's Attorney. While the State's Attorney did not see that an Open Meeting Act was violated, the State's Attorney did express concerns that the actions of the previous supervisor may have unlawfully violated the

rights and duties of the township Assessor. A full recap can be found on the Township Resolution #2021-061721.

Supervisor Coultrap asked Attorney Alongi if there were any other details that he would like to add about the DuPage States Attorneys decision.

Attorney Alongi stated that the State's Attorney regarded the Supervisor's actions likely violated the Township Code, Property Tax Code and Municipal Budget Law and for that reason, we are here today to do a transparent process, present a proper budget and have an open discussion about the budget presented by the Assessor to the Supervisor.

Supervisor Coultrap stated that the budget tonight corrects the issues of the previous budget.

* The previous budget put at risk the Assessor's ability to fulfill his statutory duty by under financing the office budget. **This budget corrects that.**

* The previous budget contained accounting errors and math errors. **This budget corrects that.**

* The previous budget process lacked transparency. **This process corrects that.**

The new budget has been reviewed by our auditor and is found to be in compliance with government accounting standards.

3. Public Comments. Supervisor Coultrap asked for questions about the budget. He also introduced Anthony Pacilli, Chief Deputy Assessor, to answer any questions specific about the Assessor's portion of the budget.

Ms. Lemanski stated that she found budgeting errors and mathematical errors in the General Fund budget that was approved in February 2021. Ms. Lemanski also asked about the Assessor's budget. Supervisor Coultrap and Chief Deputy Assessor Anthony Pacilli addressed the questions.

Trustee Ockrim asked for clarification that the Assessor's budget is a 6.8% decrease from the 2020-2021 budget. Chief Deputy Assessor Pacilli confirmed it is a 6.8% decrease.

Trustee Ricordati asked Attorney Alongi if he is in complete agreement with this process. Attorney Alongi confirmed that he had voiced great concern at the February 2021 meeting.

Trustee Ferguson also reiterated that she was not in agreement with the February budget vote.

4. Adjournment. With no further questions regarding the Amended Budget, Supervisor Coultrap closed the Public Hearing for the Downers Grove Township Budget. The meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lorraine Grimsby, Clerk