

The Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order by the Village President at 4:01 p.m. at the Marshall Buehler Center.

**Present:** President Mancl, Trustees Grunden, McGregor, Moore, Radtke & Saylor

**Absent:** Trustee Zurfluh (excused)

**Also Present:** J. Worden, S. Drew, D. Gau (Interim Administrator), D. Tremmel

**Citizens:** Eric Hummel

**Public Comments:** None

**Village President's Comments:** None

A draft of the 2024 Budget was presented. Still waiting for apportionment levy amounts from Wood County and the Port Edwards School District. Interim Gau stated that it is a tight budget and that certain items were removed from the original draft, including \$100,000.00 that was to be put into the 407 Fund (Public Works Infrastructure – Roads), over \$25,000.00 removed from roads and streets expenses, salary removed for a fourth officer, and unassigned funds decreased from \$200,000.00 to \$100,000.00.

Interim Gau presented options for the Village Administrator position. He felt the Village should keep the Administrator position, but it would not necessarily need to be a full-time position. It was decided that the Village would keep Duane Gau on as Interim Administrator for now.

There was discussion regarding a fourth officer position. Interim Gau stated that he had discussions with James Bena, District Administrator of the Port Edwards School District. He requested specific funding for a Community Resource Officer (CRO). The anticipated cost would be \$130,000 per year. The school is considering paying \$60,937.50 toward the cost for next year (9 months – 25 hours per week in the schools). The remaining cost would be \$69,062.50. There was a consensus that police presence was needed in the schools, but the question was how it would be funded.

Motion (Grunden/McGregor) to go into closed session per §19.85(1)(c) at 5:55 p.m., to discuss the proposed 2024 budget pertaining directly to employee performance and compensation. Motion carried (roll call vote – all ayes).

Motion (Grunden/McGregor) to come out of closed session at 6:02 p.m. Motion carried. All ayes.

A Committee of the Whole meeting will be scheduled for November 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. to continue budget discussions.

Meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Minutes taken by: Diane Tremmel, Clerk-Treasurer