

Village of Spring Valley

Finance Committee minutes

August 25, 2025

Chairperson Jorgenson called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. at Village Hall

Members Present: Jorgenson, Lukes, Pelz

Members Absent:

Staff present: Emerson

Support:

Approval of Agenda: Motion (Pelz/Lukes) to approve agenda. Carried.

1. 2026 budget review: **General Fund budget**: Emerson reported Emergency Services, Public Works, and Municipal Development had all met to start pulling together a 2026 budget. All other General Fund numbers were either entered as known for 2026 or entered as 2025 until updates are available. Revenues: levy limits, shared revenue, DOT aid are not known yet. LRIP reimbursements for LRIP-S Glade Ave and Entitlement are entered. All permitting revenues are budgeted to be the same as 2025. General revenues are budgeted at 2025 levels as well. Nursing home revenue is budgeted for the Bremer payment as well as the cash flow repayment plus interest. Borrowing will need to be done to pay for the balance on Glade Ave bridge repair, LTD is entered as \$375,180. PILO from Water Fund remains at \$78,828; Emerson will check on how this number can change. Board salaries and expenses, Admin office wages, most other Admin office expenses are unchanged or changed slightly. Computer fees increased to cover VC3 contract. Audit fees have gone up, cleaning wages are doubling. Liability insurance is not known yet so 2025 figures have been entered. PD has budgeted for another officer but health insurance has been reduced. Fire department and ambulance dues are not known yet so they remain unchanged for now. Public Fire Protection remains the same for 2026. Streets budget is anticipating an increase in the mowing budget, DOT expense is not known until DOT revenue is known. Beltline Rd and Mary Ann St both need a pulverize and overlay and one culvert replacement is needed for the project as well – cost after DOT aid payment is applied \$272,670. Total cost to repair Glade Ave. Bridge \$655,830. Library, Parks, Summer Recreation, Pool Subsidy are all at 2025 budget. Municipal Development has requested a slight increase. Debt payments have been budgeted with two new payments to State Trust Fund for PW plow and Van Buren bike path. **Water Fund budget** remains close to 2025 budget in most areas. A request has been made for a generator for the well system in case of a disaster/pressure drop where reservoir and water tower cannot pump their own water: cost \$125,000. Public Service Commission has notified the Village that we are eligible for and should consider a simplified rate case (SRC). By doing a SRC every few years we keep up with inflationary costs and maintain revenue continuity. An SRC helps sustain a utility's financial health and avoid significant rate hikes for customers. **Sewer Fund budget** a comprehensive study is needed at a cost of \$20,000; our lift stations are at capacity so there will be no further additions to the sewer utility on the west side of town until a solution is found. Sewer debt has been budgeted.
2. **Capital Improvement outlay balances** were reviewed for squad outlay, public works truck and equipment outlay, and DOT aid remaining from prior years.
3. **1-3-5-year plans** were reviewed for those departments who had them ready.
4. **Step/grade scale** set up procedure was reviewed. Emerson will get the scale ready for next Finance meeting. Wages and benefits were obtained from neighboring municipalities and reviewed by Finance. They will be used in the step/grade scale set up and reviewed at the next Finance meeting.

Next meeting Monday September 15th at 5:00 p.m.

Motion (Pelz/Lukes) to adjourn 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted Luann Emerson