

**MINUTES
FOR THE PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF ORLAND HILLS, ILLINOIS
FOR DECEMBER 18, 2024**

President Hastings called the hearing to order at 7:50 p.m.

President Hastings called the roll with the following results. Present: President Hastings, Trustees: Roti, Petrey, Morrison, Hastings II, Kissane (Electronically at 7:51), Administrator O'Neill, Clerk Iannantone (Electronically at 7:51)

Absent: None

With a quorum having been established, President Hastings led the Pledge of Allegiance and the salute to the flag.

President's Report: President Hastings

President Hastings requested support of a motion to allow Clerk Iannantone and Trustee Kissane to attend the meeting by electronic means.

A motion was made by Trustee Roti and seconded by Trustee Morrison

Ayes: Trustees Roti, Petrey, Morrison, Hastings II, Schmidt

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

Clerk Iannantone and Trustee Kissane joined the meeting by electronic means at 7:51 p.m.

Mayor Hastings then announced the purpose of the hearing was to provide public input to the Annual Tax Levy Ordinance being considered by the Village Board at the Regular Board Meeting later this evening. He asked Administrator O'Neill to discuss the levy.

Administrator O'Neill explained that:

The Tax Levy's final determination was made on or about December 3, 2023 and the Finance Committee reviewed the levy at their regular monthly Committee Meetings in Nov and Dec.

Notice was posted for the Public Hearing at the Village Hall and posted on the Village's website (on Dec 16) as required by law.

By definition, our property tax levy is the amount of money we are requesting from property owners each year in order to help fund our operations.

There are 15 different taxing bodies that levy property taxes to Orland Hills residents and businesses. And of course, the Village of Orland Hills is one of those 15.

Of the total dollars that an Orland Hills property owner pays, approximately 8.2% of that total will be paid to the Village. This is a fairly low percentage when compared to many other villages. (TP property owners, for example, pay ~13.3% of their property tax bill to the Village of Tinley Park, OP similar to OH)

In the end, I expect the new Levy that we pass this evening will generate a total increase in our request from property tax payers to be a little less than 5% above last year.

That translates to less than \$1.75 per month increase in the Village portion of a total property tax bill of \$5,000.

In the past, the Village has dedicated our property tax revenue to two sources: our general fund to help pay for general operations and our police pension fund which helps to fund our financial obligation to our past, current, and future police personnel.

Due to the continued increase in the police pension fund liability, we have continuously increased property tax resources to that fund more aggressively over the past 10 years.

Two years ago, we chose to take a very aggressive step for the 2021 Levy (paid in CY 2022), and we took the same step last year for the 2022 Levy, paid in CY 2023, because the ENTIRE levy was designated to be paid to the Police Pension Fund. We have once again designated the ENTIRE levy to be paid to the Police Pension Fund for the third year in a row.

Why have we had to do this? From the 2012 Statutory Minimum Contribution required by the State to the 2023 Minimum Contribution, a total of 12 levy years, there has been an increase in that minimum annual contribution of 320%(from \$185,388 to \$592,750). Our past funding decisions for Property Tax dollars for general operations became unsustainable because the Village's ENTIRE levy has only been "allowed" to increase by 29% (from 530k to 683k).

This is a classic example of the burden of the funding requirements of the Police Pension Fund crowding out other services the Village needs to provide to our residents and which now must be funded by other sources. But, the Village is acting in the most fiscally responsible manner by shifting its property tax resources to the Police Pension Fund in as aggressive of a manner as possible.

In the end, for the low property taxes our residents and businesses pay, they get great parks, police services, street maintenance, street snow plowing, flood prevention, and holiday events, just to name a few of the services that the Village provides.

The Mayor and the Board of Trustees have made it a priority that residents get a bargain for what they pay for and I believe that this tax levy is consistent with that mantra.

If anyone has any questions, I would be happy to answer them.

President Hastings asked for input or questions from the Village Board, and none were offered.

President Hastings asked for input from the Public at 7:56 PM and none was offered.

President Hastings asked for input from the Public at 7:58 PM and none was offered.

President Hastings asked for input from the Public at 7:59 PM and none was offered.

There being no further business, President Hastings requested support of a motion to adjourn the hearing at 8:00 pm. Motion by Trustee Roti seconded by Trustee Morrison

Ayes: Trustees: Roti, Petrey, Morrison, Hastings II, Kissane, Schmidt

Nays: None.

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED- HEARING ADJOURNED.

(Seal)

Jennifer Iannantone
VILLAGE CLERK