

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD  
PUBLIC HEARING ON 2018-19 BUDGET  
TUESDAY—APRIL 10, 2018  
VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM

CALL TO ORDER: Village President Hofeld called the public hearing to order at 7:30 p.m. to discuss the proposed 2018-19 budget. There were approximately 20 members of the public and three press representatives present.

ROLL CALL: Clerk Marilyn Thomas called the roll. Those present were Village President Richard Hofeld, Trustee Barbara Dawkins, Trustee Lisa Purcell, Trustee Karen Washington, Trustee Jay Heiferman and Trustee Larry Burnson.

Director of Finance Dennis Bubenik made a presentation to the board for this, the second year of a two-year budget. Bubenik noted that notice of the budget hearing was published in the Daily Southtown as required by law.

Bubenik said village budget expenditures by department are:  
40% for the Police Department  
23% for the Fire Department  
26% for the Public Works Department  
11% for Village Operations/Administrative Staff

He said over the year these percentages may vary slightly to reflect actual overtime costs.

Bubenik said Homewood has used the budget process as a road map. Homewood has been consistent in setting its priorities, and the board has been able to always have contingency plans should it need to change direction.

He said the Village in 2005 moved to pooling health insurance with other communities: that has been saving money. In the current year's proposed budget, initial projections were for a \$400,000 deficit. However, staff was able to eliminate the projected deficit by aggressively going after debt on the books for outstanding vehicle stickers and court fines; reducing projected expenses for the downtown business development \$50,000, revising projected expenditures for the senior taxi program from \$25,000 to \$5,000.

Bubenik expects the village will see a water rate increase in July from the City of Chicago.

Bubenik reported that the Village has little outstanding debt since it pays off its bond issue over three years. Bond proceeds are used for capital improvements, most recently for capital items such as new financial software and a new fire engine.

Bubenik said budgets are estimates, and the Village was 99 percent on target with its 2016-17 budget. He said using a two-year budget planning cycle gives staff the chance to refine its priorities from year to year, and he said Homewood should be proud of its work in comparison to state and federal legislators who attempt to pass yearly budgets but sometimes fail.

President Hofeld asked Clerk Thomas if there was any written correspondence regarding the proposed budget. None was received.

President Hofeld asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the board on the proposed budget. No one came forward.

President Hofeld and the board thanked Bubenik and Amy Zukowski, assistant finance director, for their outstanding work on the proposed budget. Trustee Burnson said a two-year budget was one of the best things the village has done.

A motion was made by Trustee Purcell and seconded by Trustee Washington to adjourn the special meeting on the proposed 2018-19 budget.

***Roll Call: AYES – Trustees Dawkins, Purcell, Washington, Heiferman and Burnson. NAYS – None. Motion carried.***

The public hearing adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Thomas  
Village Clerk