



Village of Oak Park

123 Madison Street
Oak Park, Illinois 60302
www.oak-park.us

Meeting Minutes

Finance Committee

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

6:30 PM

Council Chambers (Room 201)

1. Call To Order

President Pro Tem Cory Wesley called the Finance Committee Meeting to order at 6:37 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Present: Trustees Parakkat, Robinson, Wesley

Other attendees: Trustees Buchanan, Enyia (joined at 6:45 P.M.), Straw Village President Vicki Scaman joined the Meeting at 6:45 P.M.

Village Clerk Christina Waters joined the Meeting via remote participation per Village policy.

3. Public Comment

There were no comments.

5. New Business

A. [ID 24-486](#) An Update on the Status of the ARPA Funds

Judith Alexander: She said not all of the ARPA funds that were allocated to the North Avenue mural project will be spent in 2024 and requested the funds be carried over into next year.

Management Analyst Arlene Pedraza presented the Item.

Trustee Robinson inquired if the \$7.9M to be categorized as lost revenue would all go into the general fund. Analyst Pedraza said the lost revenue calculation is made up of revenues from the general fund and parking fund. \$6.3M would be transferred to the general fund and \$1.6M to the parking fund. Trustee Robinson said she thinks the \$2.09M should still be earmarked for an ARPA purpose.

Trustee Parakkat inquired about the best way to think about the unspent funds for the North Avenue mural project. Village Manager Kevin Jackson said the Village is still considering that funding being committed for that purpose and spent within the 2026 timeline. Trustee Parakkat said he would go with staff's recommendation on lost revenue.

Trustee Wesley said he supports converting it because it gives us more flexibility though he doesn't want to lose the original intention of using the ARPA funding for community purposes.

Trustee Robinson noted infrastructure is an ARPA-approved purpose. She said she would like to see all of the ARPA funds that had been allocated to the migrant response returned for an ARPA-approved purpose.

Trustee Parakkat said he does not want a scenario where we are allocating it in smaller chunks to different entities and then not being able to spend it and coming back to the Board and us losing the ability to then invest in the community.

Trustee Buchanan inquired about the unused Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) funds for the racial equity assessment initiative implementation. Manager Jackson confirmed it can be re-obligated as part of the budget process. We want to dedicate it to lost revenue because we will not have a contract and commitment by the end of the year and we do not want to lose the flexibility to be able to follow through on the project with the ARPA funds. She inquired about the alternative of not obligating it all. President Scaman said we would have to commit the entire amount by the end of this year. Manager Jackson added that a commitment means there is a contract in place and it must be expended by 2026.

Trustee Enyia said he agrees with Trustee Wesley and he appreciates the transparency.

Trustee Straw said he agrees with the approach of capturing the ARPA dollars as lost revenue to ensure we have the flexibility going forward.

Trustee Buchanan noted no ARPA funds have gone to anything in our Climate Ready Oak Park (CROP) plan. She said she hopes we can use some of that to have the greatest impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

President Scaman said the North Avenue murals are still a priority for her.

6. Adjournment

It was moved by Trustee Wesley, seconded by Trustee Robinson to Adjourn. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:08 P.M., Tuesday, October 8, 2024.

**Respectfully submitted,
Deputy Clerk Hansen**