



Agenda Item Summary

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Submitted By

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Agenda Item Title

Review and Discuss of the Police and Fire Pension Actuarial Reports in Preparation for the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget and Property Tax Levy

Overview

This is the first meeting in a series of meetings the Village schedules annually to prepare for next fiscal year's budget. Each year the Village reviews the actuarial valuations for the Police and Fire pension funds. The Police and Fire Pension Boards are also invited to participate in this conversation.

Anticipated Future Actions/Commitments

As noted above, this is part of a series of meeting to prepare for the next fiscal year budget.

Chapter 2 of the Municipal Code establishes the foundation for the Municipal Budget and provides:

- The Village fiscal year is January 1 - December 31 annually.
- The Board of Trustees must adopt the annual budget prior to the start of the Fiscal Year and passage of the annual budget shall be in lieu of passage of the appropriation ordinance.
- On or before the Village Board of Trustees' first regular meeting in November of each year, the Village Manager shall submit to the Board of Trustees an annual Municipal budget which contains estimates of revenues together with recommended expenditures in conformity with good fiscal management practice.

Report

The Village of Oak Park, pursuant to Sections 9-1-3 and 19-1-3 Municipal Code has established the Firefighters Pension Fund and Police Pension Funds as required by State Statute.

A property tax levy is the sole source of funding for the Police Pension and the Firefighters' Pension Funds. The Village has a contract with Lauterbach & Amen, a certified public accounting firm that has a separate actuarial division, to prepare the two public safety pension actuarial valuations for the Village. Although the Fire and Police Pension Boards have the option to hire their own firm to prepare a valuation and recommend an annual pension contribution, both pension boards have agreed to use L&A, contracted by the Village, for this purpose.

This meeting is a discussion of Lauterbach & Amen's police and firefighter's actuarial valuations.

In the current FY21 (levy year 2020) budget, the public safety pension levies are approximately \$13.1 million of

the total \$35.0 million levy (approximately 37%).

The Police and Firefighters' pension recommended contributions will be 100% funded by the property tax typically approved by the Village Board in December.

The recommended tax year 2021 (for the FY22 budget year) levy data as summarized in the Lauterbach & Amen valuations are as follow:

<i>LAUTERBACH & AMEN</i>					
Current Year 1/1/21 (based of 12/31/20 data)					
	Actuarial Recommended Contribution	Market Value Assets	Total Actuarial Liability	Unfunded Actuarial Liability	Funding Percentage
Police Pension	7,319,950	117,571,210	191,677,584	74,106,374	61.3%
Fire Pension	6,512,755	60,722,635	132,803,381	72,080,746	45.7%
TOTAL	13,832,705	178,293,845	324,480,965	146,187,120	

The tax year 2021 actuarial recommendation is based on data from the fiscal year ending December 31, 2020. Therefore, the property tax distributions dedicated for the police and firefighter pensions in FY22 are based on actuarial data from 2020. This timing delay is necessary due to the fact that the actuary must use audited data (12/31/20 is the most recent audit) and Cook County distributions are one year in arrears (calendar year 2022 distributions are determined from the tax year 2021 levy).

Compared to current fiscal year 2021, the FY22 police levy recommendation is increasing by \$346,416, from \$6,973,534, to \$7,319,950 while the fire pension levy is increasing by \$374,543, from \$6,138,212 to \$6,512,755. The combined total recommended levy increase is \$720,959 compared to the prior year.

Pages 9 through 11 of the actuarial valuations explain and summarize the primary reasons for the recommended contribution increases.

Please note that although neither Board has formally submitted their FY22 levy requests, it is anticipated that each will request the L&A recommended amount. Each pension fund board meets on a quarterly and the actuarial valuations are typically an item for discussion and review on their agendas.

The pension boards were also provided the option to request L&A to attend one of their quarterly meetings for a thorough presentation and the opportunity for pension board members to ask questions. Some pension board members may also attend the L&A presentation tonight to the Village Board to observe and participate as needed in the discussion.

