

## **AMSTON LAKE DISTRICT**

Special Budget Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2022 7:00 P.M.

Remote meeting via Zoom

[www.amstonlake.org](http://www.amstonlake.org)

### **A. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **B. Roll Call of Officers and Directors**

Present: F. Hoisl, B. Pelegano, A. Connor, L. Bowen, A. Fichtel, T. Nixon, K. Patterson, J. Greenfield. Absent: T. LaMontagne.

### **C. Review and Discussion of 2022-23 Budget Proposal**

A. Connor reviewed and explained the draft General Fund and Lebanon Road Fund budgets as prepared from each board member's inputs and emailed prior to the meeting. The 2022-23 General Fund spending budget of \$158,825 and the Lebanon Roads budget of \$38,700 are reductions of \$15,980 and \$1,300 respectively in planned spending over the current year's plan. She noted that in recent years, including the current one, actual spending has been less than amounts budgeted. This has resulted in an accumulation of surplus tax revenues collected that continue to increase.

For the past several years, the District has approved using accumulated tax revenue surpluses to cover current year spending, thereby reducing current taxes charged to residents. So in addition to more reasonable spending projections, the budget proposed using \$30,000 of the estimated \$50,000 General Fund tax surplus; and using the estimated remaining Lebanon Roads tax surplus of \$7,700 to cover current expenses. Several board members opposed this idea for the General Fund, wanting to tax the residents on the full amount of the General Fund spending of \$158,825. However, they proposed taxing residents at the same level as last year and only using approximately \$20,000 of the surplus, or \$10,000 less than what A. Connor and F. Hoisl recommended. Their reasoning was that by keeping taxes at the same level as last year, it would give residents certainty in their taxes, and possibly avoid a larger tax increase sometime in the future.

### **D. Recognition of Guests, Residents, and Property Owners**

There were no guests or residents requesting recognition.

### **E. Motion to Approve Recommendation of 2022-23 Budget**

Motion to approve recommending the 2022-23 budget, as presented by Treasurer A. Connor, to the residents at the annual meeting with a total expense budget of \$197,525 (A. Connor/A. Fichtel). In favor: A. Connor, A. Fichtel, L. Bowen. Opposed: T. Nixon, J. Greenfield, K. Patterson, B. Pelegano. Motion failed.

Motion to adjust the budget that A. Connor presented by adjusting the surplus used so that we are only using as much surplus as we need to keep the General Fund taxes flat from last year's budget (K. Patterson/J. Greenfield). In favor: J. Greenfield, T. Nixon, K. Patterson, B. Pelegano. Opposed: A. Connor, A. Fichtel, L. Bowen. Motion passed.

A. Connor asked President Hoisl who would present the budget at the annual meeting as she was uncomfortable presenting a budget that she did not support. Discussion ensued. Motion to return to recommending the budget as originally presented by Treasurer A. Connor for the fiscal year 2022-23 to the residents at the annual meeting (J. Greenfield/L. Bowen). In favor: L. Bowen, A. Fichtel, J. Greenfield, K. Patterson, T. Nixon, B. Pelegano. Abstained: A. Connor. Motion passed. An email blast will alert the residents that the recommended budget will be posted to the website by Monday, May 16.

**F. Review/Discussion of Lake Manager Slides**

F. Hoisl explained that the Lake Health Committee is running low on the number of volunteers willing to complete the amount of testing that is necessary. He briefly went over some slides he planned to present to the residents at the annual meeting to spur discussion and gauge their interest in establishing a paid lake manager role to help in those efforts.

**G. Review of Open Actions to Complete Annual Presentation**

F. Hoisl stated that he would contact each director individually this week for their input regarding the open items needed to complete the annual meeting presentation.

**H. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn (K.Patterson/J. Greenfield) unanimously approved at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Liz Bowen, Clerk  
Amston Lake District

Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.