

**Village of Buchanan
Mayor & Board of Trustees
Budget Hearing
April 9, 2025**

PRESENT: (This meeting was held live and via Zoom)

Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker
Trustees Awilda Baez, Anthony Capicotti, Steve Laker, Daniel Stewart
Village Administrator Marcus Serrano
Deputy Village Clerk Sharon Murphy
Deputy Treasurer Dominic Evangelista

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Knickerbocker called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

2. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Consider a Motion to Open Public Hearing on 2025-2026 Tentative Budget.

A motion to open the public hearing was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Baez, with all in favor.

Presentation on 2025-2026 Tentative Budget.

Administrator Serrano stated that all the information is on the website.

Mayor Knickerbocker stated that the tax increase is anticipated to be 4.11% for 2025-2026.

Trustee Stewart there is no money in the celebration line. Trustee Stewart raised the question, how is the Village going to plan for the 100th Anniversary. Trustee Laker stated that the Playground Special Events line is not really used and could be allocated to the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Village.

Also, there were concerns that Buchanan Engine has not been audited and that should be done as soon as possible.

The Board went page-by-page. Significant questions asked by the Board to Village Administrator Serrano were the following and Administrator Serrano will address these questions with an email:

- ❖ Page 14, Interfund Transfers – currently budgeted amount of \$550,000 when previously budgeted 100,000.
- ❖ Page 27 regarding police overtime.
- ❖ Page 43 - Street Sweeping- When and how much did Fred Cook charge for this service.
- ❖ Page 44 of the detail-expense line 8020.460 – what was the expenses for the increase of funds.

The Village has a healthy general fund. A discussion regarding taking \$50,000 out of the Contingency Fund to offset one percent of the tax increase.

A Motion to continue the Budget Hearing until April 22, 2025 was made by Mayor Knickerbocker and seconded by Trustee Baez, with all in favor.

3. COMMENTS:

Eileen Absenger, 138 Tate Avenue. Ms. Absenger agrees that the Board has to look into the future with all the uncertainty of the Village's future revenues. Zero tax increases are not financially wise. Stated that the tentative budget should remain unchanged.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION;

At 7:56 P.M. a Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss negotiations was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Laker with all in favor.

5. ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:20 P.M. a Motion to exit executive session was made by Trustee Baez and seconded by Trustee Capicotti with all in favor.

At 8:20 P.M. a Motion to adjourn this meeting was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Baez with all in favor. No monies were expended.