

'Audacious . . . Masterpiece performance'
 -- Rod Dow, Foley & Lardner



ShorewoodVillage.com

'Comprehensive . . . Relentless'
 -- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

November 18, 2004

[Media & Democracy Forum, Nov. 29, 6:30 p.m., at the Village Center](#)

[Shorewood swimmers overpower rivals at Badgerland Invitational](#)

Property tax levy up 2.5% over 2004

Trustees OK \$9.7 million 2005 Village budget

SHOREWOOD, Wis. (Nov. 15, 2004) – The Village Board on Monday approved a 2005 general government [budget](#) of \$9.71 million, 1.74 percent higher than the 2004 budgeted expenditures of \$9.54 million.

The measure calls for a tax levy increase of 2.5 percent over the \$7.3 million 2004 levy for general government operations. The general government category covers expenses such as village attorney fees, which were cut

2.8 percent from the \$102,206 budgeted in 2004. (Projected 2004 expenditures for the part-time village attorney, which are not restricted by any fiscal policy, are \$115,232 – nearly 13 percent more than budgeted.)

The spending package, which passed by a 6-0 vote, followed months of Budget & Finance Committee meetings that cut spending requests that if granted would have resulted in a property tax levy increase of 19 percent.

The Budget & Finance Committee members are trustees Kellie Lang, Guy Johnson and Michael Phinney,

although other trustees dropped in for meetings from time to time.

Trustees on Monday unanimously decided to use \$378,500 from the general fund surplus of more than \$1 million to reduce the levy increase, rejecting Trustee Ellen Eckman's lengthy discourses that waffled between reasons for retaining a hefty contingency surplus and using

the money to repair roads. In the end, Eckman voted against what she asserted was her tax-but-don't-spend position.

The adopted budget includes increases of 31.3 percent for Village Board expenditures, 15.1 percent for the municipal court, 1.7 percent for police, 5.53 percent for fire protection, 1.76 percent for the Health Department and 49 percent for the Village Center.

Village President Mark Kohlenberg was not present for the vote Monday.



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