

**Village of Bluffton  
Finance Committee Meeting  
June 13, 2024 @ 12:00 PM**

Committee member present, David Steiner, and Phil Talavinia, Mayor Johnson  
Staff present, Jesse Blackburn, Village Administrator and Kevin Nickel, Fiscal Officer, Bryan Lloyd Assistant Administrator Police Chief Ryan Burkholder, Fire Chief Jon Kinn and EMS Chief Jan Basinger.

The committee reviewed Ordinance 04-2024 to request that the voters of the Village of Bluffton approve an increase in income tax of 0.4% for 20 years to fund the capital needs and operating expenses of the safety services departments of the village. There was discussion regarding the allocation of these funds included in the final reading of the Ordinance and to be included in the Ordinance enacting the 0.4% income tax if approved by the voters of the Village. After discussion the committee decided to recommend the allocation of the 0.4% income tax 77% for the operations of the safety services departments, 21.5% Fire & EMS Capital and 1.5% Police Capital.

77% operations of the safety services, if approved by the voters, would be placed into a Safety Services Operating fund. The full EMS payroll and operating expenses would be paid from this fund. In the event the Village is unable to fully staff the EMS department due to labor shortages being experienced in the United States some of the excess could be used to fund operating expenses in the Police and Fire departments. This would reduce the general fund expenditure for these services.

21.5% of the 0.4% tax collected would be used to purchase Fire and rescue vehicles along with other capital equipment.

1.5% of the 0.4% tax collected would be used for new additional costs for equipment in the Police Department.

If the 0.4% income tax generates \$1,000,000 the allocation would be as follows:

Safety Services Operating	77.0%	770,000.00
Fire & EMS Capital	21.5%	215,000.00
Police Capital	1.5%	15,000.00
Total	100.0%	1,000,000.00

Projections to determine the amount needed used current income tax revenues with inflation applied for the next 20 years. The above is only an example.

The meeting adjourned at 12:57 PM.

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David Steiner

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Phil Talavinia