Joint Human Services Committee/Human Services Board 2023 Budget meeting
Minutes of Meeting
October 19, 2022 – 5:30 pm. Kenosha County Human Services/Job Center building

Human Services Committee Members Present: Supervisors Nedweski, Stocker, Stock, Geertsen, Kubicki, Yuhas and Gentz.
YIG Present: Eric LaMere and Erika Bando
Human Services Board Member present: Terrance Warthen, Thomas Casey, Ellen Kupfer and Richard Willoughby
Human Services Board members excused: Supervisor Berg
Brookside Board of Trustees Present: Chairman Bob Pitts, Judy Jensen, Supervisor O’Day and Supervisor Chair Nudo

Others Present: John Jansen, Tammy Capito, Nina Jones, David Rivera, Kimm Peters, Kari Foss, Heather Vanoss, Donna Esposito, Zasmine Lewis, Carly Sowma, Lynda Bogdala, Lori Plahmer, Dr. Jen Freiheit, Patty Merrill, Jacquetta Gearheart, Tracey Pelishek, Ron Rogers, Patty Hall, Terri Niesen, Pamela Condos, Rebecca Dutter, Nina Taylor, Doug Bartz, Kevin Loef, Dustin Feeney, Olivia Livingston, Teresa Lopez, Katie Hanks, Barna Bencs, Ali Nelson (on phone), Tamara Coleman, Kathy Andrea and Ron Tatum.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
The meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm by Supervisor Nedweski. Roll call was taken.

2. Human Services Committee Chairperson Comments- Thank you everyone for preparing the budget. Thank you for everyone for coming tonight.

3. Citizen’s Comments- none

4. Presentation and Approval of the 2023 Department of Human Services Budget and 3rd Quarter update-
Tammy thanked everyone for attending

   a. DHS Overview- Tammy stated that they are projecting a $2 million surplus for 2022.
      i. Division of Aging, Disability and Behavioral Health Services (DADBHS) is projecting a surplus of $850,000
      ii. Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) is projecting a surplus of $1.2 million
      iii. Medical Examiner (ME) is projecting a $15,000 surplus
      iv. Kenosha County Public Health (KCPH) is projecting a $75,000 surplus.
      v. Brookside Care Center, through the end of August, is exhibiting a $2 million loss and
      vi. Willowbrook is showing a $54,000 profit.

The levy request for 2023 is a $737,000 increase over the 2022 adopted budget.

There is a 1% wage scale adjustment for all staff. There is also a 3% wage adjustment in the 2023 budget.

   b. Veteran Services – Tammy went over the changes for 2023. The 1% wage increase across the board and a 3% wage scale adjustment.

A motion was made by Supervisor Geertsen to accept the Veteran Services budget, seconded by Supervisor Kubicki. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Richard Willoughby to accept the Veteran Services budget, seconded by Ellen Kupfer. All in Favor. Motion carried unanimously.

   c. Brookside Care Center – Brookside Care Center is a county owned nursing home facility and has 154 licensed beds and are exhibiting a $2 million loss. Budgeted census beds for 2022 were 134. The current census is at 97.6 which is why we are at a loss. Covid is not the issue now, it is staffing. This is a
problem all over the nation. We are putting a lot of money into staffing in the 2023 budget. Tammy went over the personnel changes with some positions being reclassified. There were wage increases in 2022 already for retention and recruitment. Unidine is the majority of the contractual changes. When the Board of Trustees met, Chairman Nudo had some concerns on the Unidine with where we are now. Tammy, John and Lynda met with Unidine on where they could bring the budget down. Tammy stated that she is looking for a motion to reduce the Brookside budget by $317,000. It will bring it to a break even and not an increase in the 2023 budget.

Chairman Nedweski asked what the risk was in reducing it and how will they do it? Tammy stated that they are going to restructure, close some of the dining rooms and combine some dining rooms. The dining room neighborhood feel that we have is very costly in labor. Discussion was had where that $317,000 is reduced.

A motion was made by Supervisor Geertsen to reduce the budget $317,000, seconded by Supervisor Stocker. All in favor. **Motion carried unanimously.**

A motion was made by Ellen Kupfer to reduce the budget $317,000, seconded by Terrance Warthen. All in Favor. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Tammy continued going through different sections of the changes in the budget.

Chairman Nedweski questioned the cost of the carpet cleaner. Lynda stated that it is a commercial grade cleaner. They are used a lot. Supervisor Nedweski also asked about the tubs. Lynda stated that they are custom made for nursing homes. They last a very long time.

Census-budgeted 134 beds for 2022. Putting 128 beds for 2023. The problem is not having enough CNA’s. We are putting $500,000 in wages for staffing and when we have more staff, we can increase staff. We are turning away referrals because we don’t have staff.

This budget was unanimously passed with the Brookside Board of Trustees on October 10, 2022.

Supervisor Yuhas asked what the insurance is going to be for employees in 2023 as if insurance or deductibles go up it may not bring in staff even with the wage increase. Barna Bencs had an overview of the proposed insurance package.

Very much discussion was had on the wages for CNA’s. Lynda Bogdala is in support of paying a decent wage. There is a facility in Kenosha that is paying their CNA’s $25/hour and they had to halt admissions because they don’t have enough staff. Half a million health care workers left the industry during the pandemic. We have to grow CNA’s. Working with the WisCaregiver program. The State of WI is working with us. Individuals can pick a facility to sign up for classes. This program helps pay for the course and training, all while the employee is working in that facility, they pass the course and continue working. They will then receive a $500 retention bonus after 6 months of employment. We are one of these facilities. Lynda stated that when we have the CNA’s we will be filling the beds. There were 44 denials in August due to staffing.

More discussion was had on wages. *(audio of the full meeting is online)*

A motion was made by Supervisor Geertsen to accept the Brookside budget, seconded by Supervisor Stocker. All in favor. **Motion carried unanimously.**

A motion was made by Ellen Kupfer to accept the Brookside budget, seconded by Terrance Warthen. All in Favor. **Motion carried unanimously.**
d. **Willowbrook** - Tammy stated that the budgeted census is 23. Currently we are at 23.5. At this time, they are making a profit. Tammy went through the changes in the budget. There will also be a 7% rate increase for residents in 2023.

This budget was passed unanimously at the Brookside Board of Trustees meeting on October 10, 2022.

A motion was made by Supervisor Geertsen to accept the Willowbrook budget, seconded by Supervisor Yuhas. All in favor. *Motion carried unanimously.*

A motion was made by Ellen Kupfer to accept the Willowbrook budget, seconded by Terrance Warthen. All in Favor. *Motion carried unanimously.*

Lynda introduced Olivia Livingston, the new Willowbrook manager.

e. **Office of the Director** – Tammy went through changes in the budget. The levy is $710,429 which is $112,472 higher than 2022.

A motion was made by Supervisor Yuhas to accept the Office of the Director budget, seconded by Supervisor Geertsen. All in favor. *Motion carried unanimously.*

A motion was made by Ellen Kupfer to accept the Office of the Director budget, seconded by Terrance Warthen. All in Favor. *Motion carried unanimously.*

f. **Central Services** Central Services is divided in two areas. The Job Center building costs and the county wide mail room which has a levy. The levy is $247,081 which is $4,581 higher than 2022.

A motion was made by Supervisor Geertsen to accept the Central Services budget, seconded by Supervisor Stocker. All in Favor. *Motion carried unanimously.*

A motion was made by Ellen Kupfer to accept the Central Services Budget, seconded by Terrance Warthen. All in Favor. *Motion carried unanimously.*

g. **Workforce Development** – Tammy stated that there was a levy decrease of $34,000/-2.5%. She went through the rest of the changes in this Division.

A motion was made by Supervisor Yuhas to accept the Division of Workforce Development budget, seconded by Supervisor Kubicki. All in favor. *Motion carried unanimously.*

A motion was made by Ellen Kupfer to accept the Division of Workforce Development budget, seconded by Terrance Warthen. All in Favor. *Motion carried unanimously.*

h. **Medical Examiner**- There is an increase of levy of $140,805/28.5%

A motion was made by Supervisor Geertsen to accept the Medical Examiners budget, seconded by Supervisor Yuhas. All in favor. *Motion carried unanimously.*

A motion was made by Ellen Kupfer to accept the Medical Examiners budget, seconded by Richard Willoughby. All in Favor. *Motion carried unanimously.*

There was a 10-minute break.

i. **Health**- KCPH is split in 4 areas – Clinic Services, Environmental Services, Public Health and Outbreak. FTE changes- in the current budget book it states to increase 2.29 FTE’s but there is an error. There is a
.65 school nurse and a .4 Public Health Nurse which we will be decreasing when we get to the adopted budget. Tammy continued with the changes. The personnel change would decrease the levy by $68,000.

A motion was made by Supervisor Geertsen to decrease the levy by $68,000, seconded by Supervisor Kubicki. All in favor. **Motion carried unanimously.**

A motion was made by Ellen Kupfer to decrease the levy by $68,000, seconded by Terrance Warthen. All in favor. **Motion carried unanimously.**

The levy increase would be $379,000/25.7%. With the motion to reduce the levy $68,000 it becomes $311,000. Supervisor Geertsen noted that $300,000 of this increase is related to the reduction in the city contribution.

The Health budget was passed unanimously by the Board of Health on October 11, 2022.

A motion was made by Supervisor Geertsen to accept the Division of Health’s budget, seconded by Supervisor Kubicki. All in favor. **Motion carried unanimously.**

A motion was made by Ellen Kupfer to accept the Division of Health’s budget, seconded by Terrance Warthen. All in Favor. **Motion carried unanimously.**

j. **Aging, Disability and Behavioral Services:** This division is made up of 5 areas. Adult Protective Services, Resource Center, Community Living Support Services, Transportation Services and Behavioral Health. Projecting a surplus of $737,000.

Levy would be decreased by $82,000/-1.7%.

This budget was passed unanimously at the Commission on Aging and Disability Services on October 10, 2022.

A motion was made by Supervisor Gentz to accept the Aging, Disability and Behavioral Services budget, seconded by Supervisor Yuhas. All in favor. **Motion carried unanimously.**

A motion was made by Ellen Kupfer to accept the Aging, Disability and Behavioral Services budget, seconded by Richard Willoughby. All in Favor. **Motion carried unanimously.**

k. **Children and Family Services:** this division is made up of 5 areas – Child welfare services, youth justice services, out of home placements, children with special needs services and prevention services. They are projecting a $2.6 million surplus. Tammy went through the additional changes in the budget.

Levy increase of $200,412/2%.

Discussion was had by members on project permanency and child support orders.

A motion was made by Supervisor Geertsen to accept the Division of Children and Family Services budget, seconded by Supervisor Stock. All in favor. **Motion carried unanimously.**

A motion was made by Ellen Kupfer to accept the Division of Children and Family Services budget, seconded by Terrance Warthen. All in Favor. **Motion carried unanimously.**

5. **Committee members Comments:** Chairman Pitts said thank you to Tammy. You did a great job presenting this budget. Also thank you to all the division heads. Chairman Nedweski stated that she seconds Chairman Pitts’ comments.
6. **Any other business as authorized by law** – none

7. **Adjournment**-Motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Stock, seconded by Supervisor Geerts. **Motion carried unanimously.**

   A motion was made by Ellen Kupfer to adjourn, seconded by Terrance Warthen. All in Favor. **Motion carried unanimously.**

   Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Duberstine, Senior Administrative Assistant
Office of the Director

(A recording of the meeting minutes is available online)