

FINANCE MEETING MINUTES
April 15th, 2020

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Chair Dave Sluka

Roll Call: Ben Prescott, Dave Sluka, Alternate Scott Weaver, and Jenny August.

Others: Mayor Linda Clark, Councilwoman Paula Tubalkain, Police Chief Joe Urso, Solicitor Michele Stuck hosting the Finance meeting through Zoom due to Covid-19 distancing restrictions.

Citizens: None

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

There was no discussion.

- ❖ Motion to accept the March Finance minutes as presented by Ben, seconded by Dave. All voted yes.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Jenny reviewed the work orders from C.T. Consultants that will be coming to Council Tuesday. These are for the Restoration 44 site plan review-\$500, the rate analysis \$5000 and additional utility negotiations for \$6,000, also, Phase 2 of W. Prospect St. for \$7500, and the Buchert Park Trail Phase 2 & 3 which is an additional \$4000, the Orchard St. guy wire is \$800, and an additional \$32,000 for the Reservoir project.

Then Jenny reviewed the financial reports. Looking at the appropriation status report, Dave noted that Police overtime and Police telephone appropriations are nearly all used up. Jenny said we will need to add money to the telephone appropriations. Chief Urso said the phone bills have finally stabilized so we can determine the actual amount needed, and the overtime is all related to staffing issues. The overtime is up, but the Police Officer appropriations are under.

Paula said we may not be getting as much income tax and she finds this very scary. She was also very concerned about C.T. Consultants asking for an additional \$32,000 for work on the Reservoir Rehabilitation project. The costs are really adding up, and we have not even seen a plan on paper yet.

- ❖ Motion to forward the Financial Reports to Council by Ben, seconded by Dave. All voted yes.

BILLS OF RESOLUTION:

There was no discussion on the bills.

- ❖ Motion to forward the Bills of Resolution to Council by Ben, seconded by Dave. All voted yes.

LEGISLATION:

ORD. 2019-60 This was to add a surcharge to the water & sewer bills. It was tabled at the last Council meeting. The Service Committee is recommending that Council take this off the table and vote it down since new legislation is coming.

RES. 2020-02 This is the final reading for legislation that is related to the referendum. This would direct the Board of Elections to put it on the ballot in November. No discussion.

RES. 2020-13 This is granting ODOT consent to do a bridge project in the village. 1st Reading. Dave said the exhibit A is missing that outlines the services that are covered. We will see if there is an exhibit A to be reviewed at Council.

ORD. 2020-14 This is to change the handbook procedure to hire someone. 1st Reading.

ORD. 2020-15 This is to add an additional \$30 to the base flat rate to sewer to help cover operating costs. Mayor Clark said this is necessary to keep the sewer fund in the black. Dave asked if there is a limit on this.

ORD. 2020-16 This is an additional \$30 surcharge on the water capital improvement monthly charge.

RES. 2020-17- This is opposing a Cleveland-Akron District being formed. The Cleveland District is trying to combine the Akron District to their district. This would cause us to lose money.

RES. 2020-18- This is to solicit bids for 500 new water meters. The company that was here at Finance last month offered financing. Jenny can check with Middlefield about financing also. Paula said this program will not only save on service dept. wages, but will help us detect problems with our resident's water usage.

ORD. 2020-19- This is an easement from Compass Packaging for Ohio Edison to move the poles. This is an easement between Compass Packaging and Ohio Edison relating to the Orchard St. Widening project.

There may be Ordinance 2020-20 which would be a contract with the county to operate our plants, but it is not finalized yet. We hope to have it for Council to look over Tuesday night. They would like to see a 10-year commitment. Paula would like to see what kind of increase the county will have for us annually.

DISCUSSIONS:

2021 Budget

Jenny provided the Finance Committee with her budget, and she also has one from Joe and one from John for service. We will schedule a budget workshop at the Council meeting. John made a few changes from the one Jenny made. There is nothing budgeted for Park Improvement, so John added \$8500 to get some playground equipment and redo the volleyball area. For the sewer operating fund, Jenny had \$25,000 and John has \$55,000, plus 30,000 to contractual services. Jenny said this would put the sewer fund in the negative. The Mayor said he based that on Council adding the \$30 to the sewer base rate. He added an additional \$192,000 to water capital improvements based on the proposed increase passing.

NEW OR OTHER BUSINESS:

Mayor Clark asked Council to read the letter Michele put together about not shutting people off or charging late fee's during the pandemic. This will be discussed at Council Tuesday. Also, Mayor Clark wants everyone to be ready to discuss the due date of water bills and whether or not there is a grace period. Chapters 941.21 b and c. is what to read.

Paula said she is sorry that Bob Gaglione has resigned.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn at 7:03 pm by Dave, seconded by Ben. All ayes on vote.