

**The FINANCE COMMITTEE held a Meeting on  
MONDAY, MAY 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 beginning at 8:40 P.M.**

**FINANCE PRESENT:** Chair Stewart, Tollett, Cerra, Davis, Schneider

**CD PRESENT:** Chair Callahan, Mitchell, Lipian, Oswald, Schneider

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Law Dir Deery, Safety Service Dir Brubaker, Mayor Whitfield,  
Finance Dir Pileski, Asst Dir Calvert, Police Chief Pelko,  
Council Members Simmons and Corbin

**1. Approval of the Finance Committee Meeting Minutes ~ May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022.**

**Mr. Cerra moved, second by Mr. Tollett to approve the 'said' meeting minutes.**

**2. The matter of finding Police Vehicles unfit for Municipal Use, to sell on Govdeals. Referred By: Police Chief Pelko**

Chief Pelko said there is a 1999 speed trailer and a 1990 Chevy van that they would like to place on govdeals.com. They haven't been in use for some time and it's not cost effective to have them repaired and they are no longer of any use to the department.

Motion to amend the committee report to include the 1999 speed trailer was made by Mr. Cerra and second by Mr. Schneider.

**Mr. Cerra moved and Mr. Schneider seconded to recommend a resolution authorizing the Safety Dir to declare 'said' property unfit.**

**MOTION MADE COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN**

**Mr. Cerra moved and Mr. Tollett seconded to recommend an ordinance authorizing to dispose of 'said' vehicles by auctioning on govdeals.**

**MOTION MADE COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN**

**3. The matter of applying for a Grant to Fund the Purchase of body-worn cameras for the Police Department.**

**Referred By: Police Chief Pelko**

This matter was pulled by Chief Pelko at this time.

**4. The matter of authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into contract for the Reconstruction of E. Broad Street.**

**Referred By: Engineer McKillips** *(This matter will also go to Utilities Committee on June 1<sup>st</sup>)*

Engineer McKillips said this is for construction of East Broad St from Abbe Rd to East River Street. It will including the resurfacing and widening of the road to 3 lanes and upgrading traffic control signals and other safety improvements. Estimated start date is August 2022. As soon as they get Federal authorization, they will be able to go out for bid. Estimated construction cost is \$7,712,081. City share is estimated at \$944,735. The project will be funded in the state fiscal year 2023 and we cannot advertise prior to receiving the Federal authorization.

Chair Stewart said they have to have those numbers put on the Committee Report based on the breakdown or put 'per the attached'.

Law Dir Breunig said if we're committing CD dollars for a match that will be listed in the ordinance authorizing this.

Finance Dir Pileski confirmed the total cost is \$7,812,081, city share is \$941,735. He asked if it's in the muni motor vehicle fund in this year's appropriations?

Engineer McKillips said not all of it's coming out of muni motor, part will come of water fund. Dir Pileski said the remainder of \$7.7 million less the City share still has to be appropriated. He will have to amend the certificate of estimated resources and then have that amount appropriated in the East Broad Street Widening Fund.

Eng McKillips said it's \$444,735 is muni motor and \$500,000 out of water fund. And we won't receive Federal authorization until after July 1<sup>st</sup>. And then go out for bid.

Dir Pileski said we can appropriate the Federal share at the next Finance Meeting. He believes the City share is already appropriated.

Dir Breunig believes we're authorizing the project including the City match and Federal match which will later be appropriated. So we can go forward with this piece of this, subject to that later appropriation.

Chair Stewart said there were some questions of the drawings when we had the first conversations on this project. He asked if those have been addressed?

Engineer McKillips said yes.

**Mr. Cerra moved and Mrs. Davis seconded to recommend an ordinance to advertise for bids and enter into a contract for 'said' project.**

**MOTION MADE**

**COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN**

**5. The matter of authorizing the Mayor to submit applications for a grant and/or loan from OPWC (Ohio Public Works Commission) for the year 2023.**

**Referred By: Engineer McKillips** *(This matter will also go to Utilities Committee on June 1<sup>st</sup>)*

Engineer McKillips said this year applications for Ohio Public Works projects are due in early Sept. And applications need to get started as soon as possible. We have to go thru a preliminary design process to get good estimates and the application paperwork completed and turn into LC Engineer's office by their deadline. They are looking at 6 streets; Chestnut Ridge, (Stillwater to 57), Abbe S, (Chestnut to University), Lake Ave (113 to Parmely), Furnace (Lake to W River, W River (Furnace to 57) and Foster (Furnace to Lorain). Those that scored the highest, OPWC determines which will get funded for next year and they will be included in the 2023 budget.

Law Dir Breunig asked if there is a City dollar match?

Engineer McKillips said yes. It will be anywhere from 11 to 25 percent match.

**Mr. Schneider moved and Mrs. Davis seconded to recommend an ordinance to advertise for bids and enter into a contract for 'said' project.**

**MOTION MADE**

**COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN**

**6. The matter of authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into a contract for the Wet Weather Program-East Side Relief Project, Phase 1D and 2N.**

**Referred By: Engineer McKillips** *(This matter will also go to Utilities Committee on June 1<sup>st</sup>)*

Engineer McKillips said this is the next phase of this project. It's been discussed in previous meetings. They submitted the PTI to the EPA in February and waiting for permit from EPA and waiting for the EPA loan which will fund the project. It's anticipated to be awarded in July. This next phase will start from Longfellow, where they ended the last phase, go down Poplar to Harwood, down Harwood to Dilworth, down Dilworth to Gulf to East Bridge and it will end just before the RR Tracks on E Bridge because of the Cleveland St road project. They will start the work on E Bridge to get that portion of the project completed first. Then will jump back onto Poplar St. They may have 2 crews working at the same time, depending on the contractor. The loan thru the EPA is about \$20 million, it may end up more because of inflationary costs with the construction industry. The number they submitted with the PTI application was the \$20 million.

Chair Stewart asked when they will start and what is the timeline?

Eng McKillips said they would like to advertise in end of June or July. The concrete chamber could start as soon as 30 - 60 days after project is awarded. There's a lead time for the pipe material of 90 - 120 days. The actual work on E Bridge will start end of summer/early fall. E Bridge project will be 6 months, if only one crew. They will be on Poplar at the beginning of Spring, in front of St Jude at the beginning of summer next year. Once they have the contractor on board they will have a public meeting and all businesses and residents will be invited.

Fin Dir Pileski asked if Eng McKillips said \$20 million and is it in the budget?

Eng McKillips said \$19 million was put in the budget, but it will have to be increased to \$20 million and may have to increase it again due to inflation. The amount she is applying with DEFA is \$20,068,000. The number that was sent down for the PTI was \$20 million. She doesn't have the number that needs to be bid out yet because they're waiting for the permit from the EPA and depending where their final comments come in at. We'll take those comments and finalize the estimates with the current construction costs.

Chair Stewart said we should bring this to another meeting so that these numbers can be squared away.

Fin Dir said he will have to amend his certificate of estimated resources for the Federal share and that will enable him to appropriate the money and he'll have to look at the appropriations to see if it's in fact appropriated. He suggested that there needs to be more communication prior to meetings about these projects.

**This item was removed and Table to the next Finance Meeting in June.**

## **7. The matter of authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Youngstown, Ohio to be a sponsor for the OEPA Water Resource Restoration Sponsorship Program.**

Referred By: Engineer McKillips *(This matter will also go to Utilities Committee on June 1<sup>st</sup>)*

Engineer McKillips said this item has to do with the previous item. Youngstown has contacted us about being a sponsor for their project. They are doing a water resources restoration project which requires a sponsor who is utilizing a WPCLF Loan which we are, which would be our \$20 million dollar East Side Relief Sewer which utilizes a loan that has the ability to sponsor a water restoration project that can only be funded thru the interest of a WPCLF Loan. Our project is large enough to help fund their project. By being a sponsor, our obligation would be doing paper work for their loan / our loan. No financial obligation on the City's part, just time on the Engineer's part. We would partner with Youngstown in their project and partners in improving the water in their river and their project by removing dams on the Mahoney River, our sponsorship would include paper work, signing off on their payments submit to EPA, making a site visit. She provided draft paperwork to make sure it's something we would want to do. There is time-line that needs to be followed because our loan that's going to be awarded is coming up in July and this needs to be done prior to our loan being awarded. We would receive a point 1% discount on our loan, which could be around \$300,000 over the course of the loan.

Chair Stewart asked if she's aware of other cities that have participated in something like this and what have they benefitted from it?

Eng McKillips said she hasn't had an opportunity to see if any local communities have participated. It is a Statewide program and has been around awhile. It's a program that cities that participate in Water Resources Restoration Program. They reach out to cities that do the WPCLF Loans and in turn for those cities that do those loans, they are encouraged to reach out to cities that are doing these projects that require sponsors to get a discount on their loans. Those that plan to protect and improve water resources within the State of Ohio. Youngstown has that dam removal project. The City would receive an interest rate discount and we can apply to be a sponsor for more than one project.

The goal is to counter to loss of ecological function and biological diversity. It's a program that's geared toward the clearing water act. It's a State revolving fund loan program cannot fund their project as a stand alone project. There has to be a letter of intent signed by Elyria and Youngstown and sent to the EPA prior to the award. The loan will be awarded July 1<sup>st</sup>. Law Dir Breunig asked for clarification about this matter being in conjunction with the previous item. Do both programs have to be participants in the loan program, which we tabled and won't have approval on until July meeting. Will that effect our eligibility, does the letter of intent have to be a prerequisite of the other?

Eng McKillips said no, as long as we know we're doing the WPCLF Loan for the sewer project because that's the only way we can fund that project. We know we have the intent, but until we pass it, we're not a participant in that program because we haven't authorized it.

Chair Stewart asked; To reap the benefits of the tenth of a percent discount, we're tabling the previous item and will be at the deadline for July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Eng McKillips; This will allow us to issue a letter of intent it only says we agree to move forward with our project.

Dir Breunig said the note at the bottom of the application that the sponsor, which is us, will submit a resolution adopted by the governing body indication that we will sponsor the project. He's questioning how we can put the cart before the horse, authorizing a letter on intent to go forward with the project when we haven't authorized the project. Since we just tabled the last item, and their so closely tied together, he wants to make sure we do it in the right order so we don't disqualify ourselves or Youngstown.

Eng McKillips will speak to the EPA to get further info on time-lines.

Dir Breunig said we could authorize a letter of support for the project.

**This item was removed and Table to the next Finance Meeting in June.**

## **8. The matter of authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into a contract for the Fuller Road Resurfacing Road Project.**

Referred By: Engineer McKillips *(This matter will also go to Utilities Committee on June 1<sup>st</sup>)*

Eng McKillips said monies have been appropriated however they did have a conversation with the LC Engineer's office and they decided to partner with them in replacing the Fuller Road Bridge as part of this project. Because of that we will be fronting the county share of the road bridge prior to invoicing and receiving their payment for it. Prior to this we were going to install a separate pedestrian bridge on the north side of Fuller Rd and they went out to bid and it came in higher that anticipated. The LC Engineer's office contacted them and suggested we partner with them. We will add another section of culvert pipe to the road. That's what they will do and will attach the walkway and move forward in that manner. The total cost is \$347,000 for the bridge plus the \$291,000.

Chair Stewart asked how the monies are appropriated?

Dir Pileski said the resurfacing part of the project is appropriated which is the \$291,700. The additional cost of \$347,000, and the county share will be \$157,000, but they will reimburse us that portion so it still has to be appropriated.

Fin Dir Pileski asked about the pedestrian bridge and the amount for that which is appropriated in the 2016 .50% income tax fund is the \$157,000 out of that fund.

Stewart asked about the watermain crossing which is \$40,000 and that's covered.

Dir Pileski said we've appropriated all the money that's going into muni motor vehicle fund and we'll reimburse that fund. The \$157,000 is possibly already appropriated.

**This item was removed and Table to the next Finance Meeting in June.**

Mr. Tollett said something..... unable to hear, Mr. Tollett didn't have microphone on.

**9. The matter of authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into a contract for the Oberlin-Elyria Road Resurfacing Road Project.**

Referred By: Engineer McKillips (This matter will also go to Utilities Committee on June 1<sup>st</sup>)

Finance Dir said the money for this project is appropriated under muni motor vehicle unless there is some other cost involved.

Engineer McKillips explained this project but the microphone was not on and nothing is heard to transcribe until Mr. Cerra told Eng McKillips that her Microphone was not on.

Chair Stewart asked where on Oberlin-Elyria Rd is the to take place?

Engineer McKillips now has her microphone on and she said it will be Middle Ave to City corp. line.

There were no questions. This matter passed.

**Mr. Cerra moved and Mrs. Davis seconded to recommend an ordinance to advertise for bids and enter into a contract for 'said' project.**

**MOTION MADE**

**COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN**

**10. The matter of Amendments to the 2022 Permanent Appropriations.**

**[Standing Referral] Referred By: Finance Directors Pileski and Farrell**

Fin Dir Pileski said there are three this evening. 1.) Law Enforcement Trust Fund, Capital Outlay, adding \$2,435 for carry over that was included in the temporary but not carried thru to the permanent. 2.) Police Levy Fund, adding \$41,556 to Capital Outlay to replace a police vehicle that was totaled in an accident and we've received insurance money for that. 3.) In the American Rescue Plan Act Fund in Parks & Rec Dept adding \$75,000 to salary & wages, \$13,500 to benefits & pension, \$161,500 to operation and maintenance. Part of this was due to the free programs that we did and then adding lost revenue for other items.

Parks Dir Reardon said as Dir Pileski stated about \$120,000 will be for the lost revenues from the free programs last year and the other amount will go toward expanding programs over the next year, offering additional programming and some to supplies that go along with that programming.

Dir Pileski said he may have to amend this exhibit for what was discussed earlier. \_\_

**Mr. Cerra moved and Mrs. Davis seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the 'said' appropriation changes.**

**MOTION MADE**

**COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN**

Mrs. Davis suggested that we move the Finance Meeting to 6:00 on June 1<sup>st</sup> and do a Joint meeting with Utilities so we can settle up these items. \_\_

Chair Stewart said that will be Wed., June 1<sup>st</sup>. Instead of June 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Mr. Cerra moved and second by Mr. Schneider to adjourn this evening's Finance Committee Meeting at 9:32 P.M.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

*Respectfully submitted by,*

*Colleen Rosado,  
Council Clerk Secretary/Administrative Assistant*

*CMR/*