

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, JANUARY 9TH, 2023 beginning at 6:20 P.M.

CD PRESENT: Chair Callahan, Co-Chair Mitchell, Oswald, Davis, Lipian

FINANCE PRESENT: Chair Stewart, Co-Chair Tollett, Davis, Schneider, Cerra

OTHERS PRESENT: Law Dir Deery, Assistant Law Dir Breunig, Safety Service Dir Lundy, Mayor Whitfield, Asst Finance Dir Farrell, Assistant Dir Calvert, Assistant Dir Williams, Engineer McKillips, WWPC Supt Korzan, Water Team Leader Jacob, Public Works Supervisor Conner, Council Member Corbin

1. Approval of the Finance Meeting Minutes ~ December 12th, 2022.

Mr. Cerra moved and seconded by Mr. Schneider to approve the 'said' Meeting Minutes.

2. The matter of Inactive/Delinquent EPU Accounts to be certified to The Lorain County Auditor's Office. (Standing Referral)

Referred By: Public Works Supervisor Conner

Supervisor Conner said these are accounts that are delinquent. These accounts are either multi-units which cannot be shut off since renters live in the units and others are past-due/final where they have not received payment. They were approved by the EPU resolution board.

Mr. Cerra moved and Mr. Tollett seconded to recommend a resolution to authorize the 'said' list of delinquent utility charges for to the Lorain County Auditor's Office.

MOTION MADE

COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

3. The matter of applying for a loan from the State of Ohio for improvements to either Lor-CR-623/East Broad St. project or Lor-CR-658/Cleveland St. project.

Referred By: Engineer McKillips

Chair Stewart asked to recuse himself due to an apparent conflict of interest for items 3 and 4 and he asked Mr. Tollett to take over for those items.

Engineer McKillips said this is requesting authorizing for the Mayor to apply for and accept a state infrastructure bank loan for the City's share of the Cleveland Street road diet project and the East Broad Street widening project. In conversations between Engineering and Finance Dir Pileski and the Mayor were held regarding funding that will be needed to cover the City's share of the project. They discussed options, utilizing muni-motor funds and supplemented with State Infrastructure bank loan. They looked at whether there was an option to use ARPA funds or a combination of these options and others. Or just applying for a state infrastructure bank loan. Finance Dir Pileski recommends applying for the State Infrastructure Bank Loan. Engineer Schneider checked with the State to make sure that the funds were available, and they are, we don't know what the interest rate would be but it's been 3% in the past and it would be for 15 years. We would be applying for three million dollars, one million for East Broad Street and two million for Cleveland Street. If the committee wants to move forward with the state infrastructure bank loan, separate legislation would be required for each project.

They request to pass this as emergency.

Law Dir Deery said should the committee desire, they will pass 2 separate ordinances, one for each loan for each project.

Chair Tollett asked to clarify the City's share of each project.

The City's share of the cost of the East Broad Street project is \$944,735 and the City's share of the cost of the Cleveland Street project is \$2 million and he asked if that is correct?

Engineer McKillips said these amounts are correct and they were listed in the Capital Project list. The estimated total cost for the Cleveland Street project is \$7,200,004. We have grant funds of \$5,230,000 which leaves about \$1.9 - \$2 million dollars which would be the City's share.

Mr. Tollett asked if these numbers would be 'not to exceed'?

Dir Deery said that the idea Engineer McKillips thought would be that if we would be granted the loan we would be able to use that for our portion.

Chair Mitchell asked to be clear, that we are not using any Issue 6 or muni funds? That we are applying for this loan?

Engineer McKillips said that we are applying for a loan that will need to be pay back using muni-motor funds down the road when we make the payments.

Chair Tollett read each committee report and asked for a separate motion for each project.

Mr. Cerra moved and Mr. Schneider seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to apply for and accept if offered, a loan thru the State of Ohio to help pay the City's portion of the LOR 623 - East Broad Street Improvement Project.

MOTION MADE COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

1 RECUSE ~ Stewart

Mr. Cerra moved and Mr. Schneider seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to apply for and accept if offered, a loan thru the State of Ohio to help pay the City's portion of the LOR 658 - Cleveland Street Improvement Project.

MOTION MADE COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

1 RECUSE ~ Stewart

4. The matter of bidding out and entering into a contract for the Lor-CR-658/Cleveland St. Improvement Project.

This matter will also go to Utilities Committee.

Referred By: Engineer McKillips

Chair Stewart was still recused for this matter due to an apparent conflict of interest and Mr. Tollett also filled if for this matter.

Engineer McKillips said this is to advertise and open bids for the Cleveland Street project. There are grants through ODOT, Safety Funds and NOWACKI in the amount of \$5,330,000. With engineering, inspection and project management the total project cost is estimated at \$7,204,000 with the City's share estimated at \$1.9 million to \$2 million. The funds are not appropriated, they were not included in the temporary budget. Discussions with Finance Dir Pileski has led them to hold off and put the funds in the permanent appropriation budget and when that budget is approved at the beginning of March, that will line up with the project time-line.

Finance Dir Farrell said the \$1.9 was just passed in the previous matter. And this \$5,330,000 will be paid thru the Cleveland Street Improvement Project Fund and those dollar amounts will appear in the permanent appropriations.

Mrs. Davis moved and Mr. Cerra seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into a contract for 'said' Cleveland Street project.
MOTION MADE COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN
1 RECUSE ~ Stewart

Chair Stewart re-joined the Finance Committee Meeting.

5. The matter of guardrail upgrades for Rt 113, Lake and Lorain Blvd through ODOT.

Referred By: Engineer McKillips *This matter will also go to Utilities Committee.*

Engineer McKillips said this is for guardrail upgrades on Rt 113 between Lake Ave and Lorain Blvd. ODOT reached out to us. It's work that will be done at no cost to the City, unless we want something in addition to what is required by State and Federal Highway, which we do not, so the cost will be paid 100% by ODOT.

Chair Mitchell commented that at 100% no cost to the City, we absolutely have to do this. But, she has been asking for lights down RT113 for a long time. She asked what can we do to get those lights? Guardrails are needed, but we also need lights.

Mr. Oswald said that he believes that the line underneath that road is bad and that is why they haven't gotten the lights up and running.

Chair Stewart asked Engineer McKillips to look into that and share it with Mrs. Mitchell.

Chair Mitchell said that the rats have chewed the electric line underground and it is the City's responsibility and it's expensive to get it fixed and that will not stop her from asking.

Fin Dir Farrell said they will still need to run the matter of the guardrails through the books, even though there is no cost to the City. So, it will be part of the permanent appropriations for muni motor vehicle fund.

Mr. Cerra moved and Mrs. Davis seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with ODOT for the 'said' guardrail project.
MOTION MADE COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

6. The matter of entering into a second-year and third-year option with Republic Services for hauling of sludge from the Elyria Pumping Plant.

Referred By: Superintendent Sam W. Jacob *This matter will also go to Utilities Committee.*

Water Team Leader Jacob said last year they came to council for a three-year contract with the option for the second and third year to haul sludge from the water plant. Sludge is generated from the dirty water from the lake, they center fuse it, which means we spent the water off and the solids which are 30 percent solid go into a big container. Republic Waste hauls it away. This years contract was \$83.50 per ton, the second year price is \$86.38 per ton and the third year is \$91.18 per ton. They were the only bidder the last two times it went out for bid. They are recommending to go with the 2nd and 3rd year option.

Mr. Cerra moved and Mr. Schneider seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into a 2nd Year and a 3rd Year option of the 'said' contract.
MOTION MADE COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

7. The matter of a 5-year lease agreement for the acquisition of a new CCTV truck.

Referred By: WWPC Superintendent Korzan
This matter will also go to Utilities Committee.

Supt. Korzan said they have a 2018 CCTV truck that will be going back to Jack Doheny Companies at the end of this year. It is at the end of it's 5-year lease. They are looking to enter into another 5-year lease for a new CCTV truck and equipment. The State bid contract cost for the truck and equipment is \$450,415. The annual payments would be \$68,825.00. At the end of the 5-year lease Jack Doheny Company will make the 6th payment of \$143,000.00. That is what saves the City to lease these for 5-years.

Mrs. Davis asked if we turn this truck back in are we trading it in on the new one?

Supt Korzan said as with this new one, when this goes back, Jack Doheny Company will make that approximately \$143,000 that's remaining on that truck payment to the bank on behalf of the City. That's the trade-in, per se.

Mr. Schneider moved and Mrs. Davis seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into the 'said' lease agreement.

MOTION MADE COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

8. The matter of the purchase of a new HVAC System for WWPC Admin. Building.

Referred By: WWPC Superintendent Korzan *This matter will also go to Utilities Committee.*

Supt Korzan said they are at the point of the administration building at the plant where the HVAC system is 35 + years old and they have \$80,000 in the budget and has been approved in the temporary budget to replace this system. The new system will control the existing boilers, we do not have to replace the existing boilers at this time. It will replace the air handling system and the controls for the AC. Now they have windows open to exhaust the heat out of the building and they've been operating this way for awhile. In the summertime they have window AC units in the lab to keep the lab at the proper temperature to be able to do the testing. This will be a huge improvement to be able to control the environment in the building.

Mr. Cerra moved and Mr. Schneider seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to advertise for bids for the 'said' project.

MOTION MADE COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

9. The matter of the purchase of a new Ford F-350 4X4 Extended Cab Pick-up Truck for WWPC Plant.

Referred By: WWPC Superintendent Korzan *This matter will also go to Utilities Committee.*

Supt Korzan is asking to be able to replace an existing 2011 utility truck which is being used by the catch basin crew to repair catch basins and manholes on streets and curbs. And that current 2011 truck will be retired. The entire build out cost of this will be, including dump body, tool boxes and plows will be approximately \$125,000 and he's requesting emergency clause due to long lead time.

Mr. Schneider moved and Mrs. Davis seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into a purchase agreement for the purchase of the 'said' truck.

MOTION MADE COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

10. The matter of the purchase of a new Ford F-550 Service Truck with tool box and pump and motor hoist for WWPC Plant.

Referred By: WWPC Superintendent Korzan *This matter will also go to Utilities Committee.*

Supt Korzan said they are looking to replace an existing 2007 Chevy truck that is being used by the lift station crew. They are looking to add a hoist to the body of this new truck, for raising and lowering large pumps and motors through the hatchways at lift stations. This way will be much safer than how it's down now. The cost will be \$90,000 and emergency clause because it will be a long lead time.

Mr. Cerra moved and Mr. Schneider seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into a purchase agreement for the purchase of the 'said' truck.

MOTION MADE

COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

11. The matter of the purchase of a new Case 580 SN Backhoe for WWPC Plant.

Referred By: WWPC Superintendent Korzan *This matter will also go to Utilities Committee.*

Supt Korzan said they need to replace their existing 2005 backhoe that will retire from service once they get the new one. They are looking at a \$26,000.00 trade in on the existing along with the current price not to exceed \$150,000. It will be in this year's budget because they know they won't get it until the end of 2024. The existing will operate until then. Their mechanic, Jim Flood is doing a great job keeping it up and running. This type of equipment has a very long lead time so they have to get it going this year. Requesting emergency clause.

Mr. Tollett asked if they quoted a trade-in for a year from now on this?

Supt Korzan said yes, it's a firm quote.

Mrs. Davis moved and Mr. Schneider seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into a purchase agreement for the purchase of the 'said' equipment.

MOTION MADE

COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

12. The matter of entering into a contract with Cleveland Communications for access to CCI Public Safety simulcast radio system. *This matter will also go to Utilities Committee.*

Referred By: Asst Service Director Calvert

This matter has been removed and will be placed into pending items.

13. The matter of renewal of the 'One-half of One Percent, Temporary 5-Year Income Tax'.

Referred By: Mayor Whitfield

Mayor Whitfield thanked the committee for moving with expediency on this. This is a tax renewal that's been on the books since 1983. It's for general operations. The general fund is primarily the fund that pays for police and fire. This is a critical levy issue that will keep our city running and moving forward. And if it's not passed it puts us in real danger.

In 2018 this was Issue 25 and it was renewed and we look forward to continue with this and hope the voters will support it.

We will run a campaign and there will be opportunities for folks to get involved.

Chair Stewart said this is vital for our community. It's been on the books for sometime. It will sustain the City services. This is the first step to pass this and get it submitted to the Board of Elections. There will be a massive effort to get this out to the general public to get this passed.

There were no questions.

ORDINANCE:

Mr. Cerra moved and Mrs. Davis seconded to recommend an ordinance to authorize the submittal of the renewal of the one half of one percent temporary 5-year Income Tax Levy to be submitted to the voters of Elyria on May 2nd, 2023.

MOTION MADE

COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

RESOLUTION:

Mr. Cerra moved and Mr. Schneider seconded to recommend a resolution to authorize the placement of the question of the renewal of the one half of one percent temporary 5-year Income Tax Levy to be submitted to the voters of Elyria on May 2nd, 2023.

14. The matter amendments to the 2023 Temporary Appropriations. [Standing Referral]

Referred By: Finance Directors Pileski and Farrell

There were no amendments to the Temporary Appropriation Ordinance for this meeting.

Mr. Cerra moved and second by Mr. Tollett to adjourn this evening's Finance Meeting at 6:55 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted by,

Colleen Rosado, Council Clerk Secretary/Administrative Assistant

CMR/