

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MAY 10TH, 2021 beginning at 6:10 P.M.

CD PRESENT: Chair Callahan, Mitchell, Cerra, Oswald, Jessie

FINANCE PRESENT: Chair Stewart, Tollett, Baird, Jessie, Davis

OTHERS PRESENT: Law Dir Breunig, Safety Service Dir Brubaker, Finance Dir Pileski, Asst Finance Dir Farrell, CD Manager Almobayyed, Asst Director Calvert, Councilpersons Keys

1. Approval of the Regular Finance Meeting Minutes ~ April 26TH, 2021 .

Mr. Baird moved, seconded by Mr. Tollett to approve the said Meeting Minutes.

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

REFERRED BY: Public Works Supervisor Conner

Mr. Brubaker said this is standard procedure that we follow after the Public Utilities Resolution Board meets and the approved list are the inactive/delinquent accounts that are recommended to be certified to the Lorain County Auditor's Office.

Mr. Baird moved and Mrs. Davis seconded to recommend a resolution to certify 'said' charges to the Lorain County's Auditor's Office as per the attached.

MOTION MADE COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

3. The matter of a request for the purchase of a new Sutphen Fire Engine thru State Purchasing Program at a cost of \$550,000.00. Monies have not been appropriated.

REFERRED BY: Safety Service Director Brubaker

Director Brubaker said the Department had two engines that went down. One just went back into service last week, but another one is still out of commission. A new engine was approved to be purchased by Council last January and that's scheduled to arrive in June, which was an 18 month turnaround.

We now have an opportunity to purchase a couple engines that are on the line in the process of being built if Council approves this expenditure. The final cost of what the expenditure will be, which is part of the referral, is \$550,000.

If this gets approved, the Finance Director, Assistant Finance Director and the Mayor and Mr. Brubaker had a meeting and they believe the Rescue Plan Money can be utilized for this and if we're able to get this approved, we could have this engine sooner instead of the 17 to 24 month lead time, probably by the end of December 2021.

Mr. Brubaker went on to say that the Mayor will be on a large Conference Call with the Treasury and the White House where they will explain how this Rescue Plan money is going to be utilized and sent to the communities.

Mr. Tollett said it's his understanding that once the funds start hitting the cities, which will start to be disbursed as early as today, that it could be 24 to 36 months before we could get the truck, so that if we don't take advantage of this right now, we could lose it. Is that correct?

Chief Mack said that Assistant Chief Norris has been working very closely with the manufacturer and they have indicated that everyone will be achieving monies at the same time and other communities are doing the same thing that we are.

Chief said that he received a call today that this particular engine, that is currently on the production line is due to go for paint this week, so we need to make a decision if we want to get this painted our color, otherwise it will continue through the production line. T

They do anticipate longer lead times. If we move forward and get a hold on an agreement, we'll be able to move forward and get it ordered.

This particular engine is a slight variation from the current one that is currently being built and we could have this one between November and December of this year.

Chair Stewart asked Finance Dir Pileski, that since the monies haven't been appropriated, but we're looking to have these funds come from the Rescue Plan Money, how should the committee report should be worded?

Finance Dir Pileski said that the committee can go ahead and move forward on this and if we choose to appropriate the Rescue Plan Money, we can do so.

Mr. Pileski went on to say that he assumes that we will be bringing a plan to Council. The plan is that we will receive 9 million this year and 9 million next year. So, when we get to that point we can appropriate the \$550,000 for the fire engine. The only other option is to take money from Issue 6, but we've been hitting on that pretty heavily this year so Rescue Plan Money would be a good expenditure.

Mr. Baird asked if the Finance Dir knows how that 9 million will be dispersed?

Mr. Pileski said that we'll know more after the conference call that the Mayor will be on regarding that. Mr. Pileski thinks that the communities will have to apply for the monies and he thinks it's one payment per year.

Chair Stewart ask the Chief if he had anything to add.

Chief Mack said this truck would be similar to what we already have and the payment is due upon receipt. We're just asking to put a hold on this apparatus at this time so we can move forward with having the paint and everything since it's already in production.

Mr. Baird asked if a fire apparatus of this stature would have chips and he wondered if that's been addressed?

Chief Mack said they have not heard if there is an issue in that area for fire department apparatuses.

Chair Stewart asked what the correct terminology is for these funds that we will receive?

Mr. Pileski said that he has a committee report that is up next. That is to create the 'Special Revenue Fund' and it will be titled 'American Rescue Plan Grant'.

Chair Stewart asked if the motion concurs? Mrs. Davis said she concurs and Mr. Tollett said he concurs.

Dir Brubaker said since we don't have to pay for the truck until it comes in and asked if the legislation should be a suspension and emergency?

Law Dir Breunig said that is a good point and it should get done as quickly as possible and to make sure we get the order in. So this committee report would be authorizing the contract with Sutphen. It would be good to note suspension and emergency on the committee report.

As Mr. Pileski indicated that the actual funds will be pulled on an appropriations change at a later date.

So it should be noted for the record that it should pass as suspension and emergency clause.

Chair Stewart asked if the motion concurs? It concurs with both Mrs. Davis and Mr. Tollett.

Mrs. Davis moved and Mr. Tollett seconded to recommend an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract for the purchase of a new Sutphen Fire Engine thru State Purchasing Program and using Rescue Plan funds.
MOTION MADE COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

4. The matter of a request to amend Ordinance No. 2021-54.

REFERRED BY: Council-At-Large Tollett

Chair Stewart said this matter will be tabled to a date to be determined and to be placed in pending items.

5. The matter of creating a new ‘special revenue fund’ to account for the receipt and expenditures of the American Rescue Plan Grant’ monies.

REFERRED BY: Finance Director’s Pileski and Farrell

This matter was already discussed.

Mr. Baird moved and Mrs. Davis seconded to recommend an ordinance to create the American Rescue Plan Fund Grant.

MOTION MADE COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

6. The matter of amendments to the 2021 Permanent Appropriations Ordinance, No. 2021-50. (Standing Referral)

REFERRED BY: Finance Director’s Pileski and Farrell

There were none this evening.

Mr. Baird moved and second by Mr. Tollett to adjourn this evening’s Finance Meeting at 6:25 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted by,

Colleen Rosado, Council Clerk Secretary

(Committee Meeting was attended by Secretary Rosado ~ Meeting Minutes were transcribed by Secretary Rosado).