

THE FINANCE Committee held a meeting on Monday, May 13th, 2024 beginning at 7:05 P.M

Committee Members Present:

CD: Chair Callahan, Mitchell, Schneider, Oswald
Finance: Chair Tollett, Davis, Schneider, Cerra, Siwierka
Utilities: Chair Mitchell, Davis, Oswald, Armstrong, Stewart
Absent: Lipian (Excused)

Administration and Department Heads Present: Mayor Brubaker, Law Dir Deery, Safety Service Dir Pyanowski, Finance Dir Pileski, Asst Finance Dir Farrell, Engineer Schneider, Building Official Farkas, CD Dir Scott, Public Works Supt Conner, Parks Dir Reardon

1. The matter of delinquent utility accts to be certified to the Lorain County Auditor. Referred By: Public Works Supt Conner

Supt Conner said she has provided a list of 7 accounts totaling \$10,919.18. These accounts were approved by the Resolution Board and to be turned over for property tax liens. This is standard.

Mrs. Davis asked what it means when it reads 'usage after final'?

Supt Conner said those were accounts that were turned off, but the water was still running. One was running due to a tampered shut off valve in the road. The other was similar, it had a missing rod at the shut off valve on the meter. Both of these had been tampered with to cause these issues.

Motion made by Mr. Schneider, second by Mrs. Davis authorizing a resolution for 'said' list of charges to be certified as liens to the Lorain County Auditor's Office.
MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

2. The matter of securing, boarding up and/or demolition charges to be certified to the Lorain County Auditor's Office.

Referred By: Building Official Farkas

Building Official Farkas said this house was a demo project. They had an assessment for the evaluation of the asbestos and had those removed. The total charges for the demolition and abatement removal came to the amount of \$11,500.

Motion made by Mr. Schneider, second by Mr. Cerra authorizing a resolution for 'said' charges to be certified as liens to the Lorain County Auditor's Office.
MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

3. The matter of applying for and accept if offered, a grant from Community Oriented Policing Services, through Ohio Dept. Of Justice for mental health & wellness services for Elyria Law Enforcement Officers.

Referred By: Police Chief Pelko

Chair Tollett said after what happened in northeast Ohio to keep the families of Law Enforcement officers in your prayers.

Chief Pelko said they already applied for this grant to get in before the deadline. It's a grant thru Dept of Justice to Community oriented policing services. It's a wellness grant and they applied for \$120,000 instead of \$200,000. There will not be any matching funds and we will be reimbursed. This grant will improve the delivery and access to mental health and wellness services for officers of the Elyria Police Dept. thru implementation of peer support training, family resources, suicide prevention and other practices for wellness program. They will get a wellness app to provide psychological services, gym memberships, family programs and training.

Mrs. Siwierka asked what the current employee assistance program look like for the staffing?

Chief Pelko said there is an EAP program in place and this program will be used to enhance what they currently have. There is a big push for emotional wellness and well-being for officers and they are looking at these other options instead of just referring someone to a psychologist. This would benefit mental and emotional wellness.

Motion made by Mrs. Siwierka and second by Mr. Cerra to authorize an ordinance to apply for and accept the 'said' grant. Emergency clause requested.

MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

4. The matter of a request to dispose of certain Fire Department equipment that is no longer used and not suitable for municipal use.

Referred By: Fire Chief Pronesti

Chief Pronesti was not in attendance. Service Dir Pyanowski spoke on his behalf. This is a piece of equipment; a small boat/water rescue raft and trailer and it's no longer needed. They're asking for authority to dispose of it and to sell it on govdeals. The City has other equipment that can be used to accomplish the same thing.

Motion made by Mr. Cerra and second by Mrs. Davis to authorize the Safety Service Dir to declare 'said' property unfit for municipal use and to dispose of by the best means possible in accordance of the law.

MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

5. The matter of renewing a lease agreement at the Finwood apartment located at 799 Abbe Road.

Referred By: Parks Dir Reardon

Dir Reardon said this is a renewal of the lease and they would like to keep the same tenant, Inez James. This was approved by the Park Board on April 11th. The rent will increase by \$50 which will bring the total to \$500 per month. The one-year lease will go into effect on July 1st, 2024.

Motion made by Mr. Schneider and second by Mr. Cerra to authorizing the 'said' agreement with Inez James at City property located at 799 Abbe Road.

MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

6. The matter of a request to enter into an agreement with ODOT for the purchase of road salt for the 2024-2025 season.

Referred By: Safety Service Dir Pyanowski

Dir Pyanowski said this is the annual order for next season's road salt. There is a lot left in the salt shed from last year, around 4,000 to 5,000 tons, so they will only be ordering 6,000 at this time. They only used about 1,200 tons this year. Emergency clause is requested to have legislation submitted with the order.

Mr. Oswald asked about the City using more brine. He feels EPA wants all cities to use more brine, will we start using it more and if so will we be getting tax advantages?

Dir Pyanowski said he is not aware of any tax advantages. Though they are planning to use more brine. We do use it on hills and on curves. We did order a brine machine, but we did not get awarded the first round of grants for it, but they did budget for it. It will be paid with Issue 6 Capital expenditures, so they placed the order. There is a possibility of the second round of grant money.

Motion made by Mr. Cerra and second by Mrs. Davis to enter into an agreement with ODOT for the purchase of road salt. Emergency clause requested.

MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

7. The matter of Amendments to the 2024 Permanent Appropriations.

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

Finance Dir Farrell said they have one in Muni Court, for electronic messaging, an increase in operating and maintenance to \$3611.00 and transfers out at \$2447.00. These are funds collected thru court costs. There were no questions.

**Motion made by Mr. Cerra and second by Mr. Schneider to authorize the approval of the 'said' amendments to the 2024 permanent appropriations.
MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN**

Chair Tollett went through the pending item list on the Finance Agenda and listed the items that will be removed from this list, to clear it up.

Chair Mitchell said that Utilities Committee is working with Engineering to clear up their items in pending and will have those cleared up soon.

**Motion made by Mr. Cerra and second by Mrs. Siwierka to adjourn this evening's Finance Committee Meeting at 7:30 P.M.
MOTION CARRIES**

Respectfully Submitted by,

Colleen Rosado, Secretary/Administrative Assistant