

Finance Committee
Monday, September 23, 2019
5:30 p.m., Multi-Purpose Room

In attendance: John Coyne-Chairman, Jim Shields, Paul Rose, Bill Lamb, Dennie Simpson, and Bob Starcher. Eric Heffinger was absent.

Also present: Mayor Hanwell, Greg Huber, Keith Dirham, Patrick Patton, Nino Piccoli, Jonathan Mendel, Jansen Wehrley, Mike Wright, Chief Kinney, Chief Painter, Kimberly Marshall, Dan Gladish, Barb Dzur, Laureen Wilson, Kathy Patton, Pat Walker, Rick & Tammy Kirby, Charles Marshall, Bob Finnan, and Allison Wood (Cleveland.com).

1. Assignment of Requests for Council Action

2. 19-164-9/23 – Budget Amendments

#2019-029 – Donation from Medina Rotary Club

Mr. Dirham stated this is a pass through. Jansen explained this is for a camera system for the 911 memorial. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion Passes 6-0.

#2019-031 – MCRC Capital Outlays

Mr. Wright stated this is for the transfer of the cash balance. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion Passes 5-1. J. Shields abstained.

#8594 – High Grass Expenditures

Mr. Piccoli stated he needs \$2,500 more, with over 70 notices and violations to various residents and property owners and some are still being cut. They are down to the last \$100.00. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion Passes 6-0.

3. 19-165-9/23 – Modify Police Record Clerk & Parking Enforcement Attendant Job Descriptions

Chief Kinney stated they would like to edit two of the job descriptions. Police Records Clerk does not need to have under the education training experience in the current job description a requirement of commission as a deputy clerk reports for Medina Municipal Court as well as certification in the LEADS, it's not necessary and needs removed. In the Parking Enforcement Attendant position it says voids written citations for a specific acceptable reasons after submission in writing on the department forms. The Parking Enforcement Attendant does not have the authority to void parking citations only a violations clerk does. Edits were reviewed by Mr. Huber and voted on by the Civil Service Commission and approved. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion Passes 6-0.

4. 19-166-9/23 – PY18 CHIP Rehab – 1661 Dannley Dr.

Mr. Mendel stated this is a private rehab project under the current CHIP program. Home in Brunswick and would like the P.O. at \$40,000.00 in case there are some changes. Emergency is for payment to contractor. Mr. Shields moved to approve with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion Passes 6-0.

5. 19-167-9/23 – PY18 CHIP Rehab – 3877 Miller Dr.

Mr. Mendel stated this is a private rehab project under the current CHIP program. This home rehab has been through council twice already. As they started digging into the house there was more change orders that were valid and necessary to improve this house in Brunswick. Jonathon is requesting the P.O. be up to \$45,000 just in case. Emergency is requested to expedite the payment to the contractor. Mr. Shields moved to approve with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion Passes 6-0.

6. 19-168-9/23 – Then & Now – Trident Insurance Services – Law Dept.

Mr. Dirham stated they received this bill from the Law Department and it needs paid. Mr. Shields moved to approve with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion Passes 6-0.

7. Addendum to 18-200-11/13 – Quiet Zone Discussion – Consultant Proposal

Mr. Patton stated they have received a memo provided by Beacon Marshall Company from their consultant EMHT about a possible quiet zone. It is estimated to cost a total of \$390,000.00 to establish it, installing 2 of the 4 quadrant gates. They considered only 7 crossings, we have 10 in the city. Their fee is almost \$50,000 and doesn't include the cost for the safety measures which could be the 4 quadrant gate, the medians and that kind of thing. The lowest number we have so far is \$388,000.00 to establish a quiet zone and Patrick feels that will increase once they add the other three crossings and whatever SSM's are needed at those other crossings.

EMHT's cost of \$388,000 includes just the 2 foot quadrant gates it doesn't include any other safety measures. Patrick stated safety measures don't have to be gates but in some locations it will be required they would include curbing, median curbs or channelization devices can be acceptable. Mr. Patton stated that the train engineer always has the right to blow the whistle for whatever reason. Denny mentioned the fact that creating a quiet zone as Mr. Huber stated could potentially assume liability if something happened.

Mr. Huber stated fundamentally in trying to decide what crossings to install gates at and where not to install gates, his concern is to get some expertise advising as to what we should be doing and get a report that we can rely on so that if we do have a liability situation.

Mr. Coyne stated the threshold question for council is first the cost, where is the money coming from, the second is are you ok with channeling devices like reflectors in the middle of the road and/or raised median barriers down the middle which is probably like those you see on the highway or gates?

Mr. Starcher mentioned he doesn't like the idea of not including the ones on the west side of town. Mr. Patton stated we are responsible for the road and the railroad company is responsible for the gates. They said they would likely charge an annual fee to the city for the service now because it's above and beyond what they are required to do.

Mr. Coyne asked if there has been grant funding obtained by these other communities and or has the cities involved a TIF or charge of the adjacent land owners to help pay for it? Mr. Patton stated that Twinsburg did receive money for their gates because they did not previously have gates installed at the railway intersection. They did not get any money for the quiet zone specifically. Patrick did talk to the FRA and ORDC and there are no grant programs for quiet zones. Mr. Lamb feels that an investment of the quiet zone could increase the value of the properties along the railway that are underdeveloped. Bill would like some expertise, somebody to look at and possibly say from this point west and this point east these are the properties that

would be affected and this is the change in value and the possibility of redevelopment and development that you could generate funds from. Bill feels we need to find out what that would cost to do.

Mr. Marshall spoke of a great company opening up in the city called Ravago and how they can have anywhere from 200 to 300 railroad cars a day.

The city of Twinsburg, the benefits of the quiet zone for the residents and council far outweigh the negative comments of their Service Director. Mr. Marshall understands that during the winter it will be additional work.

Mr. Rose spoke of the shutdowns on Court Street.

Mr. Marshall mentioned that Bethany Dentler has proposed and sent to him a TIF Program on just his building. It would generate \$1.4 million in 12 years. Mr. Marshall stated he sent in 20 letters from prominent people, businesses and residents that are behind this. He stated 95% of the people he has spoken too want this.

Mr. Coyne stated in his opinion a TIF may not work. Mr. Marshall stated that the TIF is available because they have no occupancy, they have not opened anything up and are still under construction. Mr. Marshall suggested that maybe someone needs to go talk to Ravago and have them talk to the railroad company in taking some of the cost.

Mr. Coyne stated if it is feasible to do and there is a way which it seems like we could figure out a way to pay for the installation costs and the ongoing maintenance cost with the gates, because it sounds like everyone here is about the gates. So we have to look at how do we pay for the gates and how do you quantify the benefit of the gates and the increase liability associated. We have to make informed decisions on all of that and if we can figure out the initial costs as well as maintenance and the economic benefit of having the gates and the final thing figure out how to pay for all that ongoing, he thinks they are all open to that.

Mr. Marshall asked if Mr. Huber could check on quiet zones in the State of Ohio for lawsuits that have ever been filed.

Mr. Patton stated there is money available if we are willing to close crossings.

Mayor suggested having EMHT also do a quote for all ten crossings so we are comparing apples to apples.

Tabled to gather further information.

8. Executive Session: (land acquisition)

It was moved by Mr. Shields and seconded by Mr. Simpson to enter into Executive Session at 6:58 p.m. to include the Mayor, Mr. Huber and Mr. Mendel to consider the purchase of property for public purposes or the sale of property at competitive bidding because premature disclosure would give an unfair competitive or bargaining advantage to a person who's personal, private interest is adverse to the general public interest. The roll was called and motion passes by the yea votes of B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, B. Starcher, and J. Coyne.

Finance Committee – September 23, 2019

Executive Session adjourned at 7:27 p.m. and there being no further business before the Finance Committee, the meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

John M. Coyne, Chairman