

Finance Committee
Tuesday, May 26th, 2020
6:00 p.m., Rotunda

In attendance: J. Coyne - Chairman, E. Heffinger, P. Rose, and J. Shields. B. Lamb, D. Simpson and J. Hazeltine

Also present: Mayor Hanwell, Greg Huber, Keith Dirham, Patrick Patton, Nino Piccoli, Kathy Patton, and Chief Kinney.

1. Assignment of Requests for Council Action

2. 20-101-5/11 – Then & Now – Pioneer Technology Group – Municipal Court

Mr. Shields moved to reissue a P.O. in the amount of \$56,943.90 with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion Passed 7-0.

3. 20-038-5/26 – City Hall Parking Deck Change Order, Storm Water Detention Location

Mr. Patton stated they have been trying for several months to get pricing and was told on Friday that the total additive to move this would be \$124,433.78 and that was kind of shocking. He doesn't feel he can recommend moving forward with a change order like this, it's just way out of the ballpark. Mr. Patton stated there are three options that he sees, one is to leave it in place on the west side of the parking lot and that would be the least expensive, or go ahead with a change order, certainly not with this one but maybe they come back with further information and drop the number down but he doesn't see it dropping enough, or the third option is we negotiate with them to not perform this stating we can do it for less.

Mr. Lamb asked how long it would take if we bid it out separately to another contractor, Pat stated the city still has work to do, we have to extend the storm sewer on Liberty St. and we already have that project design so we would just have to add this on and would have to do the contract value and public bidding process.

Mr. Simpson asked if the Federal Court building had any objections to how far we can come down with the future building between them and Sully's, if there is an objection he would then be in favor of seeing if they could move it to the east side.

Patrick stated they did get confirmation from them by email stating they had no objection to the city's proposed future project there.

Mayor Hanwell stated they did say they didn't want windows on the second level on the west side if possible.

Mr. Coyne suggested holding this until the next meeting until we get more information from CPS.

4. 20-109-5/26 – Budget Amendment

#2020-008 – Reductions to carryforward from 5/13 Budget Hearing
Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

5. 20-110-5/26 – Modified Grant Request – Remark Airfield Project #1063

Mr. Patton stated earlier this year they were awarded a grant from the Ohio Department of Transportation Department of Aviation. Grant total was \$142,120 and the total project total \$149,600 to remark the airfield. They bid the project and awarded it but were notified by ODOT Aviation that due to effects to the statewide budget from the corona virus there is a severe shortage and we are to immediately stop all work. They are going to honor all of our expenses to date. Our costs to date are \$50,812.50 for design and constructions with \$13,781.00 for contractor. Pat stated he was told that in the PY2020 it is unlikely they will be able to fund it. We will go back into the pot for other projects in PY2021 and was told they notified all projects awarded this year will be given priority in 2021. Their fiscal year begins July 1st so we are only talking another month. We are hoping we will be awarded the balance of it and can continue the project.

Mr. Shields moved to approve to approve the modified grant with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

6. 20-111-5/26 – Ohio Criminal Justice Service – COVID-19 Reimbursement – Police

Chief Kinney stated the Ohio Criminal Justice Service is offering reimbursement for Covid-19 costs to Police departments and they are requesting \$50,725.43 for various equipment and time for personnel overtime. He stated it is a rolling grant so they can apply again for additional costs if they enquire any. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

7. 20-112-5/26 – Accepting Grant – Ohio Body Armor Program – Municipal Court

Cindy Lastuka stated the Municipal Court applied for the Ohio Body Armor Grant and received authorization to spend \$4,272.00 and are asking council to approve this grant so we can buy 5 body armor vests for their Bailiffs. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

8. 20-113-5/26 – Accept Donation of Hand Sanitizer – Spray Products

Kimberly Marshall stated this is to accept a donation of hand sanitizer from Spray Products valued at \$1,560.00. The company converted a portion of their operation to make the hand sanitizer and they wanted to help the city out. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

9. 20-114-5/26 – Memo of Understanding w/Teamsters Local 436

Mayor Hanwell stated they passed the Teamsters contract and in their contract it had the premium healthcare contribution premiums increasing on February 1st. This simply is a memo to change the date from February 1st to April 1st to align all our employees the same date. Emergency requested because the longer we wait the more back pay the finance department will have to process. Mr. Shields moved to approve with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

10. 20-115-5/26 – Expenditure – Litman, Inc. – Lights for S. Elmwood Bridge

Patrick stated council approved last month around \$16,000 for some lights on S. Elmwood Bridge, problem is they presented those to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio and Wheeling and Lake Erie and they rejected our proposed light because in the southbound direction the height of the light in their opinion interferes with the flashing lights and gates that are at the crossing there at S. Elmwood just adjacent to our bridge and felt that would cause a safety

problem. Told us to find a light that was less than 4ft. tall. We are submitting a request for another light we found and will be getting a \$1,500 credit. Mr. Patton stated it does permit fluent light, it's just not a standard street light.

Patrick stated this is covered up to 63% by the grant.

Mr. Shields stated that Nino and Patrick have been keeping him updated with this since it is in ward 4 and they did share with him the options and there was really nothing that looked good in that area but this is a good compromise.

Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

11. 20-116-5/26 – Job Creation Grant Agreement – Miller Plating, LLC

Mrs. Marshall stated Miller Plating is a new business located at 940 Lafayette Rd. with 35 new full time positions. Law Director has reviewed and approved the draft agreement. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 6-0.

12. 20-117-5/26 – Job Creation Grant Agreement - Carlise Brake & Friction, Inc.

Mrs. Marshall stated this is for the purpose of consolidating a portion of their headquarters of their operation from Solon to Medina. This morning they have received some amendments to the application with 54 employees being reduced to 48 and payroll from \$6 million to \$5,558,000.00 and we would like to move forward and amend the grant agreement and bring it back to council in two weeks. The Law Director did review the draft prior to this meeting.

Kimberly stated this is an office renovation project, not an actual physical addition to the facility, all work will be done inside their existing office area and then inside on the plant manufacturing floor they are building a mezzanine.

13. 20-118-5/26 – MCRC Temporary Age Restriction Change

Mr. Wright stated they are following suit of a lot of local facilities including the YMCA. One reason is there won't be anything a child under the age of 16 can do, courts are closed and so are the pools at least in the first phase. The second reason is we have to police the amount of people in the building and with children under 16 years of age that will make it harder to enforce social distancing rules, occupancy limits and cleaning procedures. To alleviate some of the concerns parents will have about their children not being able to use their memberships during this first phase, we are extending memberships for 3 ½ months.

Mr. Coyne asked if will we make this policy modification to people only 16 years and over how does it terminate. After first phase of two weeks or more when we are given the ok to open it up to more people they will rescind the 16 and over.

14. 20-119-5/26 – Discussion: Opening of Municipal Pool

Mr. Wright stated the discussion they need to have tonight regarding the pool is to decide if this is a service or still under our enterprise fund, which requires us to have revenues meet expenses.

Mr. Dirham predicted we would be down by \$1.2 million by year end. We will not be able to make the funds enough to cover the expenses. Best case scenario still lose \$20,000, worse case lose \$50,000. That's a lot of money to the Rec Center when it comes to already using carryforward because of Covid-19 and what has happened over the last few months and this doesn't even include the Parks Department and what we have to do to get everything ready and with the

lifeguard situation because right now they have a total of 37 lifeguards returning and that is barely enough to run both pools and doesn't include the outdoor pool.

Jansen had a survey he reported on the 81 respondents, the one that did have pools 64% said they were not going to open this summer. Jansen spoke of the operational changes that would need to take place at the pool to enforce social distancing, they would have to remove a good portion of the lounge chairs and they would have to be sanitized on a regular schedule. They would also need to split the day in half so if you came from 11 to 3 p.m. you would be required to leave while they sanitized and clean everything and then there would be a second shift of 51 people that could come in, and to put that 51 number in perspective it may seem like a lot but some of the head counts that the lifeguards do on an hourly basis during the summer exceed over 130 people on a nice day. There will be some challenges there, there will be some people turned away but we need to make some decisions, do we want to try and do this or completely rule it out. Right now we are about 3 weeks once a decision is made to get the pool up and running and that gives us about a week to clean and un-winterize the pool, clean the facility, get the restrooms up and running and the concession stand and then it takes about 2 weeks to get the water up to temperature from 50 degrees close to 80 for swimmers. That gets us to the beginning of July. The state has not allowed the splashpads to open yet.

Mike Wright stated they will open both pools at the Rec Center eventually. In regards to the Health Commissioner, they spoke with her and she did say the restrictions for the outdoor pool same as theirs they would have to clean out the showers after every use, clean every two hours and with every four hour shutdown, plus they would have to put up barriers on the concession stands and the front window and for lifeguards.

Mr. Coyne stated just from having the two pools open at the Rec Center the costs far exceed the benefit that you may get from the outside pool, I don't think we can take the risk of losing up to \$50,000 he doesn't know how we justify that.

Mr. Rose stated last year they lost \$1,000 on the pool and that was a fully operational year with special parties. He is in agreement with John strictly from a financial point since we have the other pools available for use.

Mr. Simpson stated the restrictions from the state are changing on a daily basis, if we anticipate for some reason within the next month there may be restrictions lifted that would enable us to open both the indoor and outdoor pool and with your three weeks of preparation is it a possibility if restrictions are lifted then we could think about reopening the pool for the rest of the season.

Mr. Wright stated their issue is the lifeguarding, they are changing the way rescues are being performed so they won't let them hold any trainings.

Mayor Hanwell stated he and several other mayors have been in contact with the Health Commissioner, getting updates with numbers and what is on the horizon as far as with reopening and what is holding the state back right now with playgrounds and splashpads is the inability of separating young children. This should not be all put on the government as a responsibility that the parents need to accept some responsibility if they are going to take their child to the playground or the splashpad that they have disinfectants to wash their hands.

Mr. Heffinger stated that we can only go by the information that we have and currently it says we

can't have that many people there and we are going to lose money. Maybe we push this back to next council meeting and see if there is any more information. He can't be ok with just opening it up and losing that kind of money when they are making budget cuts across the board.

Mr. Coyne stated to Mr. Wright and Mr. Wehrley to keep us informed on what you are hearing and what other communities are doing.

Mr. Shields stated obviously there were some councilmen that pushed hard to get that pool open and he is disappointed and sad that it looks like it won't open this year but he also understands the financial reality of it and the timing here and the safety and when you add all this up he feels they are making the right decision for now. He is just disappointed that the children won't have anywhere to swim.

15. 20-120-5/26 – Expenditure – Color Renovation – Uptown Park

Mr. Wehrley stated the gazebo is under renovation. They obtained a P.O. back in 2019 for \$15,000 and they are working on it right now. At the time of the quote they didn't know if any of the wood needed replaced and now have determined some of the deteriorated wood will need to be replaced and he has submitted a P.O. for 2020 in the amount of \$5,000 to cover that, making the project not to exceed \$20,000. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

16. 20-121-5/26 – Vehicle Donation to Medina County Career Center - Police

Chief Kinney is requesting permission to donate a 2013 Ford Explorer, the oldest vehicle in their fleet. Their used vehicles don't draw a lot of money at the city auction. They would like to donate it to The Criminal Justice Program at the Career Center, two fold one the auto body and auto mechanic students will get to update the car, do any of the mechanical work that is needed so they will get practice doing that, and also the criminal justice students will be able to use that as a tool for their education. We've benefited in the past from students and graduates from the criminal justice program here in the area. Our current canine officer graduated from a vocational criminal justice program as well.

Mr. Shields thanked the Chief for coming up with this idea, he is always very proud when he sees our firetruck out there and the students using that and is now glad the students will get to use one of our police cars as well. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

17. 20-122-5/26 – Lindenwood Lake Dam draft legislation

Mr. Patton stated as part of this process because it is council's intention to pay for those repairs through an assessment process, our Law Director recommended we have to pass this resolution in essence it informs the property owners that they must repair the dam and it gives them a timeline to do the repairs, and if they don't, then the city can come in and do the repairs and then assess the property owners after the fact.

Mr. Coyne stated that Mr. Dirham sent an email out regarding the process by which this will be assessed and it is his understanding that there will be an opportunity to pay it and those who don't pay it will then will be assessed.

Keith spoke with the county auditor and in order to secure their funding, they will certify the project as a special assessment project then each year before they send the assessment to the county auditor office, they will give the property owners an opportunity to pay. If they pay the city

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directly they will avoid the county's charges of 3%. We will send an invoice and give 45 days to pay and if they don't, we will just put it on their property taxes and collect it that way.

Mr. Coyne was concerned with the information regarding if the property was sold that it may not bind the new property owner, is there a way we could just file an affidavit of facts of each of the properties saying that there is an assessment that will be done every year.

Keith stated that what they suggested that we go ahead and certify the project so it would be as if we were going to do the assessment each year and then we would treat that as the backup so that we would invoice it and if they don't pay we would do the assessment.

Mr. Rose asked if this is the time we discuss the interest rate and what will be charged on the assessment.

Keith stated he contacted the underwriter and they gave him a range of 2.25 percent and they will have to finalize that based on what the final project amount is. 20 year payback time. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Coyne stated everyone should have received an email today from Kathy Patton regarding the revised Courthouse plans for the county and the city municipal court, take a look at those the numbers will be coming later this week and once we get those numbers we can probably have another meeting to discuss them. The plans have been changed dramatically from the previous plans with the square footage has been reduced to a combined 26,098 sq. ft. which includes the share of the shared space with the county and also the size of the court is about 21,000 sq. ft. with respect to the Municipal Court, now our percentage share of the expenses going forward have been reduced based upon the latest plans with 25% to 20% which is pretty good. Once everyone goes through and looks at everything we will have a meeting. Maybe construction costs will go down.

Mayor Hanwell said that the advantage that they see is that the courtrooms are all in the new facility. This latest design meets a lot of what we have asked them to do.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

John M. Coyne, Chairman