

**Finance Committee**  
**Monday, February 22nd, 2021**  
**6 p.m. Medina City Hall – Rotunda & Remote**

**In attendance:** J. Coyne – Chairman (remote), E. Heffinger, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, B. Lamb and J. Hazeltine (remote).

**Also present:** Mayor Hanwell, Greg Huber, Patrick Patton, Keith Dirham, Chief Kinney, Kathy Patton, Jansen Wehrley, Jonathon Mendel and Hub Marquis (Board President of the SPCA)

1. Assignment of Requests for Council Action

2. 21-035-2/22 – Amend Ord. 3-21, Increase Expenditure – Lebanon Ford – Police

Chief Kinney stated this is an increase from the original authorization for the purchase of the vehicle. It was approved, and from the time it took us to get the P.O., the state bid transferred to the 2021 pricing and this reflects the increase for the 2021's. Price went up just under \$500. Mr. Shields moved to approve with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

3. 21-036-2/22 – Bids, Project #946C: Ray Mellert Fitness Trail, Phase 2

Mr. Wehrley stated this project needs to be completed by August 31, 2021. He is requesting to extend the fitness trail so it is approximately .42 miles in length and will connect to the fitness equipment that was installed earlier this year. Requesting to bid this using the CDBG allocation funds that were recently transferred over from the Community Development Department leaving us with a little over \$50,000 in grant funding, and are requesting to use local funding through the Parks budget, approximately \$9,500 for a total of \$60,000. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

4. 21-037-2/22 – Grant Application – Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC)

Mr. Patton stated that the ORDC has set aside funds for rail improvements throughout the state of Ohio and wants to submit an application for the City railroad, specifically with the drainage issue they've had for many years on the tracks just north of State Route 18 by AI Root and potentially for replacing the surface crossing in the same area. Mr. Shields moved to approve with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

5. 21-038-2/22 – Expenditure Over \$15,000 – OP Aquatics – MCRC Parks

Mr. Wehrley stated he and Dan Gladish scrambled to find an alternative solution since the unit that they were quoted on wouldn't have worked. Jansen is requesting to close the last P.O. and open a new one for OP Aquatics to purchase the heater directly from a distributor and work with a local contractor to get it installed and keep costs down as much as possible. Last request was for \$16,000, he found out on Friday they need a second piece for that unit which changes his request to not to exceed \$18,500.00. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

6. 21-039-2/22 – Expenditure – Software Solutions – Annual Software Support

Mr. Dirham explained this is their annual software support through SSI they provide their

financial software. Emergency clause is needed due to the timeline. Mr. Rose asked if the maintenance includes the new budget module that they are anticipating. Keith stated it includes their standard budget module for one year. Mr. Shields moved to approve with emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

7. 21-040-2/22 – Expenditure Over \$15,000 – CHIP Home Repair – Absolute Construction  
Mr. Mendel stated this is a project under their current CHIP Program in the City of Brunswick who are their partners in the grant. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

8. 21-041-2/22 – Rezone City Owned Property – 123 W. Liberty St., P-F to C-2, 364 Foundry St. & 347 N. Huntington, R-3 to O-C.  
These are properties that the City owns. The 123 W. Liberty St. parcel will be added to the Development Corporation parcel along West Liberty for the West Liberty redevelopment. The other two parcels will be used for open space since one is on the east side and the other is on the west side of Ray Mellert Park. The Planning Commission has reviewed and recommended approval of the requested rezoning. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

9. 21-042-2/22 – Donation to Medina County – Medina TV used equipment  
Mr. Fry stated they upgraded their equipment and there is still a little bit of life left in the equipment they would be donating as apposed to sending it to auction where they would get pennies on the dollar they could at least move this as they look forward to maybe a Joint Operating Agreement or Memo of Understanding with the county to cover County Commission Meetings moving forward.  
Mayor Hanwell added he is working corroboratively with Medina County. The Medina TV group has assisted them up to this point and now with this new equipment and they are so pleased with our services, they asked if we could put together an MOU to reimburse for our staff time. Mayor Hanwell stated he sees it as another way the City and County can work together to save tax dollars. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

10. 21-Grant Application – FAA Airport Funding  
Mr. Huber stated the City of Medina received funding in the sum of \$13,000.00 from the FAA for COVID Care and we would like to put this money toward purchase of fuel. Mayor Hanwell asked for the emergency clause as he stated the FAA plans on beginning the distribution of these funds in mid-March and we don't want to miss this opportunity. Mr. Shields moved to approve with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

11. 21-SPCA Annual Contribution Request  
Mr. Rose stated the SPCA does a really great job in helping us keep our animals in check. It's not perfect but they do the best they can with what they have. Last year we donated \$10,000.00. Mr. Rose feels with the COVID crisis this year that we donate \$10,000.00 again this year. Hub Marquis – SPCA Board Director answered questions that council members had.

Mayor Hanwell mentioned the feral cat issue that the city has and stated there are a number of areas where we are trying to deal with this. Mayor Hanwell stated it was his understanding that the SPCA is unable to assist us with that. Mr. Marquis stated that is not entirely true, but the TNR (Trap, Neuter, Release) is a very expensive program. Most likely after neuter we return the cat to the same location it was captured in which most people don't want. Unfortunately, people feed

them and once they are fed they keep coming back and after awhile they become a nuisance. Feral cats are cats that are born in the wild from feral parents. If you can catch the kittens within probably the first two months of life, you can make them to be normal cats. Mayor Hanwell asked if the SPCA could look into testing for feline Infectious Peritonitis once they've trapped a feral cat. Mr. Marquis stated they could look into that testing, he also stated that since 2014, the feral cat situation has reduced in certain parts of the county but there are still some hot spots.

Mr. Lamb spoke about educating people. With feral cats, people feel sorry for them but continue to feed them, and then they propagate and they create an issue and most times they aren't healthy anyway. Bill likes the idea of Keith putting a statement in the water bill to not feed feral cats.

Mayor Hanwell stated there is pending legislation with the Special Legislation Committee regarding feeding the deer, and he would respectfully ask to consider expanding that to other wild animals, which would then cover the feral cats. If we had something on the books instead of Denny trying to talk to someone in his ward feeding the deer, and someone else confronting a resident, eventually if we legislate something like this - the first thing we would do is give them a warning, a copy of the ordinance and if it persists, then at least we have something to go by.

Mr. Lamb feels it is a great suggestion, he and the law director have worked out legislation that is agreeable to both of them that will begin to hopefully address the situation. Mr. Shields moved to authorize a \$10,000.00 contribution to the SPCA, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

There being no further business, the Finance Committee adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

John M. Coyne, Chairman