

**Finance Committee**  
**Monday, May 8, 2023**  
**6:30 p.m. Medina City Hall – Council Rotunda**

**In attendance:** J. Coyne – Chairman, J. Shields, B. Lamb, R. Haire, P. Rose, D. Simpson, and J. Hazeltine

**Also present:** Mayor Hanwell, Greg Huber, Nino Piccoli, Keith Dirham, Patrick Patton, Andrew Dutton, Dan Gladish, Kimberly Marshall, Jansen Wehrley, Barb Dzur, Laureen Wilson, Sarah Crawford, Pastor Ruffin, Rick & Tammy Kirby and Kathy Patton.

**Finance Committee (6:00 p.m.)**

1. Assignment of Requests for Council Action

2. 22-155-6/27 – Display of Flags on Government Property

Jessica Hazeltine stated that after much discussion they feel it's best to make no ordinance at all. The park is considered a public space and when someone is using that public space for an event they are permitted to use the four arches on the corners of the square to display their banners. If they are paying to use the square they can put up their banners. The American flags will stay up at all times.

John Coyne stated that the Banner Policy that we've had deals with the obtaining permits and things and also in the Sports Association and the use of the sports fields through Jansen Wehrley, it dictates how those fields can be used and what can and can't be put up.

Mayor Hanwell stated that banners on the square are considered decorations, it doesn't say banners, it says any decorations can't be on the gazebo or the trees or other things but they can be on the four archways. He stated he prefers to start with the day of the event verses multiple days. We have to start somewhere and give this a chance and evaluated it.

This is coming from Mr. Huber – this will not be considered government speech because it is not government speech, the City will have no authority to limit anybody who wants to pull a permit and pay for a permit, even if we don't agree with the language, BG, some Confederate group or some Neo-Nazi group or whatever. We open ourselves up with the fact that it is a public space and it's for first amendment purposes.

Bill Lamb asked if all applications are automatically approved?

Mr. Coyne replied that there are other laws out there regarding hate speech and otherwise that probably could be prohibited because that's not protected by the first amendment.

Bill feels we wouldn't really have control over what would be reasonable, and this won't do what we think it will do. He is not in agreement of this.

Bill thinks the banners that have been put up detract from the Historic District.

Mr. Rose questioned if there is some kind of guideline out there that defines what all is included in hate speech, what is acceptable?

Mr. Simpson stated he agrees with this and supports it.

Regi Haire expressed she wishes as a community that we were more respectful to the other groups and want us to be inclusive. If we know ahead of time what they are going to be flying/displaying on these banners it would definitely give us a heads-up as to what the expectation could be.

Mr. Coyne stated after hearing from everyone on Finance going forward with what has been suggested as far as the uptown park and issuing permits we just need to talk with Mr. Huber and get more specificity with respect to do we want to get involved in talking about what will be displayed or flown.

The Finance Committee ultimately decided to stay with current banner policy and pass no legislation at this time.

3. 23-098-5/8 – Budget Amendments

#2023-028

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

#2023-029

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

4. 23-099-5/8 – Purchasing Card Policy Update

Mr. Dirham has asked for an increase. Getting a lot of purchases that are over the limit and are asking for \$4,000 to be the limit. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

5. 23-100-5/8 – Job Creation Grant – Allfasteners USA LLC

Mrs. Marshall stated this is for the purpose of them expanding their business in the City of Medina. Entails acquisition and renovations of the building located at 950 Lake Rd. The agreement will provide Allfasteners with a grant up to 40% of the new payroll taxes to the City of Medina for 3 years. This would be subject to the Law Director's approval. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

6. 23-101-5/8 – Agreement w/Kleinfelder – Administrative Services - Grant

Mr. Dutton stated this is for \$22,500 for administrative services. Mr. Shields moved to approve subject to the law director's approval, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

7. 23-102-5/8 – Change of Vendor – P.O. #2022-1601, Rotunda Flooring Project (ARPA)

Mr. Piccoli stated this is the last phase of the rotunda upgrade. They've been experimenting with multiple stripping materials and found a company called Rescue Painting that has made a big difference in stripping the material off the floor. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

8. 23-103-5/8 – Use of Remaining ARPPA Funds

Mr. Dutton stated the ARPA Funds, which are not encumbered, are down to \$307,495 and we were asked for some possible uses of the remaining funds. Andrew is asking for the Multi-Use Path. Council authorized the creation of a Multi-Use Path Plan for the city using ARPA, and it is currently underway in the beginning phases. Purpose is to target specific paths based on priority and feasibility. In general, multi-use paths are about \$1 million dollars per mile. Expecting to get grant money for that of course and the match is usually 20%.

Jansen proposed to redo the Regan Skate Park. Information from American Ramp Company is included in the packets. Cost for redo is approximately \$260,000 to \$500,000.

Mr. Coyne stated the skate park is greatly used by the youth.

Mayor Hanwell stated he was notified by the Finance office that Federal administrators are foreseeing that they are going to start looking at communities that have not encumbered the monies, and will start asking for it back and that is what prompted them to bring these two ideas. Out of fairness they both are needed. There is a good chance that either the public or the foundations may assist with either of these projects. One consideration may be to split it 50/50.

Mr. Shields feels there are a lot more grant opportunities out there for the multi-use paths than for the skate park.

Dennie thinks maybe if the monies are split and a grant becomes available for the multi-use path then can we move those funds back to the skate park.

The Mayor stated his understanding is that as long as the monies are encumbered, they can move the money over.

Mr. Shields moved to encumber the entire amount of available funds for the renovation of the skate park, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passes 7-0.

9. 23-104-5/8 - Agreement w/ lamGIS – GIS System Renewal - Engineering

Mr. Patton stated this is the provider that supports our GIS System, and this will be a 3-year agreement. The total is \$14,000 a year, total for 3 years is \$42,000. Patrick request this be approved subject to the Law Director. Greg did review this and had some recommendations for modifications. Mr. Shields moved to approve subject to final approval of the law director, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion Passes 7-0.

10. 23-105-5/8 – Discussion Re: Collection of Signatures for Petitions

\*Pulled

11. 23-106-5/8 – Revise Civil Service Rules – Communication Operators Lateral Transfers

Lauren Wilson stated earlier this year council approved a lateral transfer Patrol Officer revision to the Civil Service Rules. That has allowed for testing of candidates and to move them through the process a little quicker. It was requested through Chief Kinney if this process can also be added for the Communication Operators also. A policy was created by her and Sgt. Lynn that mirrors the Patrol Officers. Greg Huber has reviewed it and agrees with the policy. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

12. 23-107-5/8 – EMA Agreement

Mayor Hanwell stated each of the communities that take part pays a certain amount of fees to get the benefits of what the Medina County Emergency Management Agency offers to us. The hazmat response, the rope response, the trench response. The agreement has been redone by the County Prosecutor's Office with input from the Medina County Emergency Management Executive Board as well as the Board of County Commissioners and now to continue getting the services of the EMA, each of the political subdivisions wishing to continue need to pass this by a council resolution and documents saying before he can sign it. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

There being no further business, Finance Committee adjourned at 7:03 p.m.