

Finance Committee
Monday, June 12, 2023
6:00 p.m. Medina City Hall – Council Rotunda

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

Also present: Mayor Hanwell, Greg Huber, Nino Piccoli, Keith Dirham, Patrick Patton, Sgt. Zaremba, Judge Werner, Jansen Wehrley, Kimberly Marshall, Sarah Crawford, Keri Huff and Kathy Patton.

1. Assignment of Requests for Council Action

2. 19-175-10/15 – Vacating City R-O-W from Church Property

Mr. Patton stated council discussed this about 4 years ago. Back in the 80's the church dedicated a portion of their property perpendicular to route 18 as public right-of-way in order to be able to get the modular unit trailers in and they had to do that in order to meet state rules regarding public educational monies. That apparently went away and now they want their property back. The method to do that is through a vacation plat. A surveyor needs to be hired and an engineer to put it together. John Coyne stated that council is in agreement, and it's ok to vacate it No vote is necessary and they can move forward to obtain the vacation plat and prepare it.

3. 23-113-5/22 – Increase PO #2023-0930 – Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway

Mr. Dirham stated this is a little goofy but council already approved it once, but at the time it was approved the new ordinance increasing the amounts the Finance Committee has the authority to approve hadn't taken effect yet. Mr. Shields moved to approved, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 6-0.

4. 23-114-5/22 – Increase PO #2023-840 – Rocco Masonry

Mr. Piccoli stated we have this contractor who helps take care of replacing concrete in areas, we started out with a \$10,000.00 P.O. and there are more areas that have been identified as needing replaced. Mr. Shields moved to approved, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 6-0.

5. 23-115-6/12 – Medina Meow Fix – Additional Funding Request

Mr. Lamb stated they worked with the residents to create a TNR (trap, neuter, release), recognizing the issues not only in the City of Medina. Bill brought up that the city donated some money as a pilot program to see how it works. Bill thought it was based on somewhat like the work they do with the SPCA. The program itself has taken off to such an extent that people from other counties have contacted this group to find out how they created the program. The Meow Fix group has begun to do work outside of the city limits in other communities. The Meow Fix group is all volunteers. Bill is asking council to approve more funding until the group is completely on their feet and able to fund themselves.

Dennie stated he is impressed with all the work Meow Fix has accomplished. It is a benefit to the city and to the county. He is struggling with them going outside of the city of Medina and would

feel more comfortable if Keri would reach out to the other Municipalities / Townships / Villages and ask them for some financial support.

Keri Huff would like to see some ARPA Funds to help support her 5013C Meow Fix program. She will work with the other communities for more funds. She does work in tandem with the SPCA. Keri stated she will provide council with the numbers they need.

Regi Haire stated she would also like to see the numbers this organization is receiving from other communities.

Paul Rose stated he would like to see income and expenses on the fundraisers they have had.

Mr. Shields stated that Keri mentioned it will take 3 to 5 years to be stable and asked if by then if council funds this year then they should be good.

John Coyne stated the bulk of the issue it sounds like we've addressed, with the 300 some cats total there is a big amount cats that are no longer going to be breeding now. The numbers should drop dramatically quickly. John's direction of where to go with this is to try and cooperate with the SPCA because they have a better organization structure that they should be able to take this on somehow.

Keri stated the SPCA does not handle feral cats at all. Keri stated she called them about a racoon that possibly had distemper and they wouldn't even send out a humane officer, even the Medina City Police didn't come out.

Mr. Lamb thinks council's review of this is important and looks forward to more information.

***On hold until next meeting.

6. 23-116-6/12 – Bids, 2023 Broadcasting & Web Streaming Head End Video

Jarrold Fry stated this was not in his 5-year plan. The Head End is what allows them to play back on their government channel and their educational Access channel as well as their web streaming for Video on Demand. This service let us know that they are no longer backing their software for our Head End. The cost is high enough that they have to send it out to bid. This will move them forward and will allow them to have Video on Demand capabilities and allow to live stream a channel also on the website. Another capability could potentially tie in with the Clerk of Council with minutes from each meeting with the videos. Also closed captioning making us more ADA compliant.

John asked how does this relate in the future year or two when AI is involved?

Jarrold stated some of that is hard to predict but the biggest impact will be on that closed captioning and being ADA compliant. Jarrold also stated that most of the companies include those firmware upgrades that would allow for AI moving forward. Mr. Shields moved to approved, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 6-0.

7. 23-117-6/12 – Expenditure to Medina City Schools – Pickleball Courts (ARPA)

Jansen stated the collaborative project with Medina City Schools to build six Pickleball courts at Al Root Middle School was approved by Finance to move forward. Jansen stated the project is

currently underway and he has a firm number now on the cost for the project after the unknown soil conditions were corrected. Jansen is requesting a purchase order for 50% of the project in the amount of \$118,891.50 payable to Medina City Schools. Emergency clause is requested to make payment as soon as possible as construction is underway. Jansen spoke of the other options that were considered.

Jim Shields stated that the Pickleball Association has been organized for about 10 plus years and it is the number one request they get to please do something about pickleball in Medina. Jim will abstain from voting because of his employer. Mr. Simpson moved to approved with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Rose. Motion passed 5-1. Jim Shields abstained.

8. 23-118-6/12 – Donate PC's to Medina City Schools – IT

Darin Zaremba stated in their continued partnership with the Medina City Schools they have seven older Dell PC's out of use for us here at the city and would like to donate them to the schools. Hard drives are removed so no data is shared. Jim will abstain from voting. Mr. Simpson moved to approve with the modification, seconded by Mr. Rose. Motion passed 5-1. Jim Shields abstained.

9. 23-119-6/12 – Expenditure Over \$20,000 – Intertek PSI – Engineering

Mr. Patton stated this request was for \$30,000.00. Patrick stated this is for the West Smith Road project. A good portion of this is being paid for through Federal Funds but there are certain requirements for testing inspection. Mr. Shields moved to approved, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 6-0.

10. 23-120-6/12 – Amend JEDD Contract – South Town, LLC

Kimberly Marshall stated their program is voluntary so any property owners that would like to join can fill out the petition to join and bring that parcel into the JEDD District. This one is a little bit different and is why they are having a Public Hearing at the Council Meeting. The amendment has been provided to the Law Director and this will be subject to his final approval. Greg Huber did read and approve this. Mr. Shields moved to approved, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 6-0.

11. 23-121-6/12 – Bids, Rocky River Stabilization at Huffman Cunningham Park (ARPA)

Jansen stated this is to advertise, bid and award the stabilization project at Huffman Cunningham Park. This is to address the erosion, we've loss access to the multi-purpose trail due to being undermined and lost over ten feet of riverbank in that area. The construction budget is \$200,000. Looking to use ARPA funds for this. Mr. Shields moved to approved, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 6-0.

12. 23-122-6/12 – Courthouse Lease

Mayor Hanwell stated they've been working for over a year trying to come to terms for a lease to move the Municipal Court operations from N. Elmwood to the 1969 Courthouse. This is a fair lease for both the city and board of County Commissioners. There is one minor typo on page 1 of the lease, section 1.2 paragraph (a). It should read (A) and (A/B) two different exhibits. Judge Werner stated this was not a project that was rushed into. It's been cooking for 20 years. His predecessor began collecting funds under a statuette which authorizes the court to collect special project funds and he accumulated a fund for a purpose of expanding the courthouse and over the last 20 years or so there have been several attempts to work out some arrangement for this building. He is very excited that so much effort, time and careful thought has been put into

working through this lease arrangement with the county. They are still collecting the special projects fund and working with the city to make sure the funds are going to be there for this project in the long run. The court is fully committed to working with the city to make this work.

John Coyne stated the previous attempt to collaborate with the county in being in the new courthouse which the last estimate we had at that time before it went to a vote was \$7.8 million, and he was ecstatic about it because that was the lowest it's ever been even in our own special building separately it was never that low. Looking ahead at this one he can't say with certainty but it's going to be probably in a range of \$9.5 million, which is costing the city an extra \$1.5 million to do this now. There were no other options that we have that would be less expensive or more collaborative which is disappointing when we had in our hands \$7.8 mil to do previously. The special project fund has a little over \$4 million in it and will continue to grow and will assist in paying for the lease payment under the lease for the 33 years that it is with extensions of course. The use of the community in going to one location for all the courts in one location is one of the biggest benefits. John stated we can pass this out of Finance and this can go to the committee we established for final review.

Mr. Shields moved to approved, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 6-0.

13. Executive Session (imminent litigation)

It was moved by Mr. Shields and seconded by Mr. Simpson to enter into Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. with the Law Director concerning disputes involving the City which are the subject of pending or imminent court action. The roll was called and motion passed by the yea votes of B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, J. Coyne, D. Simpson, and R. Haire.

The executive session adjourned at 7:21 p.m. Finance Committee reconvened, and there being no further business, the Finance Committee adjourned at 7:21 p.m.