

**Finance Committee**  
**Tuesday, October 12, 2021**  
**6:00 p.m. Medina City Hall – Rotunda**

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

**Also present:** Mayor Hanwell, Greg Huber, Patrick Patton, Keith Dirham, Nino Piccoli, Kimberly Marshall, Jansen Wehrley, Chief Walters, Dan Gladish, Kathy Patton, Skip Sipos (MMHA), Rick & Tammy Kirby, Stan Scheetz and Tom O’Connell (Habitat)

1. Assignment of Requests for Council Action

2. 19-169-9/23 – Adopt Cyber Security Incident Response Policy

Mr. Rose recently received more information and would like to table this until the next meeting giving himself more time to review it with Darin and the Law Director.

\*\*\*Tabled

3. 21-189-9/27 – Expenditure, Flock Camera System – Police/Service Depts.

Chief Kinney stated this is a joint project between the Police Department and the Service Department and is for a license plate reader program for ten cameras placed throughout the city and will replace an old outdated existing LPR Program.

Mr. Rose confirmed this came through Emerging Technologies Committee and was discussed along with a presentation by the representative from Flock and were able to see the types of photographs that would be taken with the vast majority of them would be from a rear view typically right rear view. The only thing that is clearly visible is the license plate, the make of car and color.

Chief Kinney stated there are two main scenarios that they see that this would be very beneficial for us here in the city. This will alert them in real time if a stolen vehicle passes one of the cameras or enters into the city and they will be able to intervene and apprehend that individual before they commit any other crimes in the city. The other scenario is after the fact, we’ve had many incidents in the city where there have been crimes of vandalism, burglary, vehicle thefts, thefts out of vehicles, and criminal damaging where all we have is a vehicle description. Some of these incidents were based on witness accounts and others based on home surveillance video. The point is, we can go back and essentially search a specific color of car or a certain time frame.

Mr. Coyne stated the Police Dept. and Service Dept. are teaming up and this is coming from carryforward funds. Mr. Piccoli will be utilizing these cameras for a different type of purposes.

Mr. Piccoli stated yes, as council is aware over the years numerous traffic signal poles have been hit by trucks or vehicles that pass by with no witness and we end up paying because we don’t turn them in to the insurance company. Each pole hit is approximately \$13,000.00 to \$14,000.00 to replace. We’ve been tagged with probably about \$60,000.00 in the last couple of years of damage from hit and skips. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

4. 21-190-10/12 – Transfer Request – Parking Fund

Mr. Dirham stated that we don't make enough money in the parking fund to cover operational costs so we make a transfer every so often when we need money, it is budgeted. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

5. 21-191-10/12 – Budget Amendments

#2021-036 – RITA Overhead Costs / Municipal Court Grants

Mr. Dirham stated that RITA overhead is running a little high and that's a good thing because our collections are high. The grant we get for the court we need adjustments to cover that. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

6. 21-192-10/12 – Increase Expenditure – Litchfield Heating – P.O. #2021-1345

Mr. Piccoli stated we replaced the HVAC unit and the follow up phase 2 are the VAV boxes (variable air volume) and there are about 40 to 42 of these boxes that need to be installed. The initial P.O. was for \$10,000.00. We need to increase another \$20,000.00. Nino stated that from the previous year they have \$14,122.97 of CARES funds and it needs to be encumbered by the end of the year. The rest would come out of Public Buildings with the understanding that we reimburse them with the American Rescue Plan funding. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

7. 21-193-10/12 – Expenditure Over \$15,000 – Wolf Brothers – Service Dept.

Mr. Piccoli stated this is for parts related to the HVAC. Line one on the Litchfield P.O. was 001 out of the 170 account so that \$14,000.00 needed to be spelled out on the 170 account and then the balance would be Public Buildings which is 001-0743. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

8. 21-194-10/12 – Consent to Walter Haverfield re: CIC Liberty View Development Project

Mr. Huber stated that Todd Hunt from the Walter Haverfield Law Firm is representing the City of Medina in the demolition involving Dr. Raymond's house and at the same time one of the attorneys for the firm is helping Kimberly Marshall with the Liberty View Project on drafting some leases. The process would be to waive any conflict of interests. The CIC Project is limited in its scope and so this agreement authorizes the Mayor to waive that conflict of interest. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

9. 21-195-10/12 – Fair Market Value Estimates (FMVE) – West Smith Reconstruction

Mr. Patton stated their plans have progressed to a point enough on West Smith where they can begin the right-of-way acquisition. This is federally funded so they have to follow the federal rules which require them to engage a consultant that is certified in these matters. They have done this as a subconsultant to their main consultant, and they have prepared the fair market value estimates, basically the appraisals for the 15 parcels that we need to acquire in order to complete the project. They now need council's acceptance of these, giving the consultant permission to go ahead and pursue these easements at these dollar values. Emergency clause is because they would like to move forward as quickly as possible now that these estimates are completed. A right-of-way acquisition is typically a longer task when you are involved with a Federal Project. Mr. Shields moved to approve with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

10. 21-196-10/12 – Office of Criminal Justice Grant – Body Cameras – Police

Chief Kinney stated this is a request to get permission to apply for a grant for body worn cameras through the State of Ohio and also accept the grant if it is awarded to us. This is to upgrade our current body worn cameras. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

11. 21-197-10/12 – BJA Grant – Bulletproof Vests – Police

Chief Kinney stated this is a request asking for permission to apply for the annual bulletproof vest program and also to accept if it is awarded to us. Mr. Rose asked if the vests were custom made for each officer. Chief stated they are custom fitted for each officer, not necessarily custom made.

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

12. 21-198-10/12 – Income Tax Reallocation (discuss at final budget meeting)

Mr. Coyne submitted this request because every year they have to reevaluate the allocation. We can get account balances also in the various accounts so that everyone knows.

Keith stated that for the account balances, for the budget in general, we should have the healthcare figures in a couple of weeks so when we get that we will be updating the budgets based on the actual for the healthcare.

\*\*\*Hold for final budget hearing.

13. 21-199-10/12 – Extend Lease – Williams Scotsman – Municipal Court Outbuilding

Mr. Coyne stated this is self-explanatory, they are just trying to extend the lease that expires October 22, 2021 and they are asking for the emergency clause because of that expiration. Pending the Law Director's approval on the form of the contract. Mr. Shields move to approve with the emergency clause subject to final approval of the Law Director, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

14. 21-200-10/12 – 410 East Smith Road – Discussion

Mayor Hanwell stated Tom O'Connell, from Habitat and Skip Sipos, from Medina Metropolitan Housing are joining us this evening. 410 East Smith is the back side of the Bennet Lumber property that we've been just using for storage and equipment. Tom and Skip were talking with Medina Supply about taking the eastern portion of their property if they were willing to sell it, about 1.9 acres, for affordable housing.

Tom O'Connell, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity spoke about Habitat for Humanity. The homes that are built are not free, they have to have the ability to pay for these homes. Habitat originates a 0% interest mortgage over 30 years based on their affordability, these are not rentals these are homeowners who pay property taxes. There is a process and criteria for a Habitat home. Tom stated collaborating with Metropolitan Housing gives the opportunity for Habitat for Humanity and Metropolitan Housing to provide more affordable housing, both home ownership and affordable rental opportunities for families here in Medina County.

Skip Sipos spoke on affordable housing and the concept behind it. The Housing Authority as a unit of government is accountable to the public at large, that means it's not some developer from Columbus who comes in and does something and then you can't get them on the phone if there is an issue.

Mr. Coyne stated they have until February of 2022. Skip stated that is when the application to the Ohio Housing Finance Agency would be due. Mr. Coyne said he will refer this to the Public Properties Committee since it is a city owned piece of property and there will be zoning issues related to it that would have to be looked at. Jim Shields will schedule a meeting by end of year. This property is in Ward 3.

Mr. Huber stated in order for the properties to be transferred it probably needs to be appraised, which takes some time. Look at procedure, public owned land is typically bid.

Mr. Lamb feels they have clearly addressed the issues involved, not just the benefit of it but the need for housing. Maybe bring this up with OHM and the folks on the steering committee of the Comprehensive Plan.

Mrs. Hazeltine stated there are going to be questions about price points.

Jessica stated she is bringing this up now as the Mayor will not be at the next council or finance meeting. The Broadway Creek project has become something of importance.

Mayor Hanwell requests a study of the water. There are three different water retention units that if the city could either partner with them or get either a lease or an easement or something to expand the three. He feels this is something that has been needed for a very long time.

Patrick Patton stated his idea and what he actually submitted for the consideration for the American Rescue Plan was they would like to commission a study, not just for Broadway but for Champion Creek as well, because they have similar issues, to look at cost and benefit for each one of those. Study would prioritize and produce an action plan.

Mr. Piccoli stated the culverts would help ease some of the strain but not a lot. There is a lot of overgrowth.

15. Executive Session: Contract Negotiation / Collective Bargaining

It was moved by Mr. Shields and seconded by Mr. Simpson to enter into Executive Session at 6:45 p.m. to include the Mayor and Law Director for preparing, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment. The roll was called and the motion passed by the yeas of B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, J. Coyne, D. Simpson, E. Heffinger and J. Hazeltine.

At 7:03 p.m. the Executive session was adjourned. The Finance Committee reconvened at 7:29 p.m., and there being no further business, adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

John M. Coyne, Chairman