

**Finance Committee**  
**Monday, October 25, 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, Barbara Dzur, Andrew Dutton, Jansen Wehrley, Christy Moats, Chief Walters, Dan Gladish, Kathy Patton and Sarah Crawford - Gazette

1. Assignment of Requests for Council Action

2. 19-094-5/13 – Amend Code Chapter 145 – Historic Preservation Board – Bldg. Demolition

Mr. Lamb stated they've worked on this on and off for two years. The law director worked on it pretty extensively with some outside legal help. The intention of what we were aiming to do was add to and make some changes in the current legislation in order to tighten up the decision-making process with regard to granting or denying applications for demolition in the Historic District. Decisions need to be based on the language of the ordinance and not personal opinion. Hopefully the way this is written, this will serve in the best interest of the community for many decades to come.

Mr. Huber spoke of a Cincinnati case and how he drafted a good part of this legislation based upon that case. Mr. Huber feels this is the most current supportable language that he can present.

M. Coyne thinks this is helpful and it protects the city and protects the applicant.

Mr. Rose stated this new legislation gives guidance to anybody who would want to purchase a property with the thought that they are going to tear it down and replace it with something else.

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

3. 19-169-9/23 – Adopt Cyber security Incident Response Policy

Mr. Rose stated this policy here spells out exactly what the city will do should there be a cyber security incident. It also adds responsibility to employees with regard to any suspect emails. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

4. 21-180-9/13 – American Rescue Act – Potential Project Discussion

Mr. Coyne stated they discussed this in detail at a previous meeting. They made some decisions with it but needed more information with specifics on certain items. Each department head went through and talked about the 108 account and several projects that throughout the city more specifically in Ward one. Then there are other things that occurred in different departments, some of which have already commenced and need to be completed like the ventilation system at City Hall. We determined we could do most of these needed improvements to the city in the various departments based upon the numbers that were presented, and can move forward with that concept.

5. 21-201-10/25 – Amend Code 943.11 – Cemetery Fees

Mr. Wehrley stated it has been approximately 10 years since we've raised any fees at the cemetery with respect to internments, foundations, and lot purchases. The Cemetery Sexton and his staff member contacted a number of funeral homes as well as other municipally owned and privately-owned cemeteries in our general area and got their pricing. They reviewed and compared those prices with their current pricing structure for 2021 and found they are a little low on the internment fees. Price sheet included in minutes.

The Cemetery Commission recommended us to proceed with roughly \$100 increase on lot fees. Internment fees increase for after 2 p.m. or before noon on Saturdays by \$250. Increased costs for after 12 noon on Saturday or on Sundays (court ordered), trying to cover our staff time.

Jansen wanted to discuss amending Ordinance 943.09 regarding the special lot endowment fund. It is covered in the fees under additional service, this is something they've had in place for a really long time. It is a special lot endowment fee and it states for basically in perpetuity they will place a winter wreath for Christmas and one planting for Memorial Day. Currently have 49 individuals set up on that program and the cost is \$1,000.00 and our unencumbered balance is right around \$4,000.00. They have worked the last couple of years to buy artificial wreaths to help reduce the expense. After discussion, options are to completely do away with that additional service and continue providing wreaths and plantings as described in the current ordinance for those 49 individuals or we increase the price substantially, and if there is anybody interested in it in the future it would increase the revenue in that account. In the last three years we only had 2 people purchase.

Mr. Simpson stated putting another full-time employee made us want to find through the council's suggestion find ways to increase revenue and this was one way and this is not going to raise a lot of money but it is something over the last ten years we've not raised any rates except for the new columbarium wall. It was discussed in Commission that if they were to keep the special lot endowment they would have to raise it substantially to \$5,000.00. Dennie respectfully asks that council approve these new fee structures.

Mr. Wehrley stated the amount that was on the 2022 price structure was \$2,000.00., we didn't change it from what the commission had approved just because they wanted to see what council felt as a whole as to what we should do. Jansen feels it is necessary to increase it to \$5,000.00.

Mr. Lamb feels it might just be a program we discontinue, because there is no way to project out the cost of this and the value of money.

Mr. Shields moved to approve the modifications to the cemetery fees with the exclusion of item #3 Additional Services Endowment fee, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

6. 21-202-10/25 – Increase PO #21-329 – MNJ – Police Dept.

Chief Kinney stated this is to increase their blanket P.O. for MNJ Technologies. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

7. 21-203-10/25 – Increase PO #21-939 – Rocco Masonry & Concrete – Service

Mr. Piccoli stated they have an existing P.O. in the amount of \$15,000.00. The Street Department replaced several hundred feet of storm sewer on East Friendship and crossed three driveways. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

8. 21-204-10/25 – Then & Now – Rudick Forensic Engineering – Law

Mr. Huber stated this bill pertains to the examination and evaluation of the stan pipe at the Lindenwood Lake Dam. We had Rudick Engineering examine the problem of it leaking and still working on a solution that will be acceptable. The complication with the stan pipe has to do with the fact that it is right in the dam and digging up the pipe is problematic because it weakens the dam where this is located. This is the bill for the engineer's work. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

9. 21-205-10/25 – Preliminary Legislation ODOT – US 42 Signal Timing

Mr. Patton explained they were approached by ODOT about potentially having them complete a corridor signal timing project on Rt. 42 in the historic area. They identified this, rightly so as an area of congestion. We are interested and they presented us this signal agreement. One of our concerns is this corridor is part of a larger historic district system (12 signals in this system) and their proposed scope only looks at the one North/South Corridor being US42. We expressed that it needed to be expanded, if you just modify the timings on 42 it's probably going to have a negative effect on the East/West routes. ODOT in Ashland the local district agreed with us, but they had to take it to central office to request more funding so they can expand the scope to include the entire district.

Tabled until we hear from ODOT.

10. 21-206-10/25 – Purchase of Treadmills – MCRC

Jansen stated the rec center demoed a number of treadmills over the last several months for all the patrons to use and to be examined by rec employees and select which one would be best to purchase. In the past, equipment was to be split 50/50 with the schools and that was struck out of the new JOA so we are in dire need of replacing our treadmills. Many are as old as when the facility was built in 2002. In an attempt to get more patrons back into the facility, we'd like to invest some of our carryforward money into equipment. These new treadmills would improve the user experience offering a 22-inch touch screen monitor connectable to our WIF that we are in the process of getting upgraded so users can connect with Netflix, YouTube, Social Media, and Kindle Books. This also gives us the ability to program in our own advertisements for programs and any events we are having. Requesting to use carryforward funds for this.

Mr. Huber stated this contract was not sent to the Law Department but he did look at it and there are some terms in it that are going to have to come out. There's an indemnification clause that we can't agree to in this contract they are advising that if the governing law should be the law of the State of Wisconsin and any litigation would need to take place there.

Jansen stated the line item for the account needs to be changed to 54413 since it is a capital purchase.

Mr. Rose asked what kind of warranty comes with the equipment?

Christy Moats stated that it has a 3-year warranty or 100,000.00 miles and the technician that

works on them is local. Life expectancy of the machines are 12 to 15 years.

Mr. Shields moved to approve subject to the law director's approval, and the change of the account number, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

11. 21-207-10/25 – MCRC Logo Discussion

Mr. Wehrley referred to previous discussion on now having the ability to create a logo that was not Medina Community Recreation Center. The name of the facility is never going to change but they are looking to hopefully be able to simplify their logo to help facilitate marketing efforts. They have received approval from the School Board and Council to do that. As such, they reached out to a Logo and branding firm out of Wooster and design the three different options. Jansen provided the three options to council. Basically, it is their hope to use all three of them for different aspects of advertising, the goal is to just have a clean theme.

Kimberly stated once a logo is determined you may want to go through a Trademark and Copywrite process. Mr. Coyne suggested Mr. Huber and Mr. Wehrley get together to make a decision on that and pick a law firm that is going to specialize in that area to file the necessary paperwork to have it trademarked.

12. 21-208-10/25 – 2020 Capital Grant – Exp. To Main Street Lighting - Lampposts

Mr. Piccoli stated this is part of the grant, there are 28 lamp posts that need replacement between Huntington Bank parking lot and then the square. This grant will cover \$65,000.00 and the street lighting fund will cover the remaining of the estimated \$140,000.00. This will conclude our Historic Street Light Replacement Program. Mr. Shields moved to approve with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

13. 21-209-10/25 – Purchase (1) 2022 F250 Ford Truck – Parks Dept.

Mr. Wehrley stated this truck was identified in the 2021 budgeting process and they delayed the purchase due to the 10% cuts. The purchase is through Sourcewell. Order cutoff is November 12<sup>th</sup> for model year 2022. Anticipated wait time is about 7 months and that is why the emergency clause is needed. Mr. Shields moved to approve with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Coyne stated in the next couple of weeks they will be having a meeting with respect to the final budgets and the discussion on the income tax allocation.

There was a question from the Board of Control regarding a deer survey that Mr. Wehrley was going to engage in having another deer survey done. We did do one two years ago which was done by helicopter and at that time it was found that there were 570 deer in the city. Do we want to spend the money for another survey and then do nothing about the results?

Mr. Lamb does have a meeting coming up to discuss alternatives to deal with the deer, we know we can't just do nothing. Options are to continue to do nothing with the deer or discuss a culling program.

Jansen stated if we are going to work on developing a plan, he feels it would be beneficial to have accurate numbers, this is a hot button issue. There are a lot of people that want the city to do something and there are a lot that do not want us to do anything. The only way to solve that in his opinion is to have data that supports the decision that we are going to make. Having as

accurate information as we can will be beneficial. It is an expense at over \$5,000.00. We are not on the hook for the thermal imaging.

Mr. Lamb stated it's important that we gather better information and particularly from cities that have looked at this issue and dealt with it effectively. Bill is in favor of the survey and spending the \$5,000.00.

Mr. Coyne disagrees with Bill on getting another study done telling us we have deer, we already know we have deer. Not sure we have to spend money on that, we just have to decide based upon knowing that we do have a deer problem, it's obvious.

Jessica Hazeltine is in favor of the survey and also feels the need to start birth control darting. The birth control would last 3 to 5 years. That would help control the population. Jessica would like to see Medina be the first place in Ohio to attempt this darting. Would we need this survey of the deer in order to start the darting or culling programs?

Mr. Simpson stated we know this deer issue has been an ongoing problem in our city for many years. Dennie reminded everybody on council that our current Mayor/Safety Director has adamantly said that as long as he is in office there will be no culling with bow or guns in the city limits of Medina. With that being said it would direct us more in the line of finding other alternatives such as darting birth control or poison to cull. Dennie stated that they are the State of Ohio's deer and this should be taken out of the Mayor / Safety Director and Council's hands. We would have to get a permit from the state and he agrees with Bill that when the time comes we will need a more current study but agrees with John also that we know we already have a deer problem.

Mr. Hazeltine agrees with John, we already have a deer problem and we need to do something about it. There is a better use of the money in finding a way to take care of this.

Mr. Shields asked Mr. Huber if he wants them to tell him whether as a majority of council we want to do something about reducing the deer population.

Jim agrees with Jessica that if there is a way to do it without having to cull with bow or gun then that is something to look into but regardless of which way we go, we have to have the data to back it.

Mr. Rose stated he has been talking to a lot of residents lately and four out of five residents complained about the deer. That is the top complaint. We definitely have to do something. To make sure we make the right decision, we need as much data as possible. Paul is in favor of having some sort of survey so we know how many, where and we can put together a plan. We may come up with three different plans depending on the data.

Bill Lamb will schedule a meeting.

There being no further business, the Finance meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Finance Committee – October 25, 2021

John M. Coyne, Chairman