

Finance Committee
Monday, November 8, 2021
5:30 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 Kinney, Dan Gladish, Andrew Dutton, Barb Dzur, John Lengacher, Rick & Tammy Kirby, Kevin Lauterjung & Matt Burington (Community Energy Advisors), Matt Wiederhold, Ken Richardson, Sara (Gazette), Kathy Patton.

1. Assignment of Requests for Council Action

2. 21-210-11/8 – Budget Amendments

#2021-038 – Donations for Visitor Guides

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

#2021-041 - Various

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

3. 21-211-11/8 - Amend Res. 46-21 – Targets of Opportunity Grant

Barb Dzur stated when this was initially approved the figures were off and we now have the final figures. Emergency clause is requested to move this along. Mr. Shields moved to approve with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

4. 21-212-11/8 – Discussion – Community Energy Advisors – Electric Aggregation

Mr. Piccoli stated the time came to potentially renew the Electric Aggregation program with Energy Harbor (formally known as First Energy Solutions) we obtained a price about 4.8 cent per kw hour and we did not endorse the emergency clause at that time. Shortly after that the county called over and they were working with Community Energy Advisors who are here tonight. We all thought that with the collaborative effort of the city and the entire county we could possibly obtain a better price.

Community Energy Advisor Kevin and Energy Analyst Matt spoke on their company. They explained the history of their program, the process we've gone through together over the last month, the forward market curves and some of the expectations around pricing and finished up with an opportunity for any discussion.

Medina City's current electric government aggregation program has been active since 2010. Variable price product that is offered to community, indexed against the standard utility rate. Commonly referred to the PTC (Price to Compare).

As the city approaches finalizing bids and moving into a contracting phase, we would refresh pricing with Direct Energy as well.

Mr. Rose questioned with regard to the rate, whatever we agree to on that date is that going to be the same for 2 to 4 years or whatever the length of the contracts is? Regardless of the

market? Mr. Lauterjung stated that is correct.

Mr. Coyne asked if the distribution rate is locked in by the PUC or is it the change based upon who supplies the energy? Kevin replied it doesn't change based on who supplies the energy, it changes based on the rate filings that Ohio Edison submits to the Public Utilities Commission that they have the ability to approve or disapprove at any time.

Mayor Hanwell stated something to consider is the County has been given directives to the County Administrator that if the number hits a certain target number, he has a right to sign those papers. Problem is, if the number hits that we are looking for and we have to come back and go through finance and council that number won't be available.

Nino stated a Utility company will not hold a rate for longer than 24 hours.

Mr. Shields asked if we wanted to give authority tonight or wait two weeks. John replied he would rather wait two weeks and doesn't want to react to the volatility.

Mr. Lamb feels the suggestion about giving the authority to the mayor is about the only way that you could guarantee being locked in at the rate you want.

Mr. Simpson hasn't seen in the last couple months even gasoline dropping in price, seems to steadily increase.

Mr. Rose feels maybe we can buy a little time here but not go past the two weeks.

***Hold for discussion at next meeting.

5. 21-213-11/8 – 2nd Amendment to EMS Agreement w/ Medina Hospital

Mayor Hanwell is requesting we pass amending it from 1-1-22 to 12-31-26 (5-year term). Mr. Shields moved to approve as amended, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

6. 21-214-11/8 – 2022 Membership Renewal to Main Street Medina

Mayor Hanwell stated the city annually provides a \$30,000.00 stipend to Main Street. Main Street is an organization in the city that plans all the events, activities on the square and supports our local businesses and brings the mass amounts of visitors to the downtown with the various events. We are very pleased with everything Main Street is doing.

Matt Wiederhold stated Main Street will celebrate their 15th anniversary in 2022 and in 15 years they have generated over \$20 million dollars of economic impact for the city. In 2022 we will be entering our 9th year of 100% occupancy on the square. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

7. 21-215-11/8 – Amend S&B code 31.05 – Sanitation Dept.

Mr. Piccoli stated this is in hopes of resolving some staffing issues in the Sanitation Department. Nino stated their pool of part-time folks has seemed to dry out and we feel by making full-time positions that we could attract due to the reputation of the city, and with the benefits and retirement. Any opening in a vacancy with a union ranking file is served by a fellow union full-timer and they would have first dibs on a posting. If it is not filled through that round then the part-time union are eligible to be promoted. Nino stated there are 3 positions needed.

John Coyne stated so what you are doing is moving 2 part-timers to three full-time MEO's and asked what the cost difference is.

Nino stated they are looking at \$190,000 for the 2 MEO's and explained that they have that in their carryforward.

Nino spoke of the CDL procedure and how they help employees obtain them if they are interested.

Mr. Coyne feels from a budget perspective, moving up to 3 full-time MEO's, to him it would make sense to release 3 part-timers.

John Lengacher feels that would be a safe move because it would be offsetting the cost by about \$27,000.00 a year based upon their wages.

Mr. Rose asked if these funds come out of the Enterprise Fund

Mr. Lengacher stated yes, they do.

Mr. Shields stated he sat through the Civil Service presentation last week. Mr. Shields moved to change the full-time status from 9 to 12 and reduce part time from 6 to 3, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

8. 21-216-11/8 – Purchase Fitness Equipment – MCRC = ARP Funds

***Removed due to ARP not funding these.

9. 21-217-11/8 – Purchase ADA Swim Lifts – MCRC – ARP Funds

***Removed due to ARP not funding these.

10. 21-218-11/8 – Purchase NuStep Trainers – MCRC

Mr. Wehrley stated, this originally was part of the CDBG Grant thinking we could use the ARP Funds, but found out we were not able to and now we are respectfully going to ask that the account number for this purchase be changed from #171 to #574 to use our carryforward funds. Jansen stated these are new step trainers that are predominately used by seniors and those with limited mobility in the facility which move your extremities for you and are easily accessible from 360 degrees. The original units that these would be replacing were purchased in 2010 and 2009 and we are asking to trade in 3 of those units due to them reaching the end of their service life. We do have a fourth one that was purchased in 2013 that we are keeping. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

11. 21-219-11/8 – Field Expansion Project – Miracle League – Parks Dept.

Mr. Wehrley introduced Ken Richardson from the Miracle League. We have a ground lease with Miracle League that we executed back in 2015. They have done a number of improvements since then. They did resurface about 8,000 sq. ft. of the infield with a pour in place rubberized surfacing at a cost of approximately \$54,000.00, they have since then contributed, along with the Stephenson Foundation, for a permanent vault restroom, paid to bring power into the facility and constructed an announcer stand. The Miracle League is interested in taking their efforts into the outfield so that the individuals with physical and mental disabilities are able to get the full

experience of playing baseball and are looking to add about 5,000 sq. ft. of concrete along with pour and play surface and installing a new homerun fence that is actually closer so that the children and adults participating in the program are able to get that full experience. They kicked off their fundraising already and have approximately \$75,000 for this project that is estimated at \$131,450.00. The lease we have executed with them was for an initial period of ten years with option to extend for an additional ten years. Jansen has met with Ken several times and stated they do have all their ducks in a row, they've reached out to Cunningham Associates to get an actual drawing that will be submitted to our engineering department. For all of this we felt it was best to bring this to council due to the dollar amount as well as Mr. Huber reviewing the lease to make sure that we were good to move forward.

Ken Richardson thanked council for the current lease, they feel they have a great relationship with the City of Medina. All of your support is fantastic! Ken invited council on a tour of the facility. Ken is asking to allow them to finish the field by approving their addendum to the lease which is in the sixth year of a ten-year lease. They want to keep making Sam Masi Park special.

Jansen requested that Ken inform council of how many youth and adults participate in the Miracle League. Ken stated they have 121 players in their program with no age limit. In the City of Medina there are 62 players. 98 players in Medina County.

Mr. Shields thanked Ken for his passion, commitment and dedication. Jim is very proud of that facility and what it does for our residents that use it and knows that Ken is the driving force. Jim pointed out the greatest ambassador Ken's daughter Kelly. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion Passed 7-0.

12. 21-220-11/8 – Expenditure to Mason Custom Builders – Service

Mr. Piccoli stated that the rotunda drop ceiling project comes to us as phase two and there are four large VAV boxes that need to be changed out and in doing that it will open up a large area of the one by one acoustic tiles. Once you open those tiles up they are supposed to snap back into place but they do not. We want to present this project using the American Rescue Plan Act in conjunction with the HVAC. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

13. 21-221-11/8 – Amend Code 943.09 – Special Lot Endowment Fund

Mr. Wehrley stated an ordinance on the agenda tonight 181-21 amends cemetery ordinance 943.11 which is in regards to our cemetery fees. We discussed striking the special lot endowment fund as an option for an additional purchase. This would be to amend that ordinance to continue care for those that are enrolled in the program prior to December 31st, 2021 so when we implement the new fees in 2022 we will continue a special lot endowment care for those families that have enrolled in it prior to December 31, 2021. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

14. 21-222-11/8 – 2022 Health Insurance Renewal – Medical Mutual

Mayor Hanwell reported to council that the renewal is at 0% to stay with Medical Mutual, they are pleased with the programs the city is doing and are controlling the cost. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

15. 21-223-11/8 – Repay Advances

Mr. Dirham stated these are advances that we are repaying. The bulk of them are for grant

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

16. 21-224-11/8 – Rollover of Outstanding Advances

Mr. Dirham stated these are rollovers of advances where we are not repaying them we are continuing them on for another year. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

17. 21-225-11/8 – Fund Advance Request

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

Executive Session: Land Acquisition

It was moved by Mr. Shields and seconded by Mr. Simpson to enter into Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. to consider the purchase of property for public purposes or the sale of property at competitive bidding because premature disclosure would give an unfair competitive or bargaining advantage to a person who's personal, private interest is adverse to the general public interest, to include the Mayor, Mr. Huber and Jansen Wehrley. The roll was called and motion approved by the yea votes of B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, J. Coyne, D. Simpson, E. Heffinger and J. Hazeltine.

The Executive session was adjourned at 7:17 pm. The Finance Committee reconvened at 7:30 p.m., and there being no further business, adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

John M. Coyne, Chairman