

Finance Committee
Monday, February 24, 2025
6:00 p.m. Medina City Hall – Council Rotunda

In attendance: John Coyne – Chairman, J. Shields, D. Simpson, P. Rose, R. Haire and Chet Simmons. N. DiSalvo was absent.

Also present: Mayor Hanwell, Greg Huber, Keith Dirham, Patrick Patton, Kathy Patton, Jarrod Fry, Kimberly Marshall, Dan Gladish, Sarah Crawford, Chief Walters, Jansen Wehrley, Chief Kinney, Darin Zaremba, Holly Becht, Cindy Lastuka, Tammy & Rick Kirby and Andrew Dutton.

1. Assignment of Requests for Council Action

2. 25-042-2/10 – 2024 Carryforward Request

Keith Dirham stated this is the unspent appropriations. Monies saved up. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 6-0.

3. 25-045-2/24 – Fund Advance Request

Keith stated this is an advance for a grant - Brownfield. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 6-0.

4. 25-046-2/24 – Budget Amendments

a. #2025-007

Keith Dirham explained the first two are for the advance they just did for that grant. The others are a grant for railroads, economic development as contractual service increase and then a repayment of an advance for the West Smith Rd. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 6-0.

5. 25-047-2/24 – Feasibility Study / Proposal – Fanning Howey – MCRC

Jansen Wehrley explained they are looking at doing a feasibility study to add a turf area onto the west end of the field house at the rec center. There is a great need in the community. Mr. Coyne asked if we amended the ground lease? Jansen stated he believed it was an addendum to the ground lease. John asked if this was a joint project and if the schools would be paying for some of it? Jansen is still researching everything as he doesn't know if they can do this yet. Mr. Shields will abstain from voting so there is no appearance of conflict. Mr. Simpson moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Rose. Motion passed 5-1. Jim Shields abstained.

6. 25-048-2/24 – Expenditure - Replacement of Scale Cluster – Municipal Court

Cindy stated in 2020 they replaced three of their servers and they have a 5-year life span and are coming up on the end of life span. The quote from TEG for \$58,293.75 to replace those three servers. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 6-0.

7. 25-049-2/24 – Expenditure – TEGOH – IT Dept.

Darin Zaremba stated he wants to get two more years of support on the hardware and the clusters and do a reevaluation at year 5 and year 6. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 6-0.

8. 25-050-2/24 – PY25 CHIP Partnership Agreement

Andrew Dutton stated their 2024 application was not approved and they did not receive funding from the state. They have been in contact with the County to partner with their program. Submit one countywide CHIP. This is a preferred format from both the state and our consultant. This RCA is for a program agreement to apply for the program year 2025 CHIP with Wadsworth, Brunswick and the County. If this goes forward, there will be another agreement with more specifics on funding and amounts and who gets what basically. Mr. Shields moved to approve with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 6-0.

9. 25-051-2/24 – Bids – W. Liberty/S. Elmwood/W. Washington Water Line Improve

Patrick Patton is looking for authorization to bid the replacement of waterlines on West Washington St. between Vine and Elmwood and on West Liberty between Elmwood and Court. Would also like to bid as an add alternate South Elmwood between Liberty and Washington. Every 5 or 6 years we do a water master plan and upgrading the line on W. Washington to make it a main for system improvements, better flow, fire flow redundancy was the number one ranked. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 6-0.

10. 25-052-2/24 – Needs Assessment/Feasibility Study – Medina Municipal Complex

Patrick Patton stated he is looking to go through a qualification base selection process to select an architect to do a needs study on the Medina Municipal complex, being City Hall and Police Department. There is no cost to go through this process the cost comes in when we select someone. Chief Kinney stated this all started with a need for space in the Police Dept. In 1974, they had about 20 people between dispatchers, records division, and police officers and the building was built in 1973. Today they have over 60 employees working out of the police department including records division, dispatchers, patrol officers, and administrative staff. We are researching some ways to accomplish fulfilling those needs, and we want to do a proper process and that starts with a need assessment. Chief wants council's input as well as the community's input. Patrick stated if this goes to council on March 10th we would look to start advertising by April 10th. A committee could exist of someone from the police department, city hall and possibly Nino Piccoli, and two members of council. No motion is necessary at this time.

11. 25-053-2/24 – Municipal Court Renovation – Guaranteed Maximum Price Agreement No. 2

Patrick Patton stated the municipal courthouse is currently under construction, this is GMP #2 which consists of the package that will be concrete, steel work, elevator shaft, elevators and purchasing some electrical gear. Price came in at a little over \$1.3 million dollars. Currently we are about \$1.8 million below our original preliminary estimate. The big one, GMP # 3, is going to be delivered to us on April 7th. We are asking council to approve this. COW meeting will be on April 9th. Emergency clause is needed, we don't want to delay. Mr. Shields moved to approve with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 6-0.

12. 25-054-2/24 – ODO Brownfield Remediation Grant Application

Kimberly stated the State of Ohio recently announced another round of ODO funding for the Brownfield Grant program. The grant opened and closed in 3 hours, so we are not going to be able to submit the grant application. Our thought is to at least keep this on the agenda for now and talk to council about the potential of applying if they have another round of remediation grant programs. Not moving forward - Closed

13. 25-055-2/24 – Discussion/Possible Amendment to Ord. 162-22, Re: Hunting

Mayor Hanwell explained that Council passed an ordinance in 2022 where they established the archery program. They did that with the idea hunters getting permission from private property or properties that we would then inspect and make sure that it was safe. There were 13 issued permits for this entire hunting season which ended the first week of February harvesting 18 deer as a result of that program. In comparison, we had 20 deer vs. vehicle accidents which is an increase from previous years. Deer carcass pickups from Streets Dept. and Parks Dept. was 141, compared to 102 in 2023 and 86 in 2022. The point is, the program as it exists today, is not having the desired outcome. He doesn't feel the ordinance needs changed, it just says you have to have the property owner's permission but in transparency as he and Greg Huber discussed, what he would like to try for next hunting season is to have Lt. Marcum and Jansen from Parks identify various areas of our public parks where we feel it could be safe to put these archery hunters in, and then simply rotate them from the locations we identified, marked trees. We need to make it easier for the hunters as well as we establish that we would charge a \$75 fee to inspect the site the first time and then \$50 if they use the same site over and over again. We feel like we could get more hunters if we simply wave those fees and if we are identifying those sites, the work is already done, we don't have to go out and look at them if we already did and pre-approved them. Another option in consideration is that the first deer taken has to be a doe, so we don't have all the hunters waiting around for the prize buck.

The other option is to send our police in with rifles, bait them at night, and have drone for area protection to make sure that dogs or cats or other animals don't come in. They would be disposed of the same way we would dispose of them when they are hit on the street.

Most of the processing facilities have told us they can take a maximum of 20 if we did something like this.

Jansen stated he asked the USDA about the current number of deer, they did not recommend another deer count stating we already did a deer count and we already have too many deer per square mile in the City of Medina and counting again would just be wasting money at that point. Our numbers are definitely increasing. Using the number of deer carcasses we picked up, it has doubled. Jansen mentioned that the Medina County Park District has a program similar to what the Mayor is suggesting with stage 2. They took out 64 deer this year. 52 were with the archery program and 13 were with a gun. Jansen believes there are areas in our parks where this can be done and we can limit access and these same areas already have people hunting right on the property lines. Jansen stated they are trying to manage wildlife, and it has to remain fluid. A lot of times it is a combination of 2 or 3 or 4 different things and we are taking that path as many cities have like implementing a nuisance feeding ordinance, changed our hunting ordinances to allow archery hunting by permit and the next step being on public land where it can be done safely. A lot of communities are as maintenance items and have went to the next step where you do sharp shooting and you get your numbers down so your hunting program can manage it from that point on.

John Coyne stated it's so common now to see deer than not. He personally had 11 deer in his backyard this weekend. We have to do something more. We tried the hunting program and a lot of them used it for trophy hunting. John feels if we can't harvest 100 – 150 a year we are losing the battle.

Mr. Simpson agrees with what the Mayor is proposing, he knows it is a fluid situation.

Regi Haire asked how many permits did we decline? Chief Kinney stated this year they probably declined 8 to 10 permits.

Chet Simmons stated he personally employed a service to spray with 2 to 3 week frequencies and the gentleman that does the application informed him they had to increase their route to 2 or 3 people now because it's in such demand by homeowners who are paying a significant amount

of money just to be able to have plants at their homes.

Jansen explained the nuisance tags which is controlled access hunt permission from the State of Ohio.

14. 25-056-2/24 – Cyber Security Liability Insurance Renewal

Mayor Hanwell stated the auditors require us to have a policy for cyber security and also recommend that we have insurance so we put this in place a number of years ago and this is the renewal. Emergency is needed due to time restraints. Mr. Shields moved to approve with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 6-0.

15. 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 averse to the general public interest, to include the Mayor and the Law Director. The roll was called and the motion passed by the yeas votes of P. Rose, J. Shields, J. Coyne, D. Simpson, R. Haire and C. Simmons.

Executive session adjourned at 7:19pm.

There being no further business, the Finance Committee reconvened and adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

John Coyne, Chairman