

Finance Committee
Monday, May 24, 2021
6:00 p.m. Medina City Hall – Rotunda

In attendance: J. Coyne – Chairman, E. Heffinger, P. Rose, J. Shields (6:04 p.m.), B. Lamb, J. Hazeltine and Dennie Simpson.

Also present: Mayor Hanwell, Greg Huber, Patrick Patton, Nino Piccoli, Keith Dirham, Chief Kinney, Chief Walters, Cindy Lastuka, Dan Gladish, Kimberly Marshall, Kathy Patton, Jansen Wehrley, Jonathan Mendel, Rick Kirby, and Bill Pavlik.

1. Assignment of Requests for Council Action

2. 21-092-5/24 –Amend S&B Code – Add 3 Officers – Police Dept.

Mr. Simpson stated that this came through Health, Safety and Sanitation Committee. Dennie Stated that Chief Kinney explained the request and the need for the additional 3 officers. One officer will be paid for by the MCDAC and were surprised when they were awarded a \$259,000.00 for a school resource officer. The other two officers would be paid for through the revenue that they receive with Lafayette Township pass through levy amounting to \$391,000.00 for 2020. These positions are all contingent on the funding so if the funding doesn't happen these positions would go away. Chief stated in the past two years they have had two retirements and have 8 officers that are eligible for retirement in the next four years.

Mr. Rose asked if the \$259,000.00 from the MCDAC grant projected to be annual or just this cycle and the following year. Chief Kinney stated it is just for this Fiscal year. Mr. Shields stated he will abstain from voting due to his employment with the city schools. Mr. Coyne stated he will vote no and feels the money from Lafayette Township should be staggered more. John feels the city is operating fine according to the last meeting when the chief mentioned they were operating fine currently with the officers they have. Mr. Simpson moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Rose. Motion passed 5-1-1abst. John Coyne cast a nay vote and Jim Shields abstained.

3. 21-101-5/24 – Budget Amendments

Cindy Lastuka stated this is a budget amendment to cover those probationers who are doing community service, this is a yearly insurance that we pay and it comes out of Community Service Fund. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

4. 21-102-5/24 – Job Creation Grant Payment – Carlise Brake & Friction

Mrs. Marshall stated this request is to authorize a Job Creation Grant payment to Friction Products for tax year 2020 in the amount of \$18,750.06. The Job Creation Grant payments are made with non-income tax generated revenue. Mr. Rose asked if the actual new payroll included those bonuses. Kimberly stated no, the increase in the payroll number was due to a lot of the employees getting paid overtime to fill the gap of the positions that they are having trouble filling. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

5. 21-103-5/24 – Job Creation Grant Payment – Discount Drug Mart

Mrs. Marshall stated this is for tax year 2020 in the amount for \$19,587.38 and this grant is a result of three different expansion projects. The company has met and exceeded their goals by creating 110 jobs. The grant payments are made with non-income tax generated revenues. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

6. 21-104-5/24 – Job Creation Grant Payment – Sandridge Food Corporation

Mrs. Marshall stated this is for tax year 2020 in the amount of \$33,717.45 for two job creation grants for two expansion projects. The company is struggling to hire additional employees due to the increased and extended unemployment benefits at the state and federal level. They have implemented hiring bonuses, employee referral bonuses and the company this year increased their wages for their bargaining unit employees. They have put forth a tremendous effort to continue to hire their work force and grow the company. Mr. Rose stated he did some quick math and just these grants right here, the city netted \$98,000.00 in additional income taxes. Paul thanked Kimberly for her excellent work and everyone else involved. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

7. 21-105-5/24 – Agreement to provide Snow and Ice Services to York Twp. 2021-22

Mr. Piccoli stated he has had discussions with Trustee Bill Pavlik from York Township. There is an opportunity for Medina City Services Department to provide the snow and ice control for York Township. York Township has 26 road miles, 52 curb lane miles vs. the city with 112 road miles and 224 curb lane miles. Nino spoke of purchasing another plow truck and that he hasn't purchased one in the last four years. There were a lot of questions like will the City of Medina see a reduction of service and Nino stated they have plenty of CDL Drivers, approx. 24.

Mr. Huber stated that previously that service was provided by Fabrizi to York Twp., and Fabrizi is a private company, so why is the Township asking the city to compete with a private company that has been providing them the service for the last 20 some years?

Mr. Pavlik stated that Fabrizi chose not to rebid.

Mr. Huber asked if the expectation going forward the City of Medina is going to be doing this and you are not going to be bidding with the other private companies that do this work.

Mr. Pavlik stated that is correct.

Mr. Coyne stated that sometimes privatizing is not the answer sometimes private vendors don't provide the best solution.

Mayor Hanwell asked how long of a contract are they looking for in the first place. He likes the collaborative approach between government entities that don't have to make a profit is beneficial to both those providing service and receiving service, because you take the profit margin out.

Mr. Pavlik stated that typically it is a 3-year contract and he feels that would be great if the City of Medina could do that.

Mr. Lamb asked if the City of Medina moves forward with this we don't have to hire any new employees we would just do this with in-house?

Nino stated that is correct, not hiring to fill this.

Mr. Rose asked about the years of service since this RCA states 2021 – 2022 so is it just this winter?

Nino stated they did not talk about a contract and that would have to go through the Law Director. Nino's initial request was just for this up coming season but if the Law Director is fine than Nino is good with a 3-year contract.

Mr. Rose asked if we had enough equipment that the City of Medina would receive service the same time York Township would?

Mr. Piccoli stated yes, we do, we have 8 large plow trucks and we have 7 small trucks, we also have a request coming in for a replacement of 2 of our large plow trucks and that is whether we enter into an agreement or not with York Township to keep the replacement going. Mayor Hanwell stated they did not want to get this train too far down the track if council was not interested, so right now it's just been preliminary discussions. Can we handle it with existing staff and with existing trucks, do we have the time, the personnel, do we have the equipment and then the details of exactly what is in the contract, the duration of the contract and things of that nature.

Mr. Shields stated there is something to be said about being a good neighbor to one of our neighboring townships. We have a great relationship with Montville, we are working with Lafayette for Police and feels if we can help and they have the need and we can do it that we should be willing to do that.

Mr. Heffinger questioned if we have the ability to not reup this if we want as a city, do we have the ability to walk away.

Mr. Coyne stated tonight if you just want to see if there is a buy in, and what he would do is have them go negotiate the contract with Mr. Huber involved and probably the County and then come back to us and council will vote on it. Is that the direction we want to take?

Mr. Huber felt a bid process should be discussed.

Mr. Pavlik stated none of their prosecutors have looked at this. He didn't know if there would be an agreement and soon as there is one he will have them look it over.

Mr. Simpson is hopeful that once the contract can be written and agreed to that it would benefit both the Township and the residents of Medina.

Mayor respectfully asked Mr. Pavlik to check with Mike Lyons so that our group and yours don't work all our way through this contract and then when we send it for review determine that it's not even possible to do this.

* Mr. Piccoli to work out agreement with Township and attorneys, then return to Finance Committee.

8. 21-106-5/24 – Establish Fund #157 – Pre-Trial Drug Testing Fund for Municipal Court
Cindy Lastuka stated that this is a fee that they would like to implement. This is for those defendants that out on bond prior to their trial. The idea is if they are possibly under the influence while they are on bond conditions and they are not supposed to be under the influence the probation officers will have a test available. This would also be for defendants that are under suspect when they come into court. The tests run about \$4 and some change to get with shipping and figured we would just set a flat \$5 fee. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

9. 21-107-5/24 – Expenditure – Root Integrated Systems – Police Dept.
Chief Kinney stated this is the engineering consultation in the installation of the video wall in dispatch. This is one of the projects they had earmarked for the COVID funds. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

10. 21-108-5/24 – PY21 CDBG Allocation Grant
Mr. Mendel stated this is to submit and accept a Small City Community Development Block Grant allocation from the State of Ohio in the amount of \$150,000.00. This allocation is done every two years. Jonathon is asking for the emergency clause due to grant time restraints. Mr. Shields moved to approve with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

11. 21-109-5/24 – Discussion, Agreement w/ Brandstetter Carroll – Conceptual Design of Courthouse
Mayor Hanwell asked council to authorize an appropriated amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 to be split evenly between the two accounts numbers listed in the second paragraph, one is the court fees saved for this and the other is the Capital account for the City. The quote itself is \$13,000.00. He stated he would like this passed subject to the Board of Elections certification of the May 4th 2021 election and passage of Issue 1 and that is supposed to occur tomorrow.

Mr. Coyne stated his only question is he knows this is really between the Municipal Court and Council, the administration is kind of out of it. John stated they should have a meeting with the Judge and talk about what he wants to have over there. Is our agreement still the same with the Judge as before? Is he in agreement that he is going to put all his \$4.6 in and reimplement the fees and we are going to only pay the difference between \$4.3 and \$5 million, half of that?

Mayor stated this is just the first step in getting there.

John would like the motion to include what our financial contribution will be as a council. Approve this as long as it's subject to the Board of Elections and also subject to him reimplementing the fee that he was going to implement before of him putting \$4.3 million from his fund in there and us only contributing half of the difference.

Mr. Shields motioned subject to the motion to approve this agreement subject to certification of the election on May 4th, Issue 1 election as well as subject to the previously discussed financial sharing arrangements between the court and the city, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion Passed 7-0.

12. 21-110-5/24 – Job Creation Grant Payment – Progressive Medina, LLC

Mrs. Marshall stated this is to authorize the Job Creation Grant Payment to Progressive Medina, LLC for tax year 2020 in the amount of \$14,941.20, this is at the BOC level but it got put it on this agenda so we just decided to keep it here. This grant is a result of locating their business in the City of Medina and constructing a 70-bed skilled nursing facility at 699 East Smith Rd. They have exceeded their payroll goals. This will be the final grant payment on this project. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

13. 21-111-5/24 – Amend S&B Code 31.05 – Tree Care Technician – Parks Dept.

Mr. Wehrley stated this is to upgrade the full-time Tree Care Technician from 31 (labor classification) to 34 (MEO classification). This will help maintain stability in the position as it is our upper level union position. The positions in our Forestry Department have had quite the revolving door over the last ten years. He personally has trained 11 people, 3 of which are still with the city, 2 in other departments. Jansen is hoping to use his carryforward. Jansen stated the Shade Tree Commission voted in favor of this upgrade.

Mr. Coyne questioned if we are getting these certifications for the individual having some kind of obligation to serve at least a period of time so we don't pay for certifications and then they leave.

Jansen stated it is a little different than the Vehicle Maintenance Department where they are paying a lot of money for particular certifications. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

14. 21-112-5/24 – RFP's – Sponsorships at MCRC

Mr. Wehrley stated they have done some research in-house and discovered there are some other companies that are providing this service now. Jansen feels it is a good time to let their contract expire. Over the last four years they have brought in a total a little shy of \$30,000.00. They do a 50/50 split of the profits with the school once all the banners and everything are paid for. It's time to revisit how we are doing the sponsorships in the rec center because we feel there is a lot of opportunity and the possibility doing it differently as well as negotiating those price splits with the marketing company. Mr. Shields stated this RCA and the next RCA both benefit his employer and he needs to abstain from voting on both. Mr. Simpson moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Rose. Motion passed 6-1abs.

15. 21-113-5/24 – Motion to approve MCRC Sponsorship Banner

Mr. Wehrley stated this is just a one-year renewal. Mr. Simpson moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Rose. Motion passed 6-1abs.

16. 21-114-5/24 – Agreement – W. Smith Rd., Phase 4 R-O-W Acquisition Services

Mr. Patton stated they have been under design for W. Smith Rd. project for almost a year now and are to the point in the ODOT process where our stage two plan which basically 90% design plans have been completed and approved and environmental document has been accepted and approved. Now they have the authorization to start R-O-W acquisition process and this needs to be done by a certified consultant. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Hanwell stated he sent the council members and Mr. Huber just for discussion some costs sharing of the proposed collaboration between the common pleas and the municipal court because we also need an agreement with the County Commissioners. He and Scott Miller met after the County Commissioners had an open discussion about permitting the two of them to work toward an agreement. Mayor Hanwell wanted council to see what some of the preliminary discussions were. Draft included in Notes.

17. Executive Session: (imminent litigation)

It was moved by Mr. Shields and seconded by Mr. Simpson to enter into Executive Session at 7:16 p.m. for conferences with the City's Law Director concerning disputes involving the City which are the subject of pending or imminent court action to include the Mayor and Law Director. Seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed by the yeas and nays of B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, J. Coyne, D. Simpson, E. Heffinger and J. Hazeltine.

Executive Session adjourned at 7:26 p.m. The Finance Committee reconvened at 7:28 p.m., and there being no further business adjourned.

John M. Coyne, Chairman