

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

December 20, 2018

5:03 p.m.

Members present: Joette Dedden, Brian Blankenship

Staff Present: Kitty Crockett, Finance Director, Jamie Morley, Clerk to Council

Guests in attendance: Earl Isaacs, Kimberley Kaan, Dave Stubbs

1. Mr. Blankenship made a motion to approve the Finance Committee minutes for the November 20th, 2018 meeting and was seconded by Ms. Dedden.

2 Yeas

2. Ms. Dedden revisited the idea that Village charge a fire availability fee. Warren County currently charges a \$80 bimonthly fee, which would be comparable to \$40 dollars a month for the Village. Currently the schedule of fees, schedule D charges for the size of the connection with no mention of a fire availability fee. Ms. Dedden suggests that this be simplified and rewritten to say \$40 per month for fire availability. Mr. Blankenship asked what services would be provided for the \$40. It was discussed that it is a hole in the water system and the Village will have to maintain this lateral and fix it if there is a problem down the line. Furthermore, code 50.027 says the Village will charge a fire availability fee, but the Village does not have one on the schedule of fees. Ms. Dedden suggested putting in writing and defining what exactly the fee is for and why the charge would go from \$2.20 to \$40. She stated this fee is paying for the guarantee of water to fight the fire. Ms. Dedden said that this would help offset the testing of the fire meter. Ms. Morley asked if the meter could be tested. Mr. Blankenship thought that the fire department or private companies tested this. Ms. Morley also said that she does not really have a good list of those properties with sprinkler, fire service outlet, and hydrants. Mr. Blankenship believed that the fire department would probably have a list. He also felt to raise the price from \$2.20 to \$40 is rather severe. It was decided that this would be revisited at another meeting.

- It was also questioned who owned and was responsible for the fire hydrant at Scioto Square.

3. At this time, the Committee went over the temporary appropriations to see about purchasing snow plows for the Village. Chief Copeland received quotes for Kenworth (132K – no blade), International (128K), and Ford 550 (88K). The Kenworth and the

Ford are currently built and would be ready about the end of January. Furthermore, the Kenworth has a 7-year 200K warranty. Chief is asking for direction from the Finance Committee. It was asked if this could be paid in 2018. Ms. Crockett stated that this would not be possible because legislation would be needed to purchase the trucks and create a Purchase Order. Ms. Crockett stated that it really does not matter if the money comes out of 2018 or 2019, it is all the same money. Using the appropriations for 2019 will allow several funds to be used. Most of the funds of 2018 are exhausted. It was decided that it would be cleaner to use 2019 appropriations. Furthermore, Ms. Crockett said that the Village has the money to purchase the trucks.

- Mr. Blankenship made a motion to present legislation to Council to accept Chief's recommendation to purchase the Kenworth plow truck and was seconded by Ms. Dedden.

2 Yeas

- It was discussed that staff needs to follow a maintenance schedule for the equipment to preserve the quality and longevity of the vehicles.
- Mr. Blankenship made a motion to present legislation to Council to accept Chief's recommendation to purchase the F-550 and was seconded by Ms. Dedden.

2 Yeas

4. Ms. Crockett provided the Committee with an outline of the past 4 years to see how much money was spent from each fund every year and the remaining balance at the end of each year. She stated that each fund looks good and currently Village is in sound financial state.
5. Ms. Crockett followed up with a question from the last meeting about using general fund monies for enterprise funds. She stated she spoke with the auditor and they told her that money from the general fund can be transferred to any other fund. Ms. Kaan said she feels that taxes paid by the residents should only be used for the benefit of Village residents. Water services not only the residents but outside in the Township, Corwin, and Harveysburg, therefore she strongly feels that water should be self-funding.
6. Ms. Morley asked if the Committee would consider adding the water tower fee to water taps within the Village. She also stated that the current tap fee for the Village is higher than Warren County, but the Village does not charge a water line inspection

fee or a meter installation fee, whereas County does. When adding these fees to the County tap fee, the Village tap fee and County are very compatible in price. It was decided to discuss this at a later meeting to possibly break out the tap fee for the Village to include inspection and installation fees.

7. Ms. Morley addressed the agenda item about placing the Street Levy on the Spring ballot. She stated that this is a special election and if the Village places this on the ballot they would ultimately have to pay much more for an election as there are not as many entities to split the cost. It was further explained that each time something is placed on the ballot, the Village does pay for it. It is deducted from property taxes. The November election is always significantly less as there are many other issues and candidates, so the cost is shared with many others. It was decided to revisit the street levy in May to see about getting a street levy on the ballot in November.
 - Mr. Stubbs stated he spoke with Gus Edwards from Wayne Township. Mr. Edwards suggested placing a joint street levy with the Township, Corwin and Village of Waynesville.
8. At this time the Committee looked over the funds to see what is appropriated in 2019 to pave streets. It was discussed that they would like to see two streets this year repaved. With the street levy increase continually failing the current levy will only pay for 1 street every 100 years to be repaved. Ms. Crockett suggested explaining the status of the street levy in the Community magazine published by the Township. The consensus is that Preston needs to be repaved, but it was undecided what the second street should be. It was decided to investigate the state of the streets and come back with suggestions what the other street should be for the next meeting.
9. Ms. Dedden asked if Ms. Morley had billed County for the time the County meter was out for the 90%. Ms. Morley was not sure what rate she should charge and if she should charge 10% or 7% because the contract says it can be at 97% and still be okay. It was decided to revisit this at the next meeting.
10. Mr. Blankenship made a motion to adjourn at 6:40 and was seconded by Ms. Dedden.