

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

February 22, 2024 – 5:00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris Colvin, Troy Lauffer

GUESTS PRESENT: Connie Miller

STAFF PRESENT: Jamie Morley

1. Roll Call: Quorum was achieved, and two members were present.
2. Mr. Colvin motioned to excuse Ms. Dedden and Mr. Lauffer seconded the motion.
2 Yeas
3. Mr. Lauffer made a motion to appoint Ms. Dedden as chairperson of the Committee and Mr. Colvin seconded the motion.
2 Yeas
4. The Committee went over the proposed final appropriations.
 - a. Ms. Morley asked for direction from the Committee on how they would like police officers to be paid out of the funds. She explained that currently, all officers but two and Chief Copeland, are paid out of the Police Levy Fund. Officer Walker and Officer Mermann are paid out of the General Fund, and Chief Copeland is paid partially out of the General Fund, Water Fund, and Street Fund. Ms. Morley asked if the Committee would like to continue this or have all officers paid out of the Police Levy Fund. She asked this because when it comes time to renew the Police Levy, it may be easier for the voters to understand that every year, X amount is transferred out of the General Fund to supplement the Police instead of how it is currently set up to transfer X amount to supplement the police levy and X amount to pay for officers out of the General Fund. Mr. Lauffer asked if Ms. Morley had consulted Ms. Crockett. Ms. Morley said she did not, as Ms. Crockett is on vacation but will. Mr. Lauffer wants to know if there are reasons why Ms. Crockett set payroll up the current way. In 2023, 200K was transferred from the General Fund to supplement the police officer payroll, and two officers were paid out of the General Fund. The current levy brings in about 350K and is based on the housing rates in 2014. Depending on what Council decides, this levy must be placed back on the ballot in 2027.
 - b. Ms. Morley explained that fund 1000-620-399-0000 will need to be increased by 25K because of the Village's commitment to participate in the multijurisdictional OPWC with Wayne Township to repave Corwin Road. Mrs. Miller stated that Council agreed to save 60K a year for new streetlights on Main Street, not 50 K. Ms. Morley stated she would adjust the amounts accordingly.

- c. Ms. Morley said the income tax brought in about 135K more than anticipated. Mr. Colvin asked why. Ms. Morley speculated that it could be that incomes within the Village have increased, but she is not entirely sure. Mr. Colvin asked if this would cover both officers. Ms. Morley stated that no, probably just one when benefits and the Village's portion to Ohio Police & Fire are factored in.
 - d. Ms. Morley said the Village netted over 200K in interest for 2023 between the STAR Ohio and the Sweep checking account. Mr. Lauffer asked how much interest the CD brought in. Ms. Morley said she thinks the interest on the recently matured CD was about \$2,300. Mr. Lauffer asked why so little as rates are very high. Ms. Morley explained that the recently matured CD was bought two years ago when rates were low. She also pointed out that the water capital fund did not take as big of a hit as anticipated with the second Third Street grant.
 - e. Ms. Morley pointed out that 200K is the transfer out line item in the General Fund to transfer to the Police Levy Fund to supplement police officers' salaries. There is also 250K in the 5101 (Water Fund) to supplement 5901 (Water Capital Fund). If the Committee decides to do so, separate legislation must be passed to transfer these funds.
 - f. Ms. Morley explained that 240K has been appropriated in the General Fund, 1000-650-690-9020. This is set aside to fund the stoplight at Route 42 and North Street. Most of this should be reimbursed from the license plate money that the County holds for the Village. There is another 499K that the Village has taken out of the General Fund to pay for the Village's portion of the OPWC Third Street Project. This will be reimbursed and put back into the General Fund because of the reimbursable Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Grant.
 - g. Ms. Morley said the 3% excise tax on hotels and short-term rentals brought in about \$6,200. This money is earmarked to pay for the utilities and maintenance of the bathrooms on Main Street. The bathrooms cost the Village about \$4,000 a year, so there is about \$2,000 left to buy new garlands or things like that for Main Street if the Committee decides to use it for such.
5. Mr. Colvin motioned to accept the minutes from the December 21, 2023 meeting, and Mr. Lauffer seconded the motion.

2 years

All were in favor of adjourning at 5:50 pm.