



Finance Committee
Tuesday, May 21, 2024 - 5:00 PM
MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Committee Chair Don Barnard called the Finance committee meeting for May 21, 2024 to order at 5:10 pm.

Members Present - Don Barnard, Bob Orsini, Jeff Barr (absent at roll call, arrived at 5:35 pm)
Absent - None

Staff present - Sean Staneart, Dave Delande, Jack Liggett, Rusty Smart, Dave Selan, Wesley Kobel, Tiffany Hollis, Teresa Monroe.

Public present - Nick Hubbell

2. Action on Minutes

a. April 16, 2024

ACTION: Bob Orsini moved to approve; Donald Barnard seconded and all were in favor.

AYES: Donald Barnard, Bob Orsini

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 2 - 0

3. City Strategic Communications Plan Funding - Follow up discussion from council presentation

Discussion on the presentation to council made by Frank Cea at the last meeting for city communications. Mayor Barnard said he asked the Finance Director to see what funding could be available for this. Discussion on asking Mr. Cea what services could be provided at certain price tiers, \$1500 or \$2500 per month. The previous communication contract was \$2,000/month. Discussion on how the information would get disseminated, on the city website or potential for an insert in the water bill. Mr. Barnard to follow up with Mr. Cea.

4. Other Business

1. Sean Staneart said he had a conversation with AEP today. They are currently doing some infrastructure improvements at Douglas to get to the Schlabach development, they currently have two phase going into the development but need to go to three phase. Douglas Street will get new, larger poles to accommodate this. Mr. Staneart said wanting to have as many utilities underground as possible, he went to AEP to ask if there was an opportunity to run underground instead of using poles. AEP will provide him a cost difference of what it would be to run underground, he asked them to break it into two segments and reviewed. He said if we want to go underground, this would be the opportunity, once new poles are installed, it would be difficult. Discussion on the electric poles in the downtown and process for getting them moved to the back. Mr. Staneart said that he also asked that any time they would be doing

improvements on US 62 where there would be a pole replacement, he would like for them to notify us so we can begin to take advantage of these opportunities.

2. Sean Staneart provided an update on the New Day contract, he kicked over the first proposal to them, he said there is a pretty substantial increase associated with the sewer contract that is currently up. There may be an opportunity for a better proposal relative to opening discussion on the water contract, he hopes to have a new proposal in the next day or two. Some discussion on New Day's processes and potential for field application. Council members direction was to have a contract in place by July 1.

3. Jack Liggett asked for progress on the Gross Maximum Price (GMP) for the water plant. Sean Staneart said they just got the GMP last week. This is not on the agenda for this meeting, they were just getting the info in last week, it can be added to the next agenda.

5. Tax Increase Ballot Initiative & Recommendation to Council

Committee comparison and review of tax rate and credit percentage options; 2.25 versus 2.50 with either a 75 or 100 % credit. Review of census data and discussion on proposed spending of the additional funds to include road improvements, safety & security, planning, economic & engineering services, debt reduction and parks.

ACTION: Jeff Barr moved to approve a recommendation to council for the tax increase set at 2.25% with a 75% credit.; Bob Orsini seconded and all were in favor.

AYES: Donald Barnard, Jeff Barr, Bob Orsini

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 3 - 0

6. Adjourn

Other business prior to adjournment:

Jeff Barr recalled JYAA President Monica Gernert's request to council for assistance with some financial needs. Mr. Barr said Monica emailed him that the need is \$14,000 for a concrete driveway apron off of Jersey Street, into Belt Park. Mr. Orsini said his ask would be that Jack Liggett see what he could do on the cost, he would need to see what exactly should be done to get an accurate estimate. Mr. Staneart said he would ask that council put a qualifier on this if they were to proceed, a qualifier for when they step outside of city funding projects and into private organization project funding, there are many organizations that exist out there and will have similar requests. Additional discussion on JYAA not being within the city limits; inquiry on status of their annexation, unknown at this time. Discussion on the eight acres JYAA owns next to the Johnstown sewer treatment plant. Mr. Barr to follow up with Ms. Gernert on the conversation.

ACTION: Jeff Barr moved to adjourn; Donald Barnard seconded and all were in favor.

AYES: Donald Barnard, Bob Orsini, Jeff Barr

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 3 - 0

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 pm.