

AUGUST 15, 2017, FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES-filed as AUGUST 32

3 p.m. Council Chamber. Members present: M. Hraban, R. Moore, B. Stoneberg for M. Platteter. Others present: A. Christianson, K. Gorseger, K. Julien, A. Lobermeier, D. Parker, T. Verdegan.

Call to Order:

Committee Chair Moore called the meeting to order.

Minutes:

Motion was made by M. Hraban, seconded by Stoneberg and carried by voice vote to approve minutes of the August 8 and 10, Finance meetings.

Review:

Comptroller Verdegan reviewed a schedule showing the tax levy impact of borrowing for planned street construction and some equipment (small tractor, squad car) purchases in 2018. Borrowing for these purposes would reduce the initial budget deficit by about \$560,000 to a much more manageable level. This level of borrowing would increase taxes on a home valued at \$100,000 by \$57.63.

Discussion that followed focused on the need for requested equipment purchases.

- Mrs. Stoneberg asked that \$10,000 requested for office furniture and cabinets for LPD offices be put off until 2019.
- The frame has since broken on the 1995 dump truck that was requested to be replaced.
- The floor pan has rusted through on a 1999 pickup sought to be replaced. The City continues to use two other 1999 model pickups.
- Once an equipment safety issue is identified it is best to tend to it.
- Heavy duty decks are available for Cub Cadet lawn tractors.
- A \$7,500 skate park piece could be purchased rather than a \$30,000 piece.

A revisit of the above mentioned "schedule" at the next meeting will show addition of some other equipment to possible borrowing to further reduce the deficit.

It was clarified that, while it is a good idea, and while the City has in practice almost always done so, WI law does not require public bidding for either equipment purchases or for professional services.

It was noted that dumpster fees haven't been raised for years and that they are believed to be well below those charged by private vendors. The Comptroller and Asst. DPW will develop user rates which would be required to move this service back to a level that makes it self supporting.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is planned to be held August 24th at 2 p.m.