

Aug. 10th, 2021 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

5:15 pm Council Chamber. Members Present: A. Hraban, J. Pohlman (Absent – M. Reynolds)

Others Present: A. Christianson, D. Parker, K. Vacho, T. Devine

Call to Order: Chair Hraban called the meeting to order and presided.

Discussion of 2021 Budget:

Mr. Parker presented operational budgets for the departments under his direction.

Solid Waste:

Solid waste operations are pretty consistent from year to year. 'General Ops' has bumped up a little bit from previous years' budgets as materials and supplies have gotten more expensive, and dumpsters are costing more to maintain. 'Equipment Fuel and Maintenance' has likewise been increased compared to 2021. 'New equipment' has been allocated an additional \$1,000 mainly to replace dumpsters that are too far gone to repair. The new packer truck lease payment should stay at \$20,767.77 for the next 3 years. Landfill charges should not change significantly. Other expenditures are relatively unchanged. Revenues are largely unchanged. The rates are the same, with the exception of sticker sales to the 4 distributors. Even with the reduced distributor rates, the budgeted \$135,000 in revenues should be fairly accurate. Overall, the Solid Waste department is budgeted to operate in 2022 at break-even, or slightly better.

Parks:

The Parks budget hasn't changed a great deal from 2021. General operations, utilities, equipment repairs & purchases, and groundskeeping expenditures vary in total from category to category. But on the whole are consistent with previous years. Two larger expenditures to note are \$22,000 for the veterans' mural project, and \$80,000 for tennis court repair/refurbishing. The mural project will be offset by revenues received in 2021, and the tennis court project was to be financed through the sale of property to the Marshfield Clinic. Net expenditures are roughly \$4,000 less than 2021.

Engineering:

Largely unchanged from 2021. Wages are a set % of Mr. Parker's wages. Other expenditures involve creating digital back-ups of hard copy maps, various supplies, auto CAD subscriptions, GIS mapping (roads, utilities, signs, etc.), and deeds.

Animal Shelter:

Doesn't change much. Rusk County projects the City's portion of Animal Shelter expenditures, which has historically hovered around the \$45,000 mark, and will again for 2022. The only additional expenditure is the City's portion of the debt incurred in the construction of the new building - \$8,072 for 2022.

Mass Transit:

Unchanged from previous years. RCTC uses our input as a local match which secures additional grant funding for them.

Weed & Tree Management:

This department is fairly consistent from year to year. Tree replacement expenditures are accounted for in the Parks budget. Expenditures for mowing private lawns land here. 2022 budget is slightly lower than 2021.

Celebrations & Entertainment:

Somewhat an extension of Parks. It includes employees working with set-up and clean-up for Mardi Gras, and Christmas/Winter Magic celebrations. The 'Swim Beach' falls in this department. Discussion on the Swim Beach pointed out that a 2008 Referendum allocated \$12,000 per year for lifeguards at the Memorial Park beach. The \$12,000 amount has not been spent out in previous years. In 2021, no expenditures were allocated to the swim beach as we had only one applicant for the lifeguard position. We will need to review the finances from 2008 forward to see what fund balance is, and discuss what to do about it.

Cemetery:

Cemetery is the same as 2021 with a slight increase in wages and fringe. It was noted that 2021 is much more active than 2020, largely attributed to the pandemic. It's estimated that 2022 will be back to 'normal'.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:35pm