

## **SEPTEMBER 14, 2016 JOINT FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

4 p.m. Council Chamber. Finance members present: M. Hraban, R. Moore, M. Platteter. Personnel members present: A. Hraban, B. Morgan, B. Stoneberg,. Others present: A. Christianson, K. Gorsegner, H. Helmecci, A. Lobermeier, D. Parker, T. Verdegan.

### **Call to Order:**

Finance Chair R. Moore called the meeting to order.

### **Minutes:**

Motion was made by M. Hraban, seconded and carried by voice vote to approve minutes of the Aug. 22 and Sept. 8 Finance meetings.

### **Election Worker Compensation:**

Motion was made by Stoneberg, seconded by A. Hraban and carried by voice vote with Moore, Morgan and Platteter abstaining to recommend to the Council that election worker pay be increased from minimum wage to \$10 per hour to match the prevailing pay in surrounding towns.

### **Health Premium:**

Comptroller Verdegan reviewed Security Health's Proposal to increase City worker health insurance premiums by 7.6%. This is felt to be a favorable rate considering the City's experience thus far in 2016 hasn't been as good as the previous year. It was noted, in response to a question, that employees contribute 15% of family plans and 10% of single plans. Motion was made by M. Hraban, seconded by Platteter and carried by voice vote to recommend Council approval of this new rate.

### **Negotiations:**

It is uncertain when LPPA contract negotiations will proceed. Mrs. Stoneberg asked that any sessions be held at 4:30 or later if at all possible. September 22<sup>nd</sup> was mentioned as a date that would work for the Committee.

### **Borrowing:**

Those present reviewed items in the draft 2017 general operations budget which could be borrowed for instead, allowing the budget to be close to balanced. These are in the general categories of street reconstruction; building repairs and improvements; and equipment purchases.

Comptroller Verdegan reviewed three borrowing and repayment scenarios, which Sean Lentz of Ehlers Associated prepared at her request. These were based upon borrowing \$1 million dollars, \$1.5 million dollars, or \$2 million dollars. Mr. Lentz had advised that the larger of these might be more than should be considered at this time. It was noted that costs of issuance would be somewhat duplicative if two bond sales were conducted only a couple years apart rather than just one borrowing.

It was clarified that some of the street reconstruction involves underground utility replacement, which portion should be paid for from the respective utilities rather than general revenue payments. The total annual payments will need to be in each annual budget, but with utility revenue shown as a revenue source.

Two of the listed equipment items are a new tanker for the LFD and a newer grader for the PWD. Mr. Morgan stated objections to both of these. He believes that area vendors should be asked for quotes to build and install new tanks in the existing tanker truck. He stated that what ISO certifies on a fire truck

are the pumps, not the chassis. He also believes that the City should hire grader work as it isn't used enough to warrant the City owning one.

Mrs. Stoneberg stated that she feels emergency response equipment needs to be absolutely needs to be reliable. Fire Chief Tuma will be invited to the next meeting to explain why a new tanker is being advocated rather than just a new tank.

**Next Meeting:**

The next budget development meeting will be planned for Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 4 p.m.

**Adjourn:**

The meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.