

## **SEPTEMBER 5, 2018, FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

4 p.m. Council Chamber. Members present: M. Hraban, M. Platteter, B. Stoneberg. Others present: A. Christianson 1 and 2, K. Gorsegner, K. Julien, S. Kavanagh, D. Parker.

### **Call to Order:**

Chair Platteter called the meeting to order and presided.

### **Unspent Allocations:**

Mr. Hraban asked about a seeming balance of \$338,372, in the 2018 PW budget. This was not spent. It was noted that a portion of this could, perhaps, be expended on an asphalt heating trailer. Adm. Christianson stated that he witnessed demonstration of a patching unit as a summer worker in the mid-70s and can't believe over 40 years has passed and we still do not have such equipment.

### **Borrowing:**

Adm. Christianson called attention to a list of capital expenditure items contained in the current budget draft, which could be borrowed for as they have long useful lives. He noted that the total cost of these is about \$300,000, adding that if these were borrowed for the seeming deficit of \$880,000 between projected revenues and expenditures could be reduced to \$580,000 (\$880,000-\$300,000) depending on timing of the borrowing.

Mr. Hraban went down the list of capital expenditure items he is inclined to put off to future years and those he feels need to be kept in the 2019 budget. He will make a new list indicating these items so that everyone has it for reference. He also expressed optimism that the budget will get balanced.

Mrs. Kavanagh stated that she had reviewed debt repayment schedules in the latest audit and found that some loans will be paid off in the next few years. She went on to say that if the City can refrain from new borrowing for a time what has been applied to payments will become available for other uses.

### **Specific Items:**

There was discussion of a number of specific items.

#### Pulverizing

A question was raised whether the beach parking lot repave can wait or if it can just be pulverized and graded for the foreseeable future. Pulverizing might be relatively inexpensive if done at the same time a contractor is here doing a large job for Rusk Co.

#### Insurances and Banking

It was recalled that Mr. Morgan asked why the City doesn't seem interested in seeking competitive bids for insurances or banking services. It was suggested that Mr. Morgan talk with Mrs. Grey and Mrs. Verdegan about the increased workload this would create for them.

#### Trash

The Mayor stated that he would prefer to see additional dollars for waste disposal (a new recycling trailer) raised by increasing the fee on the utility bill rather than increasing sticker fees. Mr. Gorsegner noted the City has traditionally run the trash collection and disposal system as it does its utilities, making just enough to cover costs and to set a little more aside for equipment replacement. While there is probably nothing to prevent the City from making a profit on these operations it has sold the public on continued City operation of this service on it being self-supporting or budget neutral.

#### Security Cameras

The Mayor suggested trying additional trail cameras for a year as opposed to installing a much more costly video surveillance system in Memorial Park. Sometimes the very presence of cameras calms

people or inhibits bad behavior. It seems that cameras inside City Hall have had that effect. It isn't clear what, if any, theft has been deterred by installing such system at the library. It has been observed that there is regular late night (in the dark) activity at both Falge Park and Wagon Bridge Landing.

Tennis Courts

Money budgeted for tennis court resurfacing hasn't been spent owing to difficulty in getting a contractor in.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, September 12, at 4 p.m.