

Sept. 22th, 2020 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

5:00 pm Council Chamber. Members Present: B. Groothousen, M. Reynolds

Others Present: A. Christianson, K. Gorsenger, D. Parker, T. Devine, S. Kavanagh, A. Hraban

Call to Order: M. Reynolds called the meeting to order.

Discussion of 2021 Budget:

Elections:

Shari Kavanagh presented the Elections budget. She has budgeted for two elections in 2021. It is possible to get down to only one, but not likely. Ms. Kavanagh noted the \$6,500 budgeted for Election Equipment & Supplies included a \$2,700 payment for the new tabulator. It will be paid off in 2022. Otherwise elections are pretty straightforward, and are dependent on which elections are called.

Legal:

Ms. Kavanagh presented the Legal budget. It is pretty much Mr. Kenyon's wages. It hasn't changed in several years. Therefore, the budget numbers were just rolled forward as it's been historically accurate.

Court:

Ms. Kavanagh presented the Municipal Court budget. This budget is fairly static. Software outlays increase slightly from year to year. Basing the other operational lines on historical averages gives a fairly accurate prediction. Currently, fine collections are down due to COVID restrictions at the jail. We aren't picking up delinquent violations, therefore not pressuring them to pay what is due. So, revenues in 2021 are reduced from previous years because of the uncertainty of when restrictions will be lifted. Additional discussion encompassed revenues, how they're recognized, and how jail time in lieu of payment was addressed.

Solid Waste:

Mr. Parker presented the Solid Waste budget. General Operations expenses were over budget in 2019, and already over as of 6/30/20, so 2021 was increased. The most significant item in that account was refuse stickers from Cloverland Press. Training requirements are getting more stringent, so those costs are budgeted for an increase of \$500. Fuel & Maintenance, budgeted at \$27,000 in previous years has been coming in under budget. For 2021 Mr. Parker reduced that expense to \$25,000. New Equipment (dumpsters) has an extra \$1,000 added from last year, mainly due to increased demand. The City has roughly 150 dumpsters, all of which are being used. Some are getting worn out, or rotting out, and need to be replaced at a rate higher than in previous years. The '09 packer truck is getting worn out, and requiring more and more maintenance. Bids on a new truck are due in Thursday (Sept. 23rd). The 'New Packer Lease Pymt' line is budgeted at \$25,000 per year. We accumulate that amount for 3 years, purchase the truck, then make \$25,000/yr payments for 3 years.

Revenues – Discussion clarified what charges landed in which account. 2019 saw an increase of rates. 2020 budget reflected those increases fairly accurately. 2021 copied the 2020 amounts with some small changes.

Parks:

Mr. Parker presented the Parks budget. Mr. Reynolds asked what the 'Bike/Ped Lane' entailed. Mr. Parker explained it was to paint and sign bike lanes in, and between parks. Mr. Groothusen asked about the Mural costs. It has always been moved through the Parks budget. Some of the expenses might be covered by TIF funds. The expense line was adjusted to \$4,000 from \$9,000 with the balance of \$5,000 being covered by TIF. Discussion digressed to the form and function of TIFs, and the pros and cons of developing budgets for each of the TIF districts.

Parks discussion resumed with a focus on the Amphitheater expense line. The \$4,200 was put in as a match to the Lion's Club for a paved trail around the top of the seating area. It may be unnecessary if we are able to secure a grant for this (and other) project(s). Actual annual cost for the Amphitheater, independent of the additional project, would be around \$1,200. The thought is to have the Riverwalk trail, that follows the river, as part of the grant. Also, some improvements to the Veteran's pavilion would be included in the grant. Mr. Christianson added that if we don't get the grant, some TIF money might be useable for the improvement projects, since it's within TIF 8's halo zone.

The \$80,000 expense for Tennis Court Lighting will only be incurred if the athletic field near North Cedar Academy is sold. The current infrastructure for lighting is beyond repair, and will need replacement.

Corbett Lake:

Expenses are budgeted in line with previous year's averages for general operations and maintenance. Discussion on the Corbett Lake Boardwalk – to replace what we have would cost around \$100,000. To replace it with aluminum decking would be around \$250,000. (Based on quotes from A&D Docks.)

Goose Control is a contentious subject, but the \$2,500 will be included for 2021. Mr. Groothusen pointed out that it is not a "one and done" expense. It's going to have to be a long-term management issue.

There may be a possibility of replacing some deteriorating road, and walkway in OJ Falge Park with TIF 9 funds. Will come back to Finance after getting initiated at the Park Board.

Engineering:

Only one item added – document scanning. To get digital records of historical records. We currently have nothing digitized for records prior to the year 2000. The rest of the expenses follow historical trends.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:30pm