

## Finance Committee Minutes

Honorable Council  
City of Newark, Ohio  
September 15, 2025  
5:45pm

The Finance Committee met in Council Chambers September 15, 2025 with these members in attendance:

Spencer Barker – Vice Chair  
Bill Cost Jr.  
Bradley Chute  
Michael Houser  
Jeff Rath – sitting in for Doug Marmie

### **We wish to report:**

**Mr. Barker** - The unappropriated balance of the General Fund is \$244,169.00 and the balance of the Budget Stabilization Fund is \$558,848.00.

1. **Resolution No. 25-60** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO PREPARE AND SUMIT TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) A ONE YEAR USE OF FUNDS/ACTION PLAN ALONG WITH AN APPLICATION FOR FY 2026 FEDERAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS (CDBG), AS REQUIRED BY 24 CFR PART 91.220, FOR VARIOUS PROGRAMS RELATED TO HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

**Barbara Gilkes** - This is the annual application. We always come in the fall to present the legislation. At this point in time, we do not know what the 2026 allocation will be from HUD. I will tell you that this year, our allocation is \$745,133, and the money just came in today.

**Motion to send to full Council by Mr. Houser, Second by Mr. Chute, Motion passed 5-0**

2. **Resolution No. 25-61** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE STATE OF OHIO 2025 LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANT.

**Ms. Gilkes** - This grant is funded with federal funds through the U.S. Department of the Interior. We are going to apply for \$250,000 as a 50% match, and the project involves the city's newest park, West Canal Park on West Main.

**Motion to send to full Council by Mr. Houser, Second by Mr. Chute, Motion passed 5-0**

3. **Resolution No. 25-62** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE STATE OF OHIO BUREAU OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION FIREFIGHTER EXPOSURE TO ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS GRANT (FEEG).

**Ms. Gilkes** - This is a grant offered by the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, and the Fire Department would like to apply for the grant because they need hoods with barrier protection, washable gloves, and a diesel exhaust system for station two. Five to one grant, which means for every five dollars a state gives you, the city needs to contribute a dollar.

**Motion to send to full Council by Mr. Chute, Second by Mr. Cost**

**Mr. Houser** - I just have one question, will those purchases be purchased in 26, probably at some point, or ...

**Ms. Gilkes** - It'll be in 26, yes.

**Doug Vermaaten, Deputy Fire Chief** - Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just so everybody understands, the abating system, what it does is it hooks to the actual exhaust pipe of both vehicles, so this way there, the diesel exhaust is actually being emitted outside the building. This is a good opportunity for us to actually get that corrected at station two, due to the confines of the quarters and it being so tight, it's really, really hard for that exhaust to actually get outside of the station, and they have linked diesel exhausts to several cancers of which we're dealing with within the national fire service. Thank you.

**Mr. Barker** - Thank you.

**Rochelle Volen-Smith, 237 Violet Ct.** - I think this is a good beginning. I don't think it covers all the things that I think are necessary to help the firefighters against the dangers that are presented by cancer and their occupation. They don't get enough help, and I would like to hear more, if we could, about what the City and fire department plan on doing to help resolve that. Thank you.

**Motion passed 5-0**

**4. Resolution No. 25-64 A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.**

Section 1. There is hereby an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 100 General Fund, in the amount of \$10,150.00 (Payment received from 24CVG02883 Obadia 2 Properties LLC for Property Maintenance violations.)

100.127.5238	Services General	10,150.00
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**Tim Hickman, Safety Director** - Thank you. These are court-ordered fines that were collected by property maintenance divisions, so they would like to appropriate that into their accounts.

**Mr. Barker** - It's nice to be getting some money back.

**Director Hickman** – Yes.

**Motion to send to full Council by Mr. Rath, Second by Mr. Houser, Motion passed 5-0**

Section 2. There is hereby an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 958 Fund, in the amount of \$100,000.00 (Transfer to pay fire insurance deposit back to homeowners.)

958.127.5621	Fire Reimbursement	Deposit 100,000.00
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**Director Hickman** - Yes, this is also property maintenance related. This is to pay out fire claims. Just so everybody's aware, these are not general fund dollars. These are dollars that were collected and held from the insurance companies, and then once the property is brought back up to code, then we release that money back to the property owners.

**Motion to send to full Council by Mr. Chute, Second by Mr. Houser, Motion passed 5-0**

Meeting stands adjourned.

Spencer Barker, Vice Chair