

## Finance Committee Minutes

Honorable Council  
City of Newark, Ohio  
May 13, 2014

The Finance Committee met in Council Chambers on Monday May 12, 2014 with these members in attendance:

Jeremy Blake, Chair  
Doug Marmie  
Ryan Bubb

Carol Floyd  
Bill Cost Jr.

1. **Resolution No. 14-40** appropriating monies for current expenses of the municipal corporation with regard to the retention of outside legal counsel was considered.

**Director Buskirk-** we are requesting an additional \$12,000.00 to put over into our professional services account to pay some bills that are coming.

**Jeremy Blake-** there are two pieces here to vote on the first is one is to appropriate from the unappropriated balance of Budget Stabilization and the other is actually in the General Fund. I just wanted to make that clear to the Committee.

**Mrs. Floyd-** I assume this is for negotiations?

**Director Buskirk-** yes

**Motion by Mrs. Floyd for Section 1 to be forwarded on to full Council, second by Mr. Bubb**

**Motion passed by a 4-1 (Mr. Marmie) vote**

**Motion by Mrs. Floyd for Section 2 to be forwarded on to full Council, second by Mr. Bubb**

**Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.**

2. **Resolution No. 14-41** appropriating monies for current expenses of the municipal corporation was considered.
  - a) A request for an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 671, Landfill Reclamation Fund, in the amount of \$120,000.00 (Land Improvements- Landfill)

Account	Description	Amount
671.169.5502	Land Improvements	\$120,000.00

**Brian Morehead-** if you recall a few weeks ago you authorized the Auditor to renew the note for the landfill at \$370,000.00. He came before you and asked for \$250,000.00 for the payment of the note and this is the remaining balance of the

new note which becomes available this week. We would like to have this expedited so that it can be appropriated next meeting.

**Motion by Mr. Bubb to send to full Council, second by Mrs. Floyd**

**Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.**

- b) A request for an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 100, General Fund, in the amount of \$25,000.00 (Purchase of MARCS radio communication equipment)

Account	Description	Amount
100.203.5304	Communication Equipment	\$25,000.00

**Chief Sarver-** thank you first of all for the opportunity to speak to the Committee today. It is safe to say in the Police Division along with a lot of different departments in the City we have some major components that make the Police Division run. The people, the facility, computers, vehicles and radios. With the money that we have we do our best to fight whatever battle is going on at the time. A month or so ago I came and asked for some money to transfer to fix our computer situation, we have done that and everything is working well. We have a unique opportunity now. Our radios system, which I shared with the Safety Committee a few weeks ago, where I said if you call somebody on the radio somebody on the other end can't hear and that, is true. That communication center is being held together with band aids, rubber bands, paper clips, you name it and we make it work. The radio of the future for the State of Ohio is the MARCS radio system. Licking County has already gone to it; they have built a tower here in the Licking County for better reception. Those radios cost about \$5,000.00 a piece we need at least 75 because of the number of people we have and to have spare radios. We have a unique limited time opportunity to buy those radios complete with battery charger, carrying case and the extended mic for less than \$1,000.00 apiece. They are refurbished radios out of Houston. They went to the next generation the MARCS. They are trading all of their radios in; they are being refurbished and are selling them for less than a \$1,000.00 apiece. We can get 75 radios with all of the other stuff that we need at the facility to change over our dispatch center to a MARCS communication center for \$90,000.00 total. We applied for a grant through the Franklin County Department of Homeland Security for the whole \$90,000.00. There was \$800,000.00 available for a 5 county area that surrounds Franklin County. We were told that we would get \$20,000.00 of our \$90,000.00. To get that \$20,000.00 it must be used to purchase those radios, it can't be used for anything else that is what we asked for. At that point because of this unique opportunity and it is just something that has to be done I approached the Safety Director and the Service Director. In conjunction with the \$20,000.00 from the

grant, \$20,000.00 that I create from my own existing budget, I asked the administration if they could find some way to come up with another \$50,000.00. They have looked in different places. Director Rhodes has offered an additional \$25,000.00 through Capital Improvements but the remaining \$25,000.00 remains out there. We are 2 Police Offices short and as I started this conversation Police Officers are an important component. We have purposely not filled those positions because we didn't know what was going to come with negotiations, whether or not a salary increase could result and the potential for layoffs and we certainly would not want to hire anybody and lay them off. So we had two Police Officers salaries including health benefits, the 18.5 Police pension fund and other things that go along with a Police Officers salary that are not being used for 2014. We dipped into that with \$60,000.00 for the communication center. I am now asking that we be able to transfer a total \$25,000.00 from personnel costs into operating costs so we can move forward with purchasing these radios.

**Motion by Mr. Bubb to send to full Council, second by Mrs. Floyd  
Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.**

- c) a disappropriation of the appropriated balance of the 100, General Fund, in the amount of \$25,000.00 (Purchase of MATCS radio communication equipment)

Account	Description	Amount
100.202.5111	Salaries	\$15,000.00
100.202.5121	Police & Fire Pension	\$5,000.00
100.202.5124	Health Ins	\$5,000.00

**Motion by Mr. Bubb to send to full Council, second by Mrs. Floyd  
Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.**

**Mr. Marmie-** can I ask, I don't know if it would be more beneficial but with the first piece of legislation going on to full Council, I will be asking to have that separated into two separate pieces of legislation, I don't know if it can be done ahead of time. With two independent issues in the same legislation I would like to have them separated

**Mr. Blake-** can we do that Mr. Law Director?

**Director Sassen-** we can do the paperwork ahead of time but the motion will have to come on the floor Monday night at Council but Autumn can do the paperwork ahead of time if that motion passes.

**Jeremy Blake, Chair**