

Finance Committee Minutes

Honorable Council
City of Newark, Ohio
July 14, 2015

The Finance Committee met in Council Chambers on Monday July 13, 2015 with these members in attendance:

Jeremy Blake, Chair
Doug Marmie
Bill Cost Jr.

Carol Floyd
Ryan Bubb

We wish to report:

1. Frank Kohstall from the Treasurer of State's office gave a presentation regarding financial transparency.
2. **Resolution No. 15-65** appropriating monies for current expenses of the municipal corporation was considered.

Section 1. A request for an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 297, Fire Safety Grant Fund, in the amount of \$3,500.00 (2015-2016 EMS Grant)

Account	Description	Amount
297.296.5303100	EMS Supplies/ Training	\$3500.00

Barbara Gilkes- the first piece of legislation is for our EMS grant from the State of Ohio. It is an appropriation for supplies and training.

Motion by Mr. Marmie to send to full Council, second by Mr. Bubb

Mrs. Floyd- I want to thank you for your work on getting three new firefighters for Newark that is wonderful news.

Barbara Gilkes- you're welcome. It was wonderful new we were all happy. Thank you for noticing.

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

Section 2. A request for an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 100, General Fund, in the amount of \$5,690.72

Account	Description	Amount
100.432.5230	Temp Services	\$5,690.72

Barbara Gilkes- this money is part of the reimbursement from the County for our Summer Youth Program. This appropriation will be going to the Parks Department for general service needs.

Motion by Mr. Bubb to send to full Council, second by Mr. Cost

Mr. Blake- thank you for running the summer youth program.

Barbara Gilkes- I give the credit to Jeff and Chuck, they are running it I wrote the grant.

Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

- Resolution No. 15-66** appropriating and disappropriating monies for current expenses of the municipal corporation was considered.

Section 1. A request for an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 231, Probation Improvement Grant Fund, in the amount of \$500.00 (Reimbursement for damaged SCRAM Unit)

Account	Description	Amount
231.113.5312	Law Enforcement Supplies	\$500.00

Director Saad-a defendant damaged a SCRAM unit which is an alcohol monitoring device. He has been making payments back slowly and we would like this put back in our grant fund so that we may eventually buy another unit.

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

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

Section 2. A request for a disappropriation of the appropriated balance of the 100, General Fund, in the amount of \$70,000.00

Account	Description	Amount
100.202.5111	Salaries/Wages	\$70,000.00

Chief Connell- we are hoping to purchase the New World Record Management system. We have discussed it in Council here a couple of times. This will allow our officers to become more efficient and get away from a system that was in place in 1990. One of the advantages on the cost of this is that it is much lower because we are working off of the backbone that the County has provided. They have entered into contract with New World; the County got a discount based on Newark being a new customer. It is going to be a lot cheaper for us to do it this way than if we did a stand-alone system. The County will be housing all of the servers and things of that nature. For efficiency the officers will not only be connected with not only the county but other agencies within the county that are connected to the system. I just found out today that they will be connected to Westerville and other agencies in Franklin County.

Mr. Blake- can you speak to why it is coming out of salaries

Chief Connell- this is salaries that would have already been saved. If we hired people today it wouldn't impact this dollar amount. Currently we don't have a list of candidates that are available to us to hire for officers. In my mind we are hiring officers with this. If we spend \$70,000.00 on this then we are going to increase the efficiency of every employee in the Division of Police by a minimum of 10%. In my eyes that gives me 7 officers. In effect we are putting more people out doing the work that we are asking them to do by not burdening them with redundancies.

Mr. Blake- will this allow officers to input information from their cars?

Chief Connell- absolutely. It actually starts with the call taker position, regardless of where we go later with the dispatching situation. This is a system that will stand alone any way that we go. The call takers input data and it populates directly to the officers in their cars. This is mostly software, there is very little hardware involved because we are ok on that side of it. From an officers safety stand point when we get the information considering we had four officers involved shootings last year this is very important to us because if we know that we have dealt with a particular person or a location the officers has that information readily available before they show up.

Motion by Mr. Bubb to send to full Council, second by Mr. Cost

Mr. Guthrie- the Chief answered my question that I had as to whether this would hinder us in any way if the decision was made to keep dispatch within City Government. The only other comment I wanted to make was that these kinds of items are items that should be in the Capital Improvements budget. I understand why the Chief has to do what he has to do but it seems like we look at items like this when we know we have a vacancies for instance the Forensic Scientist position that is just sitting there it seems to me these are golden opportunities to close it down as an offset for future for expenses like this.

Chief Connell- the reason that we are asking for it to be expedited is because we are working within a close time window. New World has deeply discounted this and they want to work within the window of what they call the build with us and the county. If we miss that window our price goes way up. The window will close by the end of this month.

Mr. Blake- is there training also involved in the \$70,000.00?

Chief Connell- yes they will actually have some of our people involved in the build so we can have input in what we want. The County would benefit from City ordinances being in

there but we would want those especially Animal Control ordinances. If we miss this window the price would probably quadruple.

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

Section 3. A request for an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 100, General Fund, in the amount of \$70,000.00 (NPD to purchase a records management system)

Account	Description	Amount
100.203.5536	Computer Software/Hardware	\$70,000.00

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

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

4. **Ordinance No. 15-23** to provide for the issuance of \$1,120,000 of bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance of bonds for the purpose of paying the cost of various street and parking lot improvements, sidewalk construction and lighting improvements, and all necessary appurtenances thereto, and declaring an emergency was considered.

Steve Johnson- this is just a renewal for \$1,120,000 of bond anticipation notes. This is for projects that are being done and going to be done such as the W Church St and 30th St intersection, the parking lot on Mt Vernon Rd that has to do with the future two way traffic on Mt. Vernon Rd, a parking lot that was built behind City Hall and other projects in the Canal Market area. Council authorized this debt a year ago and it just needs to be renewed. It needs to be expedited because we have to pay off bonds on September 2nd and we can't do anything until legislation is in place.

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

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

Jeremy Blake, Chair