

Finance Committee Minutes

Honorable Council
City of Newark, Ohio
March 11, 2014

The Finance Committee met in Council Chambers on Monday March 10, 2014 at 5:30 P.M. with these members in attendance:

Jeremy Blake, Chair
Doug Marmie
Ryan Bubb
Carol Floyd
Bill Cost Jr.

Mr. Blake- I would like to welcome everyone, we do have some items on our agenda tonight. I want to remind folks after I read the title on the agenda we will ask someone who is the sponsor from the administration to speak on the legislation and then we will open it up for the audience and Committee members to ask their questions. Please use the podium and direct your questions to the chair.

- 1. **Resolution No. 14-17** authorizing and directing the Mayor of the City of Newark to apply for funding from the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance under the bulletproof vest partnership grant program was considered.

Barbara Gilkes- this is our annual application and this is a grant where we front 100% of the vests and we are reimbursed 50%. This covers the needs of the Police Department, Adult Probation and the Arson Investigators of the Division of Fire.

Motion by Mrs. Floyd, second by Mr. Bubb
Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

- 2. **Resolution No. 14-18** appropriating and disappropriating monies for the current expenses of the municipal corporation was considered.
a) A request for an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 100, General Fund, in the amount of \$11,000.00 (To hire a part time secretarial person-contract hire)

Account	Description	Amount
100.116.5231	Professional Services	\$11,000.00

Judge Stansbury- sections one and two simple cover the appropriation funds from the professional services fund and disappropriating from the salaries fund in the amount of \$11,000.00 to cover the costs of a contract hire of a part time secretarial position in the Probation Department. They only have two full time clerical support staff down there

and are stretched pretty thin. We do have the money in the budget that was budgeted for a full time Probation Officer but that position has been intentionally left vacant because one of our Probation Officers will no longer be covered by a grant so we won't be spending money that we didn't already appropriate for the department.

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

Mr. Marmie- if it is the position that we are taking the funds from is basically because we are not going to receive grant funds so how did we have funds, it was a partial? If it is grant funds we are not getting than it's really not money that we had budgeted.

Judge Stansbury- actually Councilman what it is, is when we put in our budget for the Probation Department we budgeted for a certain number of probation officers. We intentionally left one of those positions vacant because one of officers down there is currently completely funded by a grant for the first three quarters of this calendar year but we expect that grant will be discontinue at that point so those funds for that vacant officers position will not become necessary to pay her salary until the fourth quarter. We won't actually be spending money that we didn't already appropriate.

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0

- b) A request for a disappropriation of the appropriated balance of the 100, General Fund, in the amount of \$11,000.00 (To hire a part time secretarial person-contract hire)

Account Description Amount

100.116.5111	Salaries	\$11,000.00
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Motion by Mrs. Floyd to send to full Council, second by Mr. Bubb

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0

- c) A request for an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 153, Compensated Absences Fund, in the amount of \$29,500.00 (Retirement of Officer Timothy Cline)

Account Description Amount

153.205.5143	Termination Sick	\$15,000.00
153.205.5144	Termination Vacation	\$14,500.00

Steve Johnson, City Auditor- section 3 will appropriate \$29,500.00 for a retired firefighter. This money will come from the unappropriated balance of the Compensated Absences fund that is money set aside for this purpose.

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

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

- d) A request for an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 153, Compensated Absences Fund, in the amount of \$1,265.00 (Retirement of Officer Anthony Spears)

Account	Description	Amount
153.202.5143	Termination Sick	\$350.00
153.202.5144	Termination Vacation	\$900.00
153.202.5145	Termination Comp	\$15.00

Steve Johnson- section 4 is the same as section 3 except it is for a retired Police Officer and the appropriation will be \$1,265.00 from the same fund.

Motion by Mr. Bubb to send to full Council, second by Mr. Cost
Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

- e) A request for an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 100, General Fund, in the amount of \$120,000.00 (Purchase of computers, servers, and software to replace failing system)

Account	Description	Amount
100.203.5536	Computer Software/Hardware	\$120,000.00

Chief Sarver- we are in a position to ask to have \$60,000.00 moved from our salaries account into equipment. When we formulated our 2014 budget we funded 72 sworn positions knowing that we were going to have some capital improvement items come up that wouldn't be funded by capital improvement and we also wasn't sure if we would fill those positions until we had some idea of what kind of salary increases we might have to offset that. We are in some dire need of computer equipment including servers. We have to update certain equipment; some things are being mandated by the State. We have to upgrade from Windows XP to Windows 7 by April 1st or we loss all of our ability to send information from our cars to the servers and so forth. In a Police Division, I know I am not telling you anything that you don't know but people are important, vehicles are important, facilities are important and so are technological things. We have to have computers to operate. In conversations with the Service Director initially we were informed that we would get approximately \$29,000.00 out of CI money that we could use to buy one police car this year. Our computer needs are far greater than what that one police car is. Working with the Service Director we have agreed with Finance Committee's approval that if I can move \$60,000.00 from salaries and not fill one of those positions this year than he will make available \$60,000.00 from capital improvement funds which will total what we desperately need to fix.

Mr. Blake- I was curious about the computer software that you are purchasing, is there a warranty for what goes along with what you are purchasing or some type of service contract because when you buy \$120,000.00 worth of stuff I know in my

experience with my employer that is some type of yearly thing that goes along with that.

Chief Sarver- the information provided to us by our technology officer, Bob Carson, in conjunction with Alpha link we need to replace the core and storage server, update the operating virtualization including labor alone is \$78,371.00. What kind of service agreement comes with a server, he has not listed any as an expense so I have to assume that there is some warranty that will come with it. We need to replace certain computers including laptop computers and desktop computers we have to upgrade the operating system and the RAM of 45 police cars including supervisors units. A production software upgrade which is Microsoft Office Pro is \$8,000.00 totaling \$118,000.00. Knowing Bob Carson as well as I do and he is a stickler to make sure that we get an agreement I am sure that this is all packaged into that. To give you a definitive answer does this come with a warranty I can only assume that it does.

Mr. Blake- is there any type of replacement cycle the equipment is on like a 4 year replacement cycle usually or this was purchased by some type of grant money?

Chief Sarver- we have bought so much stuff through grants. Bob Carson has dug and dug and dug. There's nothing available that is going to fund this stuff and we are at a stage now that April 1st that State is going to say you are cut off. We won't be able to transmit any of our reports that we do from our laptop computers, the servers any day now could just shut down and stop and we will literally lose everything that we got. All the servers that we currently have come with the facility in 2005. We are looking at 9 years' worth of Band-Aids we put together to make this stuff work and we have reached a stage now where the computer related stuff as sad as it is, is more important to us right now than people or a car.

Mr. Blake- just to give clarity to the comment you made, I am in IT that is my background, I know that Windows XP operating system end of life with Microsoft is in April so that is why there is an urgency so I can understand that.

Ms. Best- my question is that you said that it is going to be \$78,000.00 in labor

Chief Sarver- 48,000.00 for the server, 23,000.00 for the operating system, 6,000.00 for the labor.

Ms. Best- who's labor is that?

Mr. Blake- Ms. Best if you could just read off, say your questions because I want to

Ms. Best- I don't know what my question is until I hear the answer

Mr. Blake- this is what we want to do. We want to have statements and questions directed to the chair then if he is able to answer your questions then we will give him time to answer those questions but the dialog that you want to have you can have in the hallway.

Ms. Best- we wouldn't want to have dialogue that would just be horrible

Mr. Blake- we want to have an orderly meeting, I appreciate your cooperation, please state your question

Ms. Best- so who gets the 6,000.00 dollars?

Chief Sarver- Alpha link

Ms. Best- so 6,000 goes to Alpha link, we don't have a contract with Alpha link? I don't understand why that labor wouldn't be inclusive in a contract.

Mr. Blake- it is my understanding from what he testified that this is the contract that they are entering into

Ms. Best- so the City doesn't have a contract with Alpha link?

Mr. Blake- it sounds like for this particular project they don't but I will allow the Chief to come up

Ms. Best- I would like to know if Alpha link has a contract with the City, is that not inclusive of the Police Department and why wouldn't that 6,000.00 not be inclusive of that contract?

Chief Sarver- the Service Director may be better fitted to answer this question but it is my belief that the city does have an ongoing contract with Alpha link for certain things that they do. Job specific when we do this it is a separate contract.

Director Rhodes- he is correct

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

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

- f) A request for a disappropriation of the appropriated balance of the 100, General Fund, in the amount of \$60,000.00

Account	Description	Amount
100.202.5111	Salaries	\$60,000.00

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

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

- g) A request for a disappropriation of the appropriated balance of the 100, General Fund, in the amount of \$60,000.00

Account	Description	Amount
100.111.5901335	OPT	\$60,000.00

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

Mr. Marmie- so this is the portion that is coming from Capital Improvements correct?

Director Rhodes- yes, it is an operating transfer

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

3. **Resolution No. 14-22** appropriating and disappropriating monies for the current expenses of the municipal corporation was considered.

- a) A request for an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 221, Streets-Traffic Fund, in the amount of \$16,851.00 (appropriate Everett insurance check)

Account	Description	Amount
221.222.5332	Traffic-lights, bulbs	\$16,851.00

Director Rhodes- section one is to appropriate an insurance check that we received. These are for lights that go down along the bike path at Everett Park that were vandalized.

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

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

- a) A request for an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 100, General Fund, in the amount of \$4,510.60 (appropriate Babe Ruth insurance check)

Account	Description	Amount
100.121.5251	Service – Insurance Non-Health	\$1,890.00
100.434.5271	Babe Ruth – Grounds Maintenance	\$2,620.60

Director Rhodes- we have another insurance check for \$4,510.60. We went ahead and paid to repair water lines at Babe Ruth that broke out there this winter and we also had fencing blow down. What we are doing is just reappropriating the insurance check that was received.

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

Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Chair, Jeremy Blake