

Capital Improvements Minutes

Honorable Council
City of Newark, Ohio
September 6, 2018

The Capital Improvement Committee met in Council Chambers on Tuesday September 4, 2018 following the Service Committee with these members present:

Jonathan Lang
Dee Hall
Jeff Rath
Mark Labutis
Sean Fennell

We wish to Report:

1. **Resolution No. 18-76** appropriating monies for the current expenses of the municipal corporation was considered. –Expedite

Section 1. There is hereby an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 335 Capital Improvements Fund, in the amount of \$364,015.00 (Street & Expressway Lighting Project)

Account	Description	Amount
335.302.5538	Street & Expressway Lighting	\$364,015.00

Director Rhodes- if you remember we have been in a couple of different times on a street lighting project. We asked permission to borrow money so we could do that project these monies we have encumbered that we received from the lending institution we just want to get the dollars appropriating so we can began this project.

Motion by Mr. Rath to send to Council, second by Mr. Labutis

Director Rhodes- the wall pack units will be done by a local electrician the remainder of the highway lights which is little over 500 I have worked with the local union and they are going to be doing the work internally. They have agreed to work 10 hours days because it has to do with the set up and tear down when they are on the highways. We are working together as a team and we hope to do a certain number per day and a certain number per week depending on the weather.

Mr. Lang- is this all replacement of existing lights?

Director Rhodes- yes it is. If you come in from Columbus at night and you get around the Cherry Valley Road and Thornwood connector look up you will see nice LED lights and as you get a little closer you will see sodium lights that is what we are replacing all those sodium lights on the on ramps, off ramps, highway lights, center lights, roadway lights and under bridge wall pack lights. There is a savings it will pay for itself over a 7 year period and then the city will begin to receive the savings each year. We are going to see how this pilot runs. If you look around the city at all the street lights the city pays \$21.00-\$22.00 a month for a sodium light and we pay for that light whether it is burnt out or not. The only way to determine how many lights are burnt out is by sending somebody out at night and having them stop get out of their truck and write the pole number down. These lights that we are putting up have the ability to talk to each other so I will get a message on my computer stating when a light is burnt out with the light number and the location. If this works out we will look at a greater city package. I have had discussions with AEP about how we turn the city from very inefficient sodium lights to LED lights which would make the neighborhoods brighter but this is where we are going to start and if we do get into a bigger conversation about it maybe we will pick a neighborhood. Here's the other part to it too even though there is a savings once these are up hopefully we won't have our guys on the highway for the next 10 years which is safer for them and they can be doing other things that need to be done in the Traffic Department that we are currently struggling to get done.

Mr. Lang- if people look around the city the LED lights are the ones with a blue like hue and the sodium ones are the ones with the yellowish.

Mayor Hall- the lights on 21st Street are also LED and the Thornwood connector.

Director Rhodes- the lights are coming from a local manufacturer, Holophane.

Ms. Hall- is there are projected completion?

Director Rhodes- the under pass lights will be done this fall. All the highway lights will be dependent on the rain and weather. We will have a goal of doing 10-12 lights per day and we are talking about working 5-6 or 8 weeks of some overtime. If the weather cooperates 12-16 weeks it could go into spring, if it starts to snow I'm not going to put the guys out there. When we embarked on this project we met with the Union because we wanted to make sure we were on the same page. If we put all this out for private sector work they would have the ability to file a grievance stating that it is Union work. It is a collective bargaining agreement which we work under but we found that Ben could be very good to work with and we found out which parts they didn't want to do and which parts they did want to do then we got into discussions on working a 10 hour day instead of an 8 hour day and could we work 5 days which would be a little bit of overtime. We have kept money aside in the Street/Traffic budget this year to be able to afford to do that when this project kicked off.

Rochelle Bolen Smith, 237 Violet Court- it is my understanding that the company that is making the lights is a different company now that is centered in Boston which leaves the possibility of less business being done locally. Are these lights workable with other companies in terms of rebidding it and finding lowest bidder?

Mayor Hall- Holophane is owned by Acuity Brands, they own about 49 subsidiaries, and they have for a few years other than Holophane. We have been down to Holophane

several times, we work with them. They do furnace rebuilds and we work with them to get grants to do that and every time that they do it guarantees them to be here another 7-10 years locally until another rebuild is done. They did close the plant in Granville that was a showroom and a sales place but down here is where they make it. They even carve out the molds down here. It is highly unlikely although nothing is guaranteed that they would move that out of here. There aren't many competitors to Holophane because they still do real glass which has the best prism effect and the best shine and it costs money. That is why every time we talk to them we say give us a great deal we want to be your showroom. They are local and we love that and they provide jobs. Their lights are compatible with other companies should they leave this area. Their lights can be found all over the United States.

Mr. Fraizer- asked Director Rhodes if the \$364,015.00 is for the materials, the company, the network infrastructure and we are just paying the Street Department labor?

Director Rhodes- that is correct, that includes the wall packs being installed by a local group that was part of the negotiation. That includes everything except the labor to pay our guys to install.

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

Jonathan Lang, Chair