

## FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

October 20, 2008

The Finance Committee meeting was held on October 20, 2008, at North Royalton City Hall, 13834 Ridge Road. Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Committee: Chairman Kurt McKee, Vice Chair Gary Petrusky, Vince Gentile; Council: Don Willey, Larry Antoskiewicz, Dan Kasaris, John Nickell; Administration: Mayor Robert Stefanik, Finance Director Karen Fegan, First Assistant Prosecutor Donna Vozar; Other Attendees: Nick Cinquepalmi, Joann Dumound, Kim Frate, Pat Jones, Paul Marnecheck

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Gentile, seconded by Mr. Petrusky to **approve the September 15, 2008 minutes**. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

Mr. McKee suggested beginning the meeting by discussing the moral claims issue under New Business. Kim Frate, a claimant, was in attendance at the meeting. Ms. Vozar told committee members that there are four moral claims that have been resolved to date. The first claim involved Sharon Merleno Spitzer who was claiming damages for lost income and damaged equipment. A lawsuit was filed in this case, but the court determined that the city was immune from liability. Ms. Vozar sent a letter to the attorney which noted that Ms. Spitzer settled with National City Bank and Mid –Continent Construction on claims against them and never disclosed in her application any monies she received. This claim was denied. The next claim involved Ronald Nekl, a former employee, who made a claim alleging various injuries and employment related matters. A letter was sent to Mr. Nekl from Mr. Kelly stating that these claims are untimely and should have been taken care of through a grievance process. This claim was also denied. Mr. Nekl then filed a moral claim, this also was denied. The third claim involved Anita Undieme who is claiming damage to her motor vehicle as a result of her car allegedly sliding and striking a sewer grate. There was some question as to the rate of speed and negligence. The claim was denied. The last claim involves Kim Frate who is seeking \$500 for damage to her vehicle as a result of striking rebar on the roadway. There was almost \$4,000 damage to her car, but she is seeking \$500 for the cost of her deductible. The Law Department recommends we honor this claim and pay the \$500 in damages.

Moved by Mr. Gentile, seconded by Mr. Petrusky to **concur with the Law Department on their recommendation for the above moral claims**. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0.

Moved by Mr. Gentile, seconded by Mr. Petrusky to **make a recommendation to Council to pay the \$500 moral claim for Kim Frate**. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### 1. Quarterly Capital Appropriations (Jan/April/July/Oct)

Mrs. Fegan distributed financial information for review by committee members.

Mr. Willey asked about the Fire Department's purchase of a new pumper truck. Mrs. Fegan said that Chief Fabish has not moved forward on this yet. Mr. Gentile asked if Chief Fabish had put money aside for the new pumper truck. Mrs. Fegan said that Chief Fabish has the Capital Improvement Fund and that money is being used to pay down debt on Station 2. The Capital Improvement Fund is made up of collected EMS fees. Mr. Antoskiewicz asked if the rescue squad had been ordered. Mrs. Fegan said that she will doublecheck with Chief Fabish, but she does not believe that has been ordered yet.

Mrs. Fegan said that she has had a lot of inquiries from other communities as to what collection agency we use for collecting our EMS fees. We are one of the few cities that collect in house. Collections are going well.

Mr. Nickell asked if it is more economical to refurbish police vehicles than to purchase new vehicles. Mrs. Fegan said if vehicles are safe and usable, we keep them in service as long as possible.

#### 2. Monthly Finance report including tax collections status

The third quarter mini budget report was distributed. The report was missing some information for July and August which will be emailed to committee members by Mrs. Fegan.

### 3. Email

Laptop computers were distributed to Council today. Mr. McKee asked if there are any problems accessing email through the new laptops. Mr. Gentile said that he was able to access his email with no problems, and asked Council members to make sure their laptops are working properly prior to leaving the meeting this evening.

Mrs. Fegan said that the computer consultant has asked that Council members bring their laptops back to city hall on a monthly basis so that they can make sure the virus protection software is up to date and to protect what is on the laptop and what is on the server. Mrs. Fegan said that if Council members can leave their laptops at city hall after the second council meeting of each month, the consultants will update the computers then Council members will have them back by the following afternoon. Mr. Gentile mentioned that DIS is located in Broadview Heights on Broadview Road, and they could always drop their laptops off at their office if they so choose.

## NEW BUSINESS

### 1. Gas/Oil Well Revenues

Mrs. Fegan said that she did get a comprehensive list of oil wells which she forwarded to a representative at RITA. Mrs. Fegan received an email from a RITA representative indicating that they did receive the list and will follow through and get back to her soon.

Mr. Gentile asked about the email he received from Mrs. Fegan regarding tax revenues. He asked if we are a little down for the Fall. Mrs. Fegan said October is usually a little light for us, but things usually pick up in November. We are currently at 92% for the year, which Mrs. Fegan feels is good for what we budgeted which is 80%.

Mrs. Fegan announced that the budget sheets for 2009 were distributed to the Department Heads. The deadline to return the budget sheets is the end of November. Mrs. Fegan also announced that the Finance Department will be requesting financial software in next year's budget.

### 2. Moral Claims

Moral claims were discussed at the beginning of the meeting and are noted above.

## ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Gentile, seconded by Mr. Petrusky to **adjourn the meeting**. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0 **Motion carried.**  
**Meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.**