

CITY OF TWINSBURG, OHIO

Finance Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 23, 2021

6:00 PM

Meeting Called to Order: Mr. Scaffide called meeting to order at 6:00 PM

1. Roll Call: Mr. Scaffide, Mr. Barr, Mrs. McFearin, Mr. Furey, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Stauffer, Ms. Buccigross, Dave Maistros

2. Audience Participation: None

3. Approval of February, 23 2021 Finance Committee Minutes: Mr. Barr motioned to approve the 02/23/2021 meeting minutes. Ms. McFearin seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously as submitted.

4. 2021 Permanent Appropriation Presentations:

Public Works – Chris Campbell reported:

- Sixteen seasonal employees were not hired this past season. We will go to full seasonal crew this year. We have been short staffed for some time and we are planning to go back to full staff, this includes maintenance staff, foreman and general superintendent.
- Waste Water Treatment: In regards to the Class Four License Waste Water operator, we need to plan for the future and we will need to recruit the right candidate for this position that is required by EPA. This will be a long and challenging process for a specialized, degreed position.
- Department updates: Leaf and branch pickup program- We are trying to enhance this service and send more information to residents. We will need to spend more time out doing this, resulting in a need for more overtime. At peak season, we can't keep up which upsets residents. A \$30,000 budget is estimated for leaf pickup crew overtime.
- Service Garage design and planning: We would like to begin this discussion. We need to do a study to determine exactly what we need. We would like to hire an engineering firm to help identify our needs. For staffing needs, we need to get back to full staff. We are short 5 employees.
- Salt Dome: We need to put up an additional salt dome. A satellite dome would work best. We will need to determine this. Our current dome holds 1,800-2,000 tons of salt, we would like a satellite dome to hold 4,000 tons of salt. Upcoming improvements will be discussed at future meetings.

- Public Works Capital – These items have been approved by the Capital Improvement Board.
- Discussion was raised about complaints from residents regarding dead grass on tree lawns due to leaf piles. If we can increase our overtime, we can help with this issue by retrieving the leaves in a more efficient and timely manner. We can also repair any damage from snow plows.

Fire - Chief Morgan reported:

- We are hoping to add personnel, full time, part time and a cadet program. We are completing and working on the various details of the cadet program with the Law Director. Currently, we have five part time fire fighters. We continue to try to increase this roster and complete our schedule.
- Upcoming capital needs have been discussed previously. Chief Morgan discussed the need for multiple ladder trucks and medical units in the near future. It is noted that this is directly related to the Service Department needs, as well. They need a facility to do repair work on Fire Department vehicles and we need to be able to have the Service Department repair our vehicles to keep our equipment in service. The Fire Department has had an increase in volume to 3,000 calls per year. Twinsburg's aging population is rising faster than the national average. This impacts the Fire Department directly. This means a need for increased personnel and equipment. Thirty-five percent of our calls are back to back, at the same time. We need to have staffing and multiple vehicles ready and operational to meet this increased need. Chief Morgan stated that he would like to have at least four med units available for emergency use at any time.
- Fire Department Capital: All items have been approved by Capital Improvement Board. The new fire truck will arrive later this spring.
- The Fire Department did come in under budget for overtime and comp time for last year.

Police – Chief Noga reported:

- Department updates: When we have any personnel retire we look at effective ways to manage and reassess the department. As one more officer is retiring and possibly three other officers, we will be working on replacing staff as needed. In the fall, we are testing for Lieutenants and Sergeants. Our department is establishing a training consortium with Hudson and Aurora Police Departments. This will save on training costs and create comradery with area police forces.

- **Capital Plan:** We are still looking at purchasing the City Wide Wireless Camera Network in the future. This item will be continue to be discussed.

Mr. Scaffide made a motion that the Finance Committee recommend to Council to approve the budget. Motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

5. American Rescue Plan – Sarah Buccigross stated the information presented at this time is very general. We are waiting on guidelines from US Treasury. All information is estimates and is generic information on how we can use this money. An estimated 3.7 million is allocated to the City, half coming this year and half coming next year. We will have until December 31, 2024 to use this money. Eligible uses may include the following four items: 1) revenue replacement to the extent of revenue reduction, 2) premium pay for essential workers, 3) assistance for economic recovery and 4) investment for water, sewer and broadband infrastructure programs. We have time to plan our use for this money. Current information states that the funds cannot be deposited into any pension funds or used for items besides those listed above.

Additionally, Sarah referenced accompanying slides and briefly discussed the upcoming ballot Issue 2 for the Police and Fire. This discussion will continue as determined by the vote for this Issue.

6. Comments/Questions: None presented at this time.

7. Miscellaneous: None presented at this time.

8. Next meeting date: April 27, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

9. Adjournment: Mr. Scaffide adjourned meeting 6:56PM.