

# CITY OF TWINSBURG, OHIO

## Finance Committee Meeting

Tuesday, May 25, 2021 - 6:00 PM

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

**Roll Call:** Mr. Scaffide, Mr. Barr, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Stauffer, Ms. Buccigross, Mayor Yates

Absent: Mrs. McFearin

**2. Audience Participation:** None

**3. Approval of April 27, 2021 Finance Committee Minutes:** Mr. Barr motioned to approve the 04/27/2021 meeting minutes. Mr. Scaffide seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously as submitted.

**4. Establish Police and Fire Levy Fund:** Tonight on legislation we have a proposal for the City to set up a new fund to receive revenues generated from the passage of the Police and Fire 2.40 Mill Levy. We want to set up the fund for the expenses of Police Pension, Fire Pension and Safety Capital. Both departments agreed and committed to share the Safety Capital portion of the revenue.

2.4 Mill will generate an estimated \$1.7 million, The Capital portion of this one mill is estimated at \$708,000. Lease payments we have now (pumper trucks, police cruiser, Life Paks) is a little over \$300,000. It was discussed with Police & Fire to try leave a portion of the Capital revenue to build up over time. Upcoming safety Capital Expenses include: Police Department – Cruisers, Lot Improvements and Carport. Fire Department- Pumper & Ladder truck payments, Med Unit (s) and Station and Lot Improvements.

**5. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Guidance Part 1–** Sarah Buccigross referenced slides with general guidance information that has been issued on the allowed uses of ARPA monies:

- The State of Ohio will calculate allocations, collect information for NEUs of local government and establish a process for NEUs to submit requests.
- Allocation will be based on population size. Our numbers may change, due to the Townships now possibly being eligible.
- Reporting will be to the State/US Treasury on a quarterly and annual basis.
- Funds will need to be committed/obligated by December 31, 2024 and fully expended by December 31, 2026. We have time to plan for its use.
- The first payment will be received this year. The second payment will be received one year after the first disbursement

## **Premium Pay for Essential Workers:**

Mr. Scaffide suggested that he would like to consider some of this money to go to employees. Per Ms. Buccigross the Fiscal Recovery Funds payments may be used by recipients to provide premium pay to eligible workers performing essential work during the Covid-19 health emergency. The definitions of eligible worker and essential work were discussed.

Limitations on premium pay are up to \$13 per hour, not to exceed \$25,000 per eligible worker. Per guidelines, it should prioritize compensation of those lower income eligible workers that perform essential work. Additionally, written justification may be needed should the premium pay increase a worker's total above 150% of their residing State's average annual wage of all occupations. Ohio's annual wage for all Occupations is currently \$51,510. 150% of the average wage would be \$77,265 limit without additional justification. If we wanted to give more than that we may be required to give written justification. Discussion continued on how to proceed and the significant complications it possibly presents.

**Covid-19 Response or Negative Economic Impact:** Covid-19 Mitigation and Prevention builds and expands upon permissible expenditures under the CARES Act. Examples would be vaccine programs, testing, contact tracing, etc. Additionally, this does allow us to provide assistance to various groups if a negative impact is identified:

Step 1: Identify a need or negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

Step 2: Identify how the program, service or other intervention addresses the need and impact.

Assistance may include:

- Household assistance programs, rent/mortgage assistance, utility and food assistance.
- Economic relief programs.
- Small business and Non-profit grants. This may provide assistance through loans or grants to lessen financial hardship.

The funds may also be used to rehire staff, up to Pre-Pandemic staffing levels. Pre-Pandemic Full Time staff was 182, currently we have 167 full time employees. Discussions continued regarding rehiring within the City, including the Engineering and Building Departments. This discussion will be continued.

**6. Comments/Questions:** Discussion continued regarding staffing.

**7. Miscellaneous:** None at this time.

**8. Next Meeting Date:** June 22, 2021 at 6:00 PM

MOTION: TO ENTER INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS MATTERS  
PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE 121.22(G) (1):

PERSONNEL

RECONVENE AND REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

**9. Adjournment:** Mr. Scaffide adjourned meeting at 6:57pm.