

SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 4, 2009

Members of Service Committee present: Mel Clemens, Donna Shirey, Doug Joseph, Barth Cotner.

Other members of Council present: Ron Stake, Fred Deskins, Jr., Council President William L. Hills. Councilwoman Leslie Kelly was absent.

Mr. Clemens: I'll call the Service Committee Meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

The first item on the agenda is approval of agenda. Are there any additions or deletions? If not, it'll stand approved.

Item 3 - Approval of minutes of the Service Committee Meeting held April 20, 2009. Are there any additions or deletions to the minutes? If not, they'll stand approved.

Item 4 - ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR BROAD STREET WATER TOWER RECONDITIONING- -first reading 4-27-09. Are there any questions from the Committee for the City Engineer? Members of Council? If not, I'd like to make a motion that we send this to Council for its second reading. Seconded by Mr. Cotner. All those in favor say "Aye". (All voted "Aye") Opposed. (No response). Motion passes. Thank you.

Item 5 - ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION AND INSPECTION FOR BROAD STREET WATER TOWER RECONDITIONING- -first reading 4-27-09. Is there any discussion or any questions for our City Engineer from members of the Committee, members of Council? If not, I'd like to send this to Council for its second reading. Seconded by Mr. Joseph. All those in favor say "Aye". (All voted "Aye") Opposed. (No response). Thank you.

That will end the Service Committee Meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Service Committee

- - Sally Cochran, Assistant Clerk of Council

May 4, 2009

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 4, 2009

Members of Finance Committee present: Ron Stake, Mel Clemens, Fred Deskins, Jr.
Councilwoman Leslie Kelly was absent.

Other members of Council present: Doug Joseph, Barth Cotner, Donna Shirey, Council President William L. Hills.

Mr. Stake: I'll call to order the Finance Committee Meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Item 3 - Approval of minutes of Finance Committee meeting held April 20, 2009. Are there any changes to those minutes? None being heard, they'll stand as submitted.

Item 4 - Discussion: Adoption of CIP 2009-2013. This comes from the Mayor. Mayor?

Mayor McCloud: Thank you, Chairman Stake, members of Council. You have before you what is a working, living document from the Administration regarding the CIP. We intended that this be a realistic document in terms of what we could actually maybe be able to fund, rather than make up a wish list of things that we just wish would happen. So, with that I'll entertain questions.

Mr. Stake: Any questions for Mayor from members of Finance Committee? I do have a couple questions. I notice there were two items that were taken out that to me, I think are realistic. One is the Rodebaugh Road Water Line. I know that there's several homes on Rodebaugh Road that are on well water and there's some folks who are interested in having the ability to hook into the water out there. I've even had people tell me that they would like to go back into the Township, and I know the water line is just not about water for their homes, it's all, it's about fire hydrants and things like that. Can you tell me why you took that off there?

Mayor McCloud: The general consensus of the last meeting of the CIP was that due to a host of issues, the, there are two Rodebaugh issues that we would pull out. If it is the collective desire or wish of this body, we would certainly entertain putting in a page of, additional page of projects under consideration. I know the Rodebaugh Road Sewer Project ran into some snags several years ago in regards to obtaining some easements, and it was Council's decision then to not move forward with that....

Mr. Stake: Those, I wonder if I can stop you a minute. It was the recommendation of the Administration at that time that we don't move forward until they could work out those issues. I guess there's no desire in this Administration to work out the issue?

Mayor McCloud: Is that a question?

Mr. Stake: Yeh.

Mayor McCloud: Work out the issue. You'll, can you define "work out the issue"?

Mr. Stake: You're the one who said that there was an issue with it. I imagine you're familiar with it. I guess there was an issue with somebody wanting a lot more money than it was worth to get an easement.

Mayor McCloud: That is, that is my recollection, and that's where it stalled.

Mr. Stake: Okay, so can you answer my question?

Mayor McCloud: And what is your question?

Mr. Stake: Is there a desire to work that out and maybe bring this forward again?

Mayor McCloud: I am, I am not a....

Mr. Stake: Sewer for some these folks?

Mayor McCloud: I am not against it. I'm not sure what has changed between then and now, but I'm not against it, to answer your question.

Mr. Stake: Okay. Let's go back to the water line. There's no desire to bring water to these folks? I mean, this is your budget. I know there was a committee meeting; I was informed about it; I wasn't able to make it. I was informed later that these were taken off and I did ask that they be put back on, and I was told that if they were going to be put back on, Council would have to do that; and I'll be happy to make a motion down the road to see if we can do that, but I guess my concern is, why isn't the Administration willing to bring water to these residents who have annexed into the city, hoping that they would get city services?

Mayor McCloud: At some point in the future, that will be a major priority of this Administration. At this point in time, it is a minor priority of this Administration.

Mr. Stake: Okay, well this CIP goes out to 2013. I mean it's not within the next four years?

Mayor McCloud: As you know, this is a working document, subject to alteration and amendment at any time.

Mr. Stake: Yeah, I mean a, we normally get one once a year. We didn't get one last year. We've got one this year. Hopefully we would get one next year, but there's no desire at this time to put this in and even have it on the radar, so that we could maybe offer folks water in that area?

Mayor McCloud: We can put it in Mr. Stake. I don't feel that strongly about it. As I said, that is not a major priority. If Council feels strongly about it, we can add it.

Mr. Stake: Paving parking lots is a major priority though, right?

Mayor McCloud: That is, absolutely.

Mr. Stake: Okay. Thank you. Any other questions from members of the Finance Committee, Councilman Clemens.

Mr. Clemens: Now since you brought this up, there is one thing I would ask, and it's been discussed, Administration to look at, and that's the cost of the running our sewers, the \$2,900 that's been put in there. I think it's, I think that's something that we ought to rescind really, and rethink the issue of the \$2,900 per owner of a piece of property to run a sewer to, because I don't think the city's financially in the situation with what we can handle that, I don't think we could financially. Could handle it when it happened, but so be it then, but I would like you to look at that and see what you think about it Mayor, if you would, and whether we should have an ordinance to withdraw that.

Mr. Stake: President Hills.

Mr. Hills: I'd like to follow up if I could on that, because that definitely needs to be done. The \$2,900, for those people who weren't around, was a bargain tie-in rate in order to have the incentive to get people into the sewer systems; and anywhere where there are sewers, you can find some people who say you must go into it. We've never been that and we have not pushed it that way, but that's been probably eight years ago; and I doubt if there's anyone that's used that rate within the last three or four years, and certainly that is, that is something we need. In these economic times, we absolutely have to consider how long has this, has this offer not been out there long enough because certainly, they didn't exercise it. The EPA will eventually come by and say you're going to have to do it anyway, whatever the costs are, and I just need a little clarification, because I was in the meeting the night that Rodebaugh came off, because there wasn't, and there wasn't when it was here before, a desire to move forward. I guess, are there two, were there two separate sheets in there, or was it just the Sewer, or was it Sewer and Water, two separate things?

Mr. Stake: There are two separate sheets.

Mr. Clemens: (inaudible)

Mr. Hills: Were there two separate sheets? Okay. I'm not sure that registered, but it, I think the same thing is true. The same issue is true with both, I believe. There was a blockage basically by an individual who, an excessive request for reimbursement would be a nice way of saying it, and certainly it, it nixed the whole project.

Mr. Stake: The sewer line.

Mr. Hills: Yes.

Mr. Stake: I think the issue with the water line was that when Rodebaugh Road was to be repaved, that's when the water line would be run, and of course we did the re-paving, or we, Council authorized and funded the re-paving of Rodebaugh Road at the last minute; but there are several homes over there and of course, I don't know if people realize this, but your insurance rates depend on how close you are to a fire hydrant, so people who live further away from fire hydrants, pay a higher premium for their homeowner's insurance. Are there any other questions or comments from members of Finance Committee, members of Council. Well, at this time, I'll send this on for it's first reading. Seconded by Councilman Clemens. Any further discussion. All those in favor say "Aye". (All voted "Aye") Opposed. (No response). Motion passes.

Item 5 - Discussion: Amend Section 160.02 “Authorized Positions, Personnel, Classification and Pay Grade” Subsection (a) “Administrative” to change the full time position of Data Entry Operator to part time; thus resulting in two part time Data Entry Operators in the Clerk of Courts Department. Mayor.

Mayor McCloud: Thank you Chairman Stake, members of Council. For the last several years in the recent past, the Clerk of Courts has been staffed with three full time and one part time individuals. It is my conclusion that we can now appropriately meet the operational needs with staffing, with two full time and two part time, and that is the basis for the request.

Mr. Stake: Okay. Are there any questions or comments for the Mayor in regards to this item? I do have some on this, but I would like at this time Mayor, if you could tell us, maybe give us some information on staffing in the city. I understand that our IT Director is moving on. We lost our IT guy, Bobby Smathers. Are there any other positions coming vacant and those kinds of things and my concern is that, you know, I don’t think, the economy’s not real good, you know, unemployment has doubled. I don’t think our revenue’s going to be what we projected. I think it’s going to be less than that and I do have a concern about adding people. I want to make sure that Council is able to prioritize.

Mayor McCloud: As of this time, I’m not aware of anyone else leaving aside from Bobby Smathers, who has left, and Bart Anthony, who will be leaving at the end of this month.

Mr. Stake: And how was Bobby Smathers replaced?

Mayor McCloud: With a contract, with a temporary appointment under the Civil Service Statutes of Ohio, not to exceed 120 days.

Mr. Stake: Did, and do we still have that contract, the, we had a contract employee over there. Do we still have that other contract employee?

Mayor McCloud: Yes, we do.

Mr. Stake: So we have two contract employees at the Police Department, I guess.

Mayor McCloud: I don’t know that the 120 day appointment is technically classified as a contract employee. We have the 120 day, not to exceed the 120 day appointment, and we have the contract employee as well.

Mr. Stake: Okay, so the 120 day employee who replaced Bobby Smathers, does he have the qualifications listed in the job description to do that job?

Mayor McCloud: I don’t have the job description in front of me. He is capable of doing the job or I wouldn’t have put him there.

Mr. Stake: Well, I mean Council passed an ordinance, I believe, that had job description in there, and I would, I don't know how other Council people feel, I fully would expect if we're going to replace an employee that they have the qualifications to do the job, whether you want to call it 120 day or whatever, that would be my expectation. Getting back to the Clerk of Courts person, part time employee, I thought it was decided by you that there wouldn't be a position filled in the Clerk of Courts Office when we did the budget.

Mayor McCloud: What I said was....

Mr. Stake: In fact, I think we talked about that.

Mayor McCloud: ...what I said was, I would not fill the full time position and I have not. If I had filled the full time position, I wouldn't be here. That's what my email to you said.

Mr. Stake: Well I, I think that's a little disingenuous. I mean, if you planned on putting a part time person in there, you should have told me at that time.

Mayor McCloud: Um hum.

Mr. Stake: Are there any questions or comments for the Mayor from members of Finance Committee, members of Council? I do have a concern about this. I'm going to make a motion that we hold this item for two weeks. Do I have a second? Seconded by Mr. Clemens. Any further discussion. All those in favor say "Aye". (All voted "Aye") Opposed. (No response). Motion passes. Thank you.

Item 6 - ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 2-09 PASSED JANUARY 26, 2009 TO REFLECT CORRECT CONTRACT AMOUNT- -first reading 4-27-09. This did come from the Auditor. I don't think there's any issues with this or are any issues with this. Do I have any comments or questions from members of the Finance Committee, members of Council? Then I'll make a motion that we send this item on for it's second reading. Do I have a second? Seconded by Mr. Deskins. Any further discussion. All those in favor say "Aye". (All voted "Aye") Opposed. (No response). Motion passes.

Item 7 - ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT TO MORPC FOR ADMINISTRATION COSTS INCURRED FOR THE COORDINATION OF ROUND 22 of THE SCIP/SGF, AND/OR THE LTIP (Rosehill Road Reconstruction)- -first reading 4-27-09. I don't believe there are any issues with this either. Do I have any questions or comments from members of Finance Committee, members of Council? I'll make a motion that we send this item on for it's second reading. Do I have a second? Seconded by Mr. Clemens. Any further discussion. All those in favor say "Aye". (All voted "Aye") Opposed. (No response). Motion passes.

I'll adjourn the Finance Committee at 7:47 p.m.

Finance Committee- -Sally Cochran, Ass't. Clerk of Council May 4, 2009