

FINANCE COMMITTEE

September 15, 2016

MEMBERS

Chairman Budd
Alderman Burtle
Alderman Jones
Alderman Vota
Mayor Brotherton

ALSO PRESENT

Treasurer Nation	Owen Lasswell
City Attorney	Adam Mathis
Alderman Olive	Iris Crites
Alderman Heberling	Jim Adcock
Alderman Dorchinecz	Cindy Dey

Chairman Budd called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Audit Analysis

Ms. Iris Crites and Mr. Adam Mathias from the accounting firm of Lively, Mathias, Hooper & Noblet Ltd addressed the Committee regarding the results of an analysis they had completed utilizing data from the last five years of the City's annual audits. The analysis focused on the assets in the General Fund. They distributed a color coded spreadsheet that illustrated the changes in cash flow levels during the five year period as well as providing notes documenting the major revenue or expense events that were primarily responsible for those changes.

Alderman Heberling asked if the fact that what they were presenting did not seem to show any major cash flow problems could that mean the City's other funds were probably good as well. Mr. Mathis warned that it would be an over generalization and suggested that a similar analysis should be done on the funds outside the general fund. With the more comprehensive information they could then make a more accurate report of the City's financial status. Mayor Brotherton stated that he hopes that their analysis can help educate the elected officials on what kind of things they should be focusing on to ensure that the City's is on a sound financial footing.

Following an extensive discussion the Committee recommended that an analysis of the remaining funds be done and asked that the accounting firm provide a quote to the Mayor of what the cost would be.

Optimist Club Fireworks Contribution

Mr. Jim Adcock representing the Optimist Club informed the Committee that Melrose Pyrotechnics, Inc. will continue providing the fireworks and display provided the club will sign a new three year commitment to lock in a rate. He is requesting a 3 year commitment of \$4,500.00 each year from the City of Taylorville.

Motion by Aldermen Burtle and seconded by Alderman Jones to recommend to the City Council to contribute \$4,500.00 each year for 3 years to the Optimist Club for the Fourth of July Fireworks Display with \$2,500.00 coming from the Hotel/Motel Tax and \$2,000.00 coming from the General Fund. Motion carried 4-0.

Missions for Taylorville Contribution

Mayor Brotherton advised the Committee that the Missions for Taylorville group has been doing some great things regarding yard cleanups and repairs to residences throughout the City and he would like the City to offer some monetary support. He stated that this group comprised of volunteers is doing exactly what City leaders want to see done. They are cleaning up and repairing blighted properties for those who can't do it themselves.

Alderman Vota stated that he had some concerns about setting precedence by giving taxpayer money to a group like this. He wondered where the City would draw the line when other groups asked for financial support. He also stated that in this case the group itself had not even made a request for funds.

Alderman Burtle stated that he was one hundred percent in support of anything that would make the City look better. After some additional discussion the Mayor was asked to talk to the group's leaders and request them to come to a future Committee Meeting to further explain what their plans and goals were.

Elected Officials Salaries

The Committee had a lengthy discussion regarding the Elected Officials Salaries.

Motion by Alderman Vota and seconded by Alderman Jones to recommend to the City Council to direct the City Attorney to prepare an Ordinance to provide for a \$58,000.00 annual fiscal year salary for the Mayor during the four-year term of office that commences in May 2017 and to include other compensation benefits for the Mayor currently in effect. Motion carried 3-1.

Motion by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderman Vota to recommend to the City Council to direct the City Attorney to prepare an Ordinance to maintain the existing \$579.63 monthly salary and other existing compensation benefits for Aldermen whose term of office commences in May 2017. Motion carried 3-1.

Motion by Alderman Vota and seconded by Alderman Jones to recommend to the City Council to direct the City Attorney to prepare an Ordinance to provide for a \$55,000.00 annual fiscal year salary for the City Clerk and a \$55,000.00 annual fiscal year salary for the City Treasurer during their respective four-year terms of office that commence in May 2017 and to include other compensation benefits for the City Clerk and City Treasurer currently in effect. Motion carried 3-1.

Funding/Ward II City Park Phase 5 Sewer Project

The Committee had an extensive discussion regarding the funding for Ward II City Park Phase 5 Sewer Project. While the majority of the City's Aldermen seem to support the project there are concerns regarding where the revenue to finance the project will come from. If the City receives an IEPA Loan for the project it must identify a dedicated revenue stream for repayment of the loan. Alderman Burtle asked Treasurer Nation if the Sewer Use Tax could provide the needed funding. Treasurer Nation had some concerns about that but didn't have all the needed data to definitely answer the question.

American Tower Lease Agreement

The City is waiting for a response from American Tower in regards to the Lease Agreement. There was some discussion of selling the property.

Treasurer's Report

The June 2016 Sales Tax (received in September 2016) was \$216,805.91 compared to \$220,863.21 in June 2015 and year-to-date is \$29,940.58 less than June 2015.

The June 2016 Non Home Rule Sales Tax (received in September 2016) was \$87,526.77 compared to \$90,811.13 in June 2015 and year-to-date is \$15,053.23 less than June 2015.

Interest earned on the Sewer Project Fund to date is \$189,305.62. The current balance is \$111,123.89.

Motion by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderman Vota to recommend to the City Council to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Alderman Vota and seconded by Alderman Burtle to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:48 P.M.