

FINANCE COMMITTEE

April 19, 2012

MEMBERS

Chairman Lawrence
Alderman Burtle
Alderman Vota
Mayor Brotherton

ALSO PRESENT

Treasurer France
Alderman Walters
Alderman Koonce
Alderman Heberling
Shirley Sams

MEMBERS ABSENT

Alderman Jones

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

Review/Approve-FY 2012/2013 Departmental Budgets

The Committee reviewed the Police, Fire, HBO, Street, Sewer, Garbage, MFT, and Cemetery FY2012/2013 Budgets. Chairman Lawrence recommended forwarding these Budgets to the City Treasurer for further refinement.

Motion by Alderman Vota and seconded by Alderman Burtle to recommend to the City Council to forward the FY 2012/2013 Police, Fire, HBO, Street, Sewer, Garbage, MFT, and Cemetery Budgets to the City Treasurer for further refinement. Motion carried 3-0.

Project Tax Exemption Applications

The Mayor presented the Committee with a copy of a Taylorville Christian County Enterprise Zone Certification Application to review.

Project Certification Fee

The Mayor presented the Committee with information explaining how the Certification Fee is determined. The Certification Fee is ½% of the total construction and/or renovation material costs determined at the time of certification of the project by the Enterprise Zone Administrators. The CCEDC receives 75% of the distributions and 25% is divided equally between the City of Taylorville and Christian County.

Enterprise Zone Report/Review

The Mayor presented the Committee with information regarding the Taylorville Christian County Enterprise Zone. There was discussion on who should be responsible for informing new businesses of the Enterprise Zone. The Committee also discussed the need for new maps stating the first step would be to contact Mike Gianasi of the Supervisor of Assessments Office.

Water Fund Loan Repayment

Treasurer France advised the Committee that \$200,000.00 has been repaid to the Water Fund to date; after this \$50,000.00 transfer from the General Fund to the Water Fund the balance owed to the Water Fund will be \$720,000.00.

Motion by Alderman Vota and seconded by Alderman Burtle to recommend to the City Council to approve the transfer of \$50,000.00 from the General Fund to the Water Fund for the first quarter payment. Motion carried 3-0.

Treasurer's Report

- January 2012 Sales Tax (Received in April) was \$179,875.17 compared to \$170,614.90 in January 2011.
- January 2012 Non-Home Rule Sales Tax (Received in April) was \$70,585.05 compared to \$64,415.13 in January 2011.
- Interest earned on the Sewer Project Fund to date is \$163,870.81; the current balance is \$2,753,911.10.
- IEPA Lift Station Upgrade Repayment- IEPA disbursements processed totaled \$962,011.00 and accrued interest totaled \$3,746.87. Principal forgiveness amounted to \$246,250.00. The City will be required to repay \$719,507.87 over the 20 year period. In FY 2012/2013, \$20,845.94 is due August 8, 2012 and the same amount is due on February 8, 2013.
- Real Estate Taxes- Have reviewed and signed off on the County Clerk's tax district levy request report for tax year 2011 paid in 2012.

Any Other Matters

The Committee listened to a presentation given by Cory with eCIVIS via phone regarding a website designed for cities to obtain grants; this service helps with the research, tracking and reporting which is very helpful with auditing. Mayor Brotherton had the website set up in advance to have eCIVIS explain the different tools on the website to help obtain grants specifically for their needs. For an example, the service has tools to separate grants from non-matching to matching funds. Cory also explained that there are different types of grants available, Federal, State and Foundation Grants and eCIVIS is the only web site which shows all three.

This service allows each Department to search for grants specifically for their needs. Chairman Lawrence asked if they would be able to search for infrastructure grants as well and he was told yes, that you would breakdown the search by keyword search such as sewers, streets, etc., for example they typed in sewer and 59 different grants came up; then specifically entered bridge non matching funds and 44 grants came up. Mayor Brotherton asked if there are any grants available to finance the website service and Cory stated actually there is and quite a few of their clients have done this.

Mayor Brotherton asked if they could provide him with a list of their clients which have the same demographics as Taylorville. This would give the Committee information as to how many cities would be applying for the same types of grants as Taylorville and to provide information on how many grants they have been awarded.

The agreement with eCIVIS for the website service would initially be set up for four users with one user being set up as the Manager who will be able to oversee all transactions taking place. The initial agreement will be set up for three years for four users for an annual cost of \$12,100.00. Cory explained with this service, if audited, the City could give access to the website for the State, etc. to review information.

Chairman Lawrence stated this service is very similar to a service that he and Mary Renner with Taylorville Development Corp. observed called "Foundation Search". The cost for their service is \$8,000.00 for a two year agreement. The Committee discussed comparing the two services and if comparable perhaps try to negotiate a better fee with eCIVIS; if they provide the Mayor with the information he asked for and the Committee agrees to go forward.

Mayor Brotherton advised the Committee an appraisal has been done for property located on Gandy Street that the City is considering purchasing; this will be addressed at a later date.

Motion by Alderman Burtle and seconded by Alderman Vota to adjourn. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 P.M.

John Lawrence, Chairman
Finance Committee