

FINANCE COMMITTEE

July 16, 2020

MEMBERS

Chairman Budd
Alderman Lanzotti
Alderman Bryant

ALSO PRESENT

Mayor Barry
Alderman Olive
Treasurer Nation
Clerk Lilly

Alderman Driskell
Alderman Dorchinecz
HR Manager Conrath
Superintendent Mann
Bill Jones
Owen Lasswell

Chairman Budd called the meeting to order at 6:04 P.M.

Extend Timeline for Summer Help

Mayor Barry requested to extend the timeline for summer help by two weeks, to August 7, 2020. There is still work to be completed and the assistance is needed from the summer help. The Lake, Cemetery, and Street Departments are in need of the additional help. The estimated cost for this extension will be \$7,000.00, with the costs to be split between the four Wards, utilizing 2% Utility Tax money.

Motion by Alderman Bryant and seconded by Alderman Lanzotti to recommend to the City Council to approve the extension of Summer Help to August 7, 2020 at an approximate cost to the City of \$7,000.00, to be paid out of the 2% Utility Tax Ward money. The motion carried (3-0).

Seasonal Employee – Lake Department

Mayor Barry stated his intention to promote from within the Lake Department to cover the retirement of Lake Superintendent Bialis. If this occurs, there will be a staff vacancy, which he would like to fill with a seasonal employee. He requested permission to hire a seasonal employee from August – October, 40 hours/week for 10 weeks, for an approximate cost of \$4,000.00.

Motion by Alderman Bryant and seconded by Alderman Lanzotti to recommend to the City Council to approve the hiring of a seasonal employee for the Lake Department for ten weeks to cover the potential staff vacancy based upon interdepartmental promotion. The motion carried (3-0).

Part Time Employee – Lake Department

One of the part time summer help employees at the Lake Marina will be leaving prior to the end of the season. There is a request to replace this employee, along with replacing the employee who resigned. Mayor Barry would like to hire two part time people to finish out the season at the Lake Marina. These positions are already in the Lake Department Budget and would be paid out of that department.

Motion by Alderman Bryant and seconded by Alderman Lanzotti to recommend to the City Council to hire two part time employees at the Lake Marina to be paid from the Lake Fund. The motion carried (3-0).

Privatizing the Lake Taylorville Marina

Mayor Barry is interested in privatizing the Lake Taylorville Marina. He feels that by doing this, the City would save money in labor costs. He is also considering not selling gas as this requires a second person to be staffed.

Motion by Alderman Bryant and seconded by Alderman Lanzotti to recommend to the City Council to forward the discussion of privatization of the Lake Marina to the Lake Committee. The motion carried (3-0).

Treasurer's Report

The April 2020 Sales Tax (received in July) was \$200,728.09 compared to \$230,350.16 in April 2020 and year-to-date is \$48,423.42 less than 2019.

The April 2020 Non-Home Rule Sales Tax (received in July) was \$80,738.72 compared to \$89,637.26 in March 2020 and year-to-date is \$15,217.73 less than 2019.

April 2020 BDD tax (received in June) was \$100,311.02. Total received since January 2019 is \$1,552,108.89.

Motion by Alderman Bryant and seconded by Alderman Lanzotti to recommend to the City Council to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion carried (3-0).

Any Other Matters

Alderman Driskell presented the creation of an advertising campaign to highlight the City of Taylorville in an attempt to draw people to our community. She contacted WAND and WICS, and was given a price of \$900 per month for a 3 month commitment, for a total cost of \$2,700.00 per station. The 15 second ad campaign, would run 46 times per month, including the 6:00 P.M. news. She has been in contact with a local resident who would film the ad for the City, but was unsure of the price for this service. The ad would be filmed in a variety of locations to highlight shopping, golfing, boating, biking, and dining. She inquired as to the use of BDD Funds or the Hotel/Motel Tax for payment of this promotion. It was suggested that a City representative speak with the Chamber of Commerce and/or Downtown Taylorville.org to coordinate efforts and collaborate on this idea. This will be discussed further at the August Finance Committee Meeting.

Alderman Dorchinecz would like to invite Mary Renner to the August Finance Committee Meeting to provide an update on new businesses locating to Taylorville and the future plans of Economic Development.

Mayor Barry noted that the Census is at approximately 68% completion for the City of Taylorville. He would like to encourage more participation. The various City Facebook pages, to include the Fire Department, Police Department, and City Clerk's Office, along with the Taylorville.net webpage, will add information on the Census. Completion of the Census determines future funding for the City.

Alderman Dorchinecz discussed his recent memo regarding raising the water rate for the Taylorville Correctional Center. Currently there is an industrial rate set up for the two largest water users: Ahlstrom Filtration and the Taylorville Correctional Center. Alderman Dorchinecz suggested the creation of two industrial rates: Commercial (Ahlstrom) and Non-Commercial (Taylorville Correctional Center). The non-commercial rate could be raised to equal the rate that residential users in the City currently pay. This increase could provide an additional \$20,000.00 per month. Mayor Barry suggested that more research into what rates are paid by other institutions, as the City must be prudent in raising rates. This issue will be forwarded to the Water Committee for further discussion.

Mayor Barry noted that an additional two more BDD Mortgage/Lease Subsidy Applications were received after the July 7, 2020 deadline had expired. An Ordinance to approve will be on the July 20, 2020 City Council Agenda.

Motion by Alderman Bryant and seconded by Alderman Lanzotti to adjourn. The motion carried (3-0).

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

Larry Budd, Chairman
Finance Committee