

Finance Committee Minutes

6 April 2021

Attending:

Mayor Bill Koons (WK)
Mike Carroll (MC)
G. Heilman

Danielle Romanowski (DR)
Chris Berger (CB)
Bridey Matheney (BM)

Meeting called to order at 8:00AM by CB.

1. DR noted that only two departments had submitted information toward the five-year goals. CB, as chair of the Building Committee, stated that BC would submit by Friday, April 9th. Other committees would be reminded at Council on April 12th.
2. CB asked if any more information had been received from Adam Lechman regarding the banking ordinance to be renewed by August. DR reported none. Adam to be contacted for an update.
3. CB asked if any further consideration had been given to financing the Chagrin Lakes Dam Project. MC questioned whether this was an approval of the project? CB again noted that no decision had been made on supporting the project but simply wanted to be prepared to address questions from Council when the discussion was had. DR reported that she had contacted the County and found that the Village could not use existing funds to finance a private project. DR confirmed that the Village would have to take over the project and then assess the lake owners. BM confirmed the process and asked if all 11 homeowners had signed the petition to Council. CB confirmed this was the case. WK noted that as the lake owners had petitioned Council, it was now Council's decision whether to take on the project or not. WK also noted that research from a project in Solon was done at a cost of \$1 million and assessed over a 40-year period. MC wanted the Village Engineer to weigh in on the project. CB asked how fast this could happen? MC said he would try for the current week and present a response from the Streets Committee at Council on April 12th.
4. WK raised the issue of how Covid monies were handled in the last year and whether changes were needed in the coming year with additional Covid money anticipated. WK suggested that he will discuss with the Department Heads. MC noted that the time frame for using the monies was very tight in 2021. DR explained that the Village might expect \$734K in two payments in July 2021 and 2022. The Village has until 2024. BM confirmed that this was expected but that the details from the Federal and State levels were not yet clear. BM also noted that the monies may be used to "make whole or infrastructure or economic development" but that no details were yet available. DR explained that a webinar is scheduled for April 27th to provide additional information. MC thought that part of the money might be used to update the zoning code. BM said that Council would have to decide on that project and what the costs might be. WK thought that the monies might be used to install a permanent restroom at the Park and said the costs would be about \$50K.

5. The agenda item dealing with the 2020 Road Program and expenses that were presented in 2021 was resolved at the last Council meeting.
6. DR reported that the Audit for 2017-2018 was still outstanding. DR to call again to find out the status. The 2019-2020 Audit will be scheduled in the next few months. DR explained that private audit firms could be used to do the Audit Process and she would reach out to get more information.
7. Council is scheduled April 12th to have the third reading of Ordinance to send the Operating and Road/Bridge Levies to the County Auditor to establish the value of the levies so that Council may decide if renewal (and any changes) will be placed on the November ballot. WK noted that the receipt of additional Covid monies might impact the residents' support for these levies. MC thought that we should renew at the same level and use the monies to expand the road or stormwater programs. CB noted that we will move to get the Auditor's opinion and then have the discussion with Council.
8. The Mayor's goals included resolution on \$5138 in the Playground Acct and what should be done about these restricted funds. DR explained that some of the money has already been spent and she needed to look at the accounts to resolve the issue. The overage in funds came from the drainage work that was to be done by an outside contractor but ended up being done by the Streets Dept at a lower cost.
9. DR reported that she has filed the documents for a Real Property tax-exempt status for the Park. This was necessary because of the pavilion and rental income from it. We will wait for a decision and then decide how to proceed.
10. DR reported that the tax budget for 2022 is due in July. She will start working on the process.
11. DR reported that changes to Municipal Income Tax may affect the Village because of people working from home during the pandemic. CB suggested that if anything, revenue to the Village should go up because more people working from home than lost revenue to businesses in the Village. DR suggested we wait and see.

CB called to adjourn the meeting at 8:48AM. MC concurring.

Minutes approved by: _____
Christopher J. Berger, Chair