

City of Rossford, Ohio

Finance and Insurance Committee

Monday, August 27, 2018

Attendees: Robert Ruse, Larry Oberdorf, Bob Densic, Karen Freeman, Ed Ciecka

Guests: Chief Drouard, Asst. Chief Ryan Stautzenbach

Meeting called to order at 5:45 p.m.

New Business:

1. Employee Health Insurance

- a. Savage and Associates acting as our agent sent Requests for Proposals: Four firms responded - United Healthcare, Anthem, Aetna, Medical Mutual of Ohio.
 - i. Aetna and United Healthcare responded they could not offer anything other than their "Affordable Care Act" compliant package which did not meet the requirements for bid.
 - ii. Anthem submission benefits and costs were different than request which would require opening contract renegotiations with our bargaining units.
 - iii. Medical Mutual submitted two proposals, one carried larger deductibles which would have driven overall costs higher, and a second proposal which resulted in a 2.2% increase in premium costs. This is the recommended plan.
 - iv. In order to meet the September open enrollment period, this plan will need to be passed by City Council tonight. Members discussed revising Open Enrollment periods with all four unions to allow the administration and council more time to bid and review submissions for healthcare insurance. To be discussed further.
 - v. Motion to approve recommended Medical Mutual Plan by Oberdorf, second by Ruse. All Aye. Motion passed.

2. Debt Capacity/Borrowing – Colony Road Project

- a. Current (unvoted) debt capacity is \$2.7M This will increase to an estimated \$4.7M at the end of 2019 with the first increase coming in March 2019 as previously issued bonds are retired.
- b. The Colony Road Project is estimated at \$3.3M. Potential some of the funding could come from the Storm Water Fee however with that not starting until January 2019, the fund will be extremely limited.
- c. The city could bid the project in early 2019 but specify in the Bid Front End that contracts will not be executed until March 2019.
- d. Mrs. Freeman noted if we bond the entire Colony Road project in 2019, we will not have enough debt capacity to cover the Lime City roundabout project in 2020 without significant changes in property valuation within the city.
- e. The committee discussed The Crossroads TIF funds (old and new). Originally the committee was told the \$2M bond for the Harmon development did not go against the cities unvoted debt capacity because it was TIF funded, however that is not true. Councilman Ruse noted that may have changed the discussion at that time, however we will need to consider this going forward.

- f. Mrs. Freeman asked the committee to consider what level of debt we are comfortable with carrying. The Finance Department does not recommend “maxing out” our debt capacity but holding back for unplanned projects or emergency situations. Committee members discussed various potential projects such as improvements to the Fire/Police building, construction of a Public Works building at Wales Road as well as other potential capital projects that may be tied to grant funding. Discussion to continue.

3. Statement of Budget Analysis and Cash Summary By Fund

- a. Monthly updated summary. Taxpayer funded funds should carry no more than a 12-month reserve balance.
 - i. Fund 201 – Street Lighting (11.6 month reserve) – started conversion of Superior Street boulevard lighting. Other projects under review.
 - ii. Fund 323 – Permanent Recreation Improvement (18.6 month reserve) – Mr. Oberdorf will talk with Toby Ledesma about projects discussed previously. Mr. Densic suggested looking at projects that could help reduce operating costs such as insulation, lighting or plumbing fixture replacements.
 - 1. As a side discussion, it was noted the General Fund is supplementing approximately half of the Rec Center budget. Revenues have been decreasing over the past several years. Mr. Oberdorf noted the Membership fees are very low, and the Center struggles to create an identity – it serves multiple purposes. Committee members discussed goal of Rec Center becoming self-supporting. Mr. Oberdorf will carry discussion to the Rec Committee.

Old Business:

1. Fire Department Staffing

- a. Chief Drouard presented plan to pay two “On Call” staff \$5/hr and one “Duty Officer” \$10/hr for Overnight coverage from 10p – 8a. The union representatives suggested \$5/hr for both the On-Call and Duty Officer. The current balance of funding can cover this for the remainder of the year as a test program.
- b. Mr. Ruse noted this could be a small part of a solution but the long term solution should include discussions with neighboring departments for partnership. Mr. Densic noted several Ohio districts had joined together to create regional ambulance districts leaving initial response and fire-fighting to the local volunteer departments.
- c. Motion by Oberdorf to approve funding of “test program” as noted, second by Densic. All Aye. Motion passed.

2. Non-Bargaining Staff Pay

- a. No update. In previous meeting Committee members voted to request qualifications and proposals from independent firms to conduct a salary and benefits evaluation.

Work In Progress:

- 1. Facilities Maintenance and Capital Improvement Planning (Densic)

Next Meeting: September 17, 2018 @ 8:00am

Meeting adjourned: 6:45 pm