

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 5:00 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

Derek Lundell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Roll call: Derek Lundell, Council Member – present; Steve Gesme, Council Member – present; Matt Montgomery, Mayor – present
Also present: City Administrator Neil Jensen, Utility Clerk Ellen Hartman, Trail Manager Scott Roepke, Council Member Diane Johnson

2. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR POSITION

Jensen reported that Public Works Director Dan Howard has submitted his resignation, so the City needs to advertise for a new PW Director. Howard's final day will be April 7, 2023. Jensen, Anway and Haan will cover duties temporarily.

Action – ***Consensus to ask City Council to advertise for the open Public Works Director position.***

3. ZONING ADMINISTRATOR POSITION

Jensen reported that Zoning Administrator Dianne Howard has submitted her resignation, so the City needs to advertise for a new Zoning Administrator. Goodhue County will take over more of the permitting process to ease the workload. Howard's last day will be April 7, 2023.

Action – ***Consensus to ask City Council to advertise for the open Zoning Administrator position.***

4. CANNON VALLEY TRAIL FUNDING REQUEST

Jensen reported on a funding request by the Cannon Valley Trail for 2024 and 2025. The City contributes 17% of the Trail budget.

Action – ***Gesme made a motion to recommend the City Council fund the Cannon Valley Trail in 2024 for \$49,565 and \$49,862 in 2025, seconded by Montgomery, passing unanimously.***

5. FIRE DEPARTMENT CONTRACTS

Jensen reported the townships offered a fire contract with a 4% increase. Gesme suggested a temporary 3-year contract with a 4% increase each year, while working towards a new contract with a larger increase. Lundell agreed, but countered with a 4% increase year one, 5 or 6 percent increase year two, and 7 or 8 percent increase year three. Jensen recommended the next contract be based on percentage of City's fire budget, and Montgomery said the division between City and townships needs to be based on something concrete such as percentage of runs.

Action – ***Consensus was to have Jensen continue fire contract negotiations and invite the township representatives to a future meeting.***

6. LAND ACQUISITION – 2023 RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Jensen reported that negotiations with Richard Malloy for land acquisition is going well. Malloy is asking \$28,000 for the portion of his property that the City needs. The triangular piece is 60 feet at the street and 14 feet at the back and will be needed for the lift station. The tax value for the entire lot is \$38,800. Jensen said that negotiations with the Johnson Family are also moving forward; the two lots the City needs are valued at \$17,700 and \$8600. The Johnsons want to resolve the Riverside Terrace sewer credit request to move forward.

Action - ***Consensus to have Jensen continue negotiating with Malloy and Johnson for 2023 Street Project land acquisition.***

ADJOURNMENT

Action – *Gesme made a motion to adjourn at 5:50 p.m., seconded by Montgomery, passing unanimously.*

Respectfully Submitted,
Ellen Hartman, Utility Clerk