

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes  
Monday, March 8, 2024 at 5:00 P.M.  
City Hall Council Chambers

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Matt Montgomery called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Roll call: Derek Lundell, Council Member – absent; Steve Gesme, Council Member – present; Matt Montgomery, Mayor – present

Also present: City Administrator Neil Jensen, Utility Clerk Ellen Hartman, Fire Chief Brice Miller, Council Member Diane Johnson, Jason Fehling - CVRFA

**2. APPROVE THE AGENDA**

Action - ***Motion by Gesme, second by Montgomery, to approve the agenda-moving Fire Department to Number 4, passing unanimously.***

**3. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES**

Action – ***Motion by Gesme, second by Montgomery, to approve minutes from February 12, 2024 Finance Committee meeting, passing unanimously.***

**4. Fire Department (Cannon Valley Rural Fire Assn Request)**

Warsaw Township Board has requested a change to fire coverage; they wish to have Nerstrand Fire assume coverage of areas being served by CFFD under the CVRFA contract. The request came from Joe Johnson, Chief of Nerstrand Fire and Rescue.

Action – ***Motion by Montgomery, second by Gesme, to table the Warsaw Township fire service request until the City can speak with the CFFD Chief on the matter, passing unanimously.***

**5. Public Safety Funds**

Jensen reported the State of MN sent out Public Safety Funds to the City; the funds must be spent on public safety items. Gesme suggested dividing the funds between the three public safety departments, and speak to Police, Ambulance and Fire to see where they could use the funds.

**6. 2025 Budget Discussion**

Jensen has been working on the 2025 budget. Wages are known since they were previously negotiated, other fixed costs are increased 10-15% for budgeting purposes. There will be no capital projects in 2025 since many projects will be completed in 2024. Capital equipment funds will need the most discussion, since equipment costs have gone up drastically. If the Council agrees, Jensen will ask department heads to keep budget increases to 4-5%. The proposed budget will be finished in May.

**7. Lead Line Survey**

The City received a grant from the State to conduct a lead line survey to determine which residences have lead water service lines. There will be more information to come; the survey needs to be completed by July. WHKS will be helping; the City is still working on the details.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Action – ***Motion by Gesme, second by Montgomery, to adjourn at 5:29 p.m., passing unanimously.***

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ellen Hartman, Utility Clerk

*-Minutes approved at June 10, 2024 Finance Meeting-*