

## **Finance Committee Meeting**

City Of Virden

City Council Chambers

Thursday October 26, 2023

Meeting called to order by Alderman Mottershaw at 7:01 pm.

**Aldermen in attendance:** Boster, Calloway, Cunningham, Ibberson, Mitchell, and Mottershaw

**Aldermen Absent:** Bertolino and Neighbors.

**Additional in attendance were:** Mayor George Murphy and Bookkeeper Barry Liss

Alderman Mitchell left at 7:34 pm, Alderman Boster left at 7:55 pm

**Audience:** None

**Comments from audience:** None

### **Topics:**

#### **1. Approval of Meeting Minutes (09/28/2023)**

Motion made by Mottershaw seconded by Neighbors to approve the 9-28-2023 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes.

Discussion: None

Motion passed with all in favor.

#### **2. Discuss September 2023 Treasurer's Report**

Macoupin County property tax first distribution was received electronically in September. This was not included in the September report. The distribution was \$73,604.40 which boosted our revenue to \$262,008.26. If the bookkeeper had been aware at the time, which would have shown a profit. It indicated a loss of \$42,129 but would have shown a profit of \$31,476 for the month. The YTD loss would be adjusted to \$139,298 versus \$212,903 which was reported in September. The second distribution was received in October and will be in the October report. That was \$67,833.

Motion made by Mottershaw seconded by Neighbors to approve to take to council meeting the September 2023 Treasurer's report.

Discussion: None

Motion passed with all in favor.

#### **3. Discuss CD renewal**

There are three CDs coming up for November and December. One for November is \$21,000 this is MFT. Two for December for \$505,000 and \$106,587, both General Corporate. The General Fund currently has \$900,000. We try to keep the budget based on revenue and not pulling from savings. With ARPA money if received less than \$10 million dollars, the city does not have to indicate what the money was earmarked for. It can just be for infrastructure. Currently the interest rates are in 3-4% range it would be better to place them on a CD until you are ready to complete the project. Recently we passed to have the interest paid out and YTD we have made \$20,761. At the end of the budget cycle it is unable to be determined at this time if we will be ahead, behind, or equal with the budget. When audited they have indicated not to go over total appropriation. The budget is not cash on hand. The budget is based on revenue and what has been appropriated for each line item. If the city is making \$1700 in interest a month what is that being used for. It should be set aside for equipment. Also, when creating the budget, it needs to be fair to all departments. The past it has been voted to have \$300,000 in general corporate and \$100,000 in water at minimum. We have \$300,000 in CDs coming up in January if we would need it

for the next budgetary year. The city of Virden was in the red last year. If the city hired a grant writer/administrator for grants. Barry will get interest rates for CD's.

#### **4. Discuss tax levy**

We levy for general corporate, IMRF, police and social security. For IMRF and social security it can be levied for the amount you need whether it is a 9% increase. The general corporate and police protection is restricted to no more than 4.99% without a referendum. Last year's was able to be lowered since IMRF was lowered. The city also held general corporate and police protection. The chair did not have a recommendation on what the tax levy should be. The school taxes are going to be increased due to the stadium. Alderman Mottershaw will calculate the IMRF and social security. It is fair to ask for what is needed. The general corporate levied \$101,118, social security \$72,000, IMRF \$27,000 and police protection was \$15,307. IMRF rate for this year is 2.65% and it dropped from 5.74%. Gary will work on this and have Madonna send it out.

#### **5. Review custodian applications**

Council reviewed applications. The mayor would like everyone to look at the applications to have input whether they plan on being a part of the interview process. Alderman Cunningham does not want to give input. The process should be looked at in the application, the interview, work history. It should not be biased off whose family member they might be or someone saying they know the person and heard this about them. Alderman Ibberson states that it should be the department heads to hire their employees. The mayor will get with Pokey and Bert for interviews.

### **Executive Session**

#### **1. None**

**Additional Items:** Brian Cannon from Benton and Associates was at the water meter meeting. If they continue to come, they need to have a contract signed. The city can hire at this pay rate for up to \$1500.

Crochran's team has sent questions and documents regarding the North End drainage project. The mayor had to answer the questions and review documentation.

Motion made by Mottershaw seconded by Neighbors to adjourn at 8:25 pm. Motion passed with all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.



Shelly Boster  
City Clerk

Date Minutes Approved: