

Minutes of Perrysburg Finance and Economic Development Committee

Meeting Held August 8, 2023

CALL TO ORDER - 5:30 PM

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairperson Mark Weber.

ROLL CALL

Committee Members present were Mark Weber, Tim McCarthy, and Jonathan Smith. Also present were Tim Effler, Law Director, Amber Rathburn, Finance Director, and Khayla Trego, Deputy Finance Director.

APPROVAL OF 07/11/2023 MEETING MINUTES

There being no objections, the minutes of the July 11, 2023 meeting were approved 3-0.

REQUEST FOR PLANNING & ZONING TO PURCHASE VEHICLES AND AMEND THE 2023 BUDGET

Zoning Administrator, Brody Walters explained that since 2008, his department has always used retired police vehicles that come to them with high mileage and numerous mechanical issues. He had ordered vehicles from Ford, but has no reason to believe the vehicles will be received. Quotes for three new Jeep Compass vehicles were sought and Rouen Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram was found to be the lowest at a total price of \$101,125.50. Ms. Rathburn explained that they would close the original 2022 PO and appropriate that total amount for the new PO. Mr. Weber asked if this should be an emergency to be sure we still get those prices. Mr. Walters responded that that would be ideal. There being no objections, this is being recommended 3-0 to City Council.

CVB

Mr. Weber congratulated Perrysburg's world champion wrestler, Marcus Blaze, and acknowledged there were people present that wanted to leave early to participate in his welcome home reception happening at the high school.

Mr. Weber presented a short timeline to bring everyone present up-to-speed that may not be familiar with the situation regarding the City and Visit Perrysburg. He reported that since the Market's inception in the 90s; costs for trash services and police protection had been absorbed by the City. In August of 2022, Visit Perrysburg, and other event promoters were notified of a new fee structure that would begin immediately. A few months later, the Visit Perrysburg board decided that due to the additional fees, and time consumption for the director, to move forward with an exit plan and search for another entity to run the market after the 2023 season. Due to an

unsuccessful search, the board presented a proposal to Mayor Mackin in June. Christine Best, Director of Visit Perrysburg, said she would like to hire a Marketing Coordinator because she is the only staff and she would need someone to support the Market Days and other events. She stated that she has a cost allocation for events, her role, and the fees they have to consider when putting on an event. Mr. Smith asked about the costs for Police and Service for this summer for each event individually. Ms. Best responded that they do not pay for services for Music at the Market because they do not have a need to close down streets and she hauls around trash herself for that.

Ms. Best spoke about the response from Mayor Mackin to Visit Perrysburg's proposal. Ms. Best noted that, Mayor Mackin, in a negative tone in his proposal, never gave credit to Visit Perrysburg for funding the fireworks every year. Mr. Smith asked Mr. Ansted about the fees for Homecoming Days. Mr. Ansted responded that they shaved an hour off of the event, so that helped the fees a little bit. Ms. Best noted that Downtown Perrysburg Inc. could not be here tonight, but they have information about their fees as well, and are happy to take calls.

Mr. Smith asked about the deadline or timeframe for continuing the market. Ms. Best responded the sooner the better because it shows value in our relationship with the vendors, as it is their livelihood. Mr. Smith asked about another entity running Market Days and if communication was made with others. Ms. Best responded that she has reached out, but no one has an interest if the fees are still in place. Mr. Weber stated that the CVB's proposal was flat out rejected before any conversations were had. Mr. Smith wished there had been more conversation before it was flat out rejected, just to see if there is anything they could have done through negotiation. Mr. McCarthy does not have an issue with rejecting it, but thought there would be further discussion.

The Committee Members all want to see Market Days and events move forward. Ms. Rathburn stated that since the proposal is for services over \$50,000.00, they would have to go through the bidding process. Mr. Effler added that the existing Ordinance with the CVB could be adjusted. Ms. Rathburn cautioned against any long-term commitments. Mr. Weber is not prepared to move Mayor Mackin's hotel tax proposal forward, as written, without more information. Mr. McCarthy asked if they should schedule a Committee of the Whole meeting. Further discussion on this topic is on City Council's agenda under Other Business.

HOTEL TAX

This is tabled for tonight.

UPDATE ON SHORT TERM RENTALS

Ms. Rathburn explained that they did some research to see what other cities do and how they could implement the lodging tax. Ms. Rathburn, Ms. Trego, and Mr. Effler are looking at software companies that have contracts with AirBnb and VRBO, where the short-term rentals could register through a portal and collect the tax for the City. Mr. Smith asked about Ordinances in Planning and Zoning for short-term rentals. Mr. McCarthy responded that it is in the RFP for the Zoning Code update.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE FROM GLENN GRIDDALE

Mr. Griddale stated that he met with Mr. Walters and Mr. Ansted, Perrysburg Chamber of Commerce, in regards to doing a Business Retention and Expansion Survey. He noted that the survey model will be a good bridge into the Zoning Code update. Mr. Griddale introduced Joe Lucente. Mr. Lucente is an Associate Professor and Extension Educator in Community and Economic Development with The Ohio State University Extension/Ohio Sea Grant College Program. Mr. Lucente works with communities all throughout Ohio doing economic development programs. All results from the survey will be reported in aggregate format, so that no one is able to be singled out. Mr. Lucente intends to report back with some positive results.

ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS

Ms. Rathburn explained that this is to formally accept three grants that have been awarded to the City. One is from the State of Ohio for an ambulance transportation program for \$20,000.00. The next one is through the Ohio Department of Development for the Grassy Creek Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$343,000.00. The last one is Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement Program for \$175,000.00 for Eckel Junction Road rehabilitation. There being no objections, these are being recommended 3-0 to City Council.

REQUEST FOR COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AGREEMENT WITH SOURCEWELL

Ms. Rathburn explained that this is a request for an agreement with Sourcewell, a cooperative purchasing group. She added that ORC does allow for this and they can receive discounts. There is no fee. There being no objections, this is being recommended 3-0 to City Council.

DISCUSSION OF UNENCUMBERED ARPA FUNDS

Ms. Rathburn stated that there is just over \$449,000 left in unencumbered ARPA Funds. She reached out to Service for quotes on crosswalks, as an option. She shared what the Administration had suggested for the funds. Mr. Smith would like to see the crosswalks moving forward.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

This was removed from the agenda.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Expenditures>\$5,000

Mr. Weber asked about the Engine 10 repairs. Ms. Rathburn and Ms. Trego clarified that expenditure.

Health Insurance Fund

Mr. Smith asked about when they will reassess rates. Ms. Rathburn responded that will happen in November.

Income Tax Update

There were no questions.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Weber, Chairperson
Finance and Economic Development
Committee

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.