

FINANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

NOVEMBER 10, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m. by Chairman Jim Matuszak. Committee members present were Deborah Born, Jim Matuszak and Tim McCarthy. Also present were Kate Sandretto, Law Director, Dave Creps, Finance Director, Amber Rathburn, Deputy Finance Director, and Steve Bronder, Income Tax Commissioner.

AUTHORIZATION REQUESTED TO PURCHASE A NEW AIR HANDLER

Ms. Sandretto said that the Administration spoke to Ms. Materni, the Chair of the Service Committee, and asked if it was okay with her to bring this request to the Finance Committee instead of the Service Committee so it could be on the next Council agenda. The request was for the approval of the purchase of a new air handler for the police wing of the Municipal Building. Three quotes were obtained, and the lowest price received was from Dunbar Mechanical at a cost not to exceed \$34,325. This price includes removal of the current unit and installation of a new unit. The current unit is failing, and replacement parts are hard to get which could result in the police division not having heat for an extended period. The Committee agreed 3-0 to advance the legislation to city council.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Born asked what is being done to bring jobs to the City. The members of the Administration that were present were initially nonresponsive, so Mr. Matuszak suggested several factors that he thought made Perrysburg an attractive place to live (e.g., a highly rated school system) and to do business (e.g., various tax abatement incentives). Ms. Sandretto said she would pass the questions along to Ms. Kabat who was unable to be at the meeting.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Committee reviewed expenditures greater than \$5,000 for October. The Committee had questions regarding sidewalk repairs, paramedic tuition reimbursement, postage, and UV lights. The Administration addressed each question.

The balance in the Health and Welfare Fund was down to \$55,474.02 as of October 31, 2020. Mr. Creps said the City is currently at 123% of the aggregate stop loss. He said the City will probably see a six figure stop loss reimbursement, but in the meantime, he will probably have to transfer funds from the general fund.

TAX COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Mr. Bronder reported that income tax collections for October were \$1.3 million, which is down 9% from the same period a year ago. Year-to-date collections through October 31st were \$17.2 million, which is down 5.8% from the same period a year ago. There was brief discussion regarding the reduced collections, cost cutting measures that have been implemented, and the accounting for CARES Act funds.

Mr. Bronder provided an update from the Ohio Supreme Court regarding the legal challenge by the coalition of municipalities against the State regarding centralized collection of municipal income taxes. The Court held, among other things, that centralized collection of municipal net profits taxes by the State is constitutional, but the related ½% administrative fee charged by the State to the municipalities is unconstitutional. Mr. Matuszak asked the Administration if it had any way of knowing how much the City has already paid the Ohio Department of Taxation for administrative fees and if the City knows how and when such fees would be refunded. Mr. Bronder fielded the questions and was actively monitoring the situation.

2021 BUDGET

The Committee reviewed the budgets of the Administrator, Mayor, Law Director, Prosecutor, and Finance Department. Mr. Matuszak reminded those present of Ms. Born's question regarding economic development initiatives and asked how much has been paid to-date to Reville in 2020. He also asked for support for the amount budgeted for payments to Reville in the Administrator's 2021 proposed departmental budget. Mr. Matuszak asked if the Mayor was provided insurance coverage from his full-time employer and, if so, was the budgeted amount for insurance coverage by the City for the Mayor necessary? Mr. Matuszak explained that he simply didn't think it would be appropriate for the taxpayers to provide insurance coverage for the Mayor if the Mayor wouldn't actually benefit from it. Ms. Sandretto stated that the Code says health insurance coverage shall be provided for the Mayor. There was also discussion regarding, among other things, amounts budgeted for retirement contributions, insurance coverage and Medicare taxes for each of the above-referenced departments. Mr. Creps explained all such calculations to the satisfaction of the committee. Ms. Sandretto said she would pass any unanswered questions along to Ms. Kabat.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

This report is a summary of the matters before the committee and the related discussions. Audio and video recordings of the committee meeting are made available by the Administration for anyone interested in the complete details of the committee meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Matuszak, Chairman
Finance & Economic Development Committee

Next meeting: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.