

SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE

NOVEMBER 6, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Tom Mackin. Committee members present were Tom Mackin and Todd Grayson. Jim Matuszak arrived at 5:12 p.m. Also present were Bridgette Kabat, City Administrator, and Dave Creps, Finance Director.

The purpose of the special meeting was to discuss the proposed 2015 budget.

There was discussion regarding the proposed roundabout at Eckel Junction and Carronade and whether it is warranted at this time. The Committee asked the Administration to check and see what the ramifications are if we ask for an extension of time to accept the CMAQ funds.

The Committee questioned the need for the public relations position that is in the Administration's budget and asked for more information to justify this position.

There was discussion regarding the budget preparation and whether revenues and expenditures could be more realistically estimated so funds could be budgeted to go into the reserve fund.

The Committee discussed the \$200,000 budgeted for downtown improvements and the notes associated with it. Mr. Mackin said that he would like to see a reduced amount for improvements but not as a note. Mr. Creps said that it would be more appropriate to put the reduced amount in the budget amendment.

Mr. Matuszak asked why there were architect and engineering fees for a second fire station in the 2014 budget but they are not in the 2015 budget. Ms. Kabat explained that there has been a lingering purchase order since 2008 for design of a second fire station that will be closed this year. If and when it is determined to proceed with a second fire station, we will go through the RFP/RFQ process again so it meets the criteria that are important to us now. Mr. Matuszak questioned whether some funds should be in the budget for a second station. Ms. Kabat said that she is not sure a second fire station is needed. She explained that this is the Administration's budget and if during their deliberations City Council determines a second station is necessary, they can make the decision to add that item to the budget. Mr. Grayson said that we need to decide how to fund it annually before we design a new station. The Administration is working on a report regarding the operations and coverage of the fire division that they hope to have completed by the end of the year.

Ms. Kabat said that the Administration will check into the questions posed by the Committee about the budget and will get the answers out to them.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tom Mackin, Chairman
Finance Committee

Next regular meeting: Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.