

FINANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

JUNE 9, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Chairman Jim Matuszak. Committee members present were Deborah Born and Jim Matuszak. Tim McCarthy arrived at 5:38 p.m. Also present were Laura Alkire, Law Director, Dave Creps, Finance Director, Amber Rathburn, Deputy Finance Director, and Steve Bronder, Income Tax Commissioner.

CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDING SB 310

Ms. Alkire explained that the Ohio House just passed SB 310 with several amendments so it is going back to the Ohio Senate and it is expected that it will be approved very soon. This bill provides funding to local political subdivisions and it requires that the local entities pass legislation accepting the funding, agreeing to use the funds only for Covid-19 expenses, and agreeing to return unused funds. The State has issued audit guidelines for these funds and they must go into a separate fund. The distribution of the funds will be based on Local Government Fund allotments, and the County Auditor will have seven days to distribute the funds once they receive them. Ms. Alkire said that we do not need to apply for the funds, and she is not requesting approval of any spending at this point. This resolution just allows the City to accept the funds and states that we will use the funds for Covid-19 expenses, and that we will use any unused funds. Ms. Born said that they might need more than one meeting to digest this information. Mr. McCarthy said he does not think there is any decision to make; we'll take the money. Mr. Matuszak agreed. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of the resolution.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Committee reviewed expenditures over \$5,000 for the month of May. There was discussion regarding payments to Huntington Bank for service charges and to the City of Toledo for JEDZ payments.

The balance in the Health and Welfare Fund as of May 31 was \$640,686.44. Mr. Creps said that there are some big claims out there and the fund is doing what it is supposed to.

Mr. Creps requested approval of legislation regarding the certificate of estimated revenues for 2021. He said that no one knows what the economy will do, but we will have ample opportunity to adjust these figures. He said this gets sent to the County and they tell us what property tax collections will be. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval.

Mr. Creps distributed information regarding the renewal of the City's property and liability insurance with Ohio Plan Risk Management. He explained that our rate for the insurance actually decreased by 3.82%, but because our exposure increased, the amount of the premium which is \$149,840 is higher than last year. Mr. Creps recommended approval of an add-on for malicious acts coverage that would cover random acts of violence and according to the insurance company it would cover a gap in our coverage. The cost of

this add-on is approximately \$1,200. The Administration is also recommending increasing the cyber security coverage to \$3 million dollars with a \$25,000 deductible. This additional coverage is \$18,500 less the approximately \$7,000 we already pay for cyber security coverage. The total cost of the renewal will be approximately \$163,000. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval.

TAX COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Mr. Bronder reported that tax collections for the month of May were over \$1.2 million which is up 1% from May of 2019. He stated that April was down significantly and it is usually our largest month and May is typically the smallest month. However, since the due dates for 2019 returns and the first and second quarterly estimates have been extended until July 15, we won't really know the impact until we are past the July due date, with lingering effects into next year. Year to date collections are over \$2.4 million dollars which is a decrease of 23% from 2019. Mr. Matuszak asked if there has been any discussion at the state level regarding help for municipalities with lost tax revenue. Mr. Creps said he has not heard about any type of help.

SOLAR POWER & LIGHT/FIRST SOLAR REVIEW

Ms. Alkire said that the Administration has not received the comparison of First Energy to Solar Power & Light figures that was requested after the presentation in February yet, but she will keep the committee updated.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Matuszak, Chairman
Finance & Economic Development Committee

Next meeting: To be determined.