

MINUTES FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

7:12 p.m.

March 13, 2007

Pursuant to Codified Ordinance Chapter 107 and ORC Section 121.22, notice of the following meeting was given on March 9, 2006.

Committee Members Present: Mr. Ranally, Mr. Black, Mr. Harrold

Others Present: Council members Cox, Fiala, Manning and Woodin; Finance Director Rogowski, Mayor Anderson, Service Director Tomaselli, Fire Chief Zwegat, Assistant Police Chief Cooper, Assistant Fire Chief Malinowski, Parks and Recreation Director Katz, Chief Building and Zoning Inspector Smith, Clerk Radebaugh

2007 OPERATING BUDGET

Finance Director Rogowski commented that revenues for 2006 were better than projected. There was a large increase in Estate Tax, the projected numbers for EMS Fees were exceeded, and the Directors spent less than what was allocated. In the 2007 budget, reserves are \$2.2 million which is larger than the fund balance projected last year. The Income Tax forecast is the same as last year.

Mr. Rogowski reviewed the Revenues projected for 2007 with the following comments: He recommended that \$200,000 of Income Tax, which would normally go to Capital, be used to subsidize the Sewer Fund. Last year the volume of water usage was the lowest since 1990. Mr. Rogowski said he will be coming back to Council to recommend a sewer increase. An increase in Real Property Tax is due to the re-evaluation of the houses last year and a larger portion is due to a drop in the amounts needed to meet our debt issues. There is a continual reduction in Personal Property Tax which will totally disappear in 2009. The estimate for EMS Fees has been increased from \$500,000 to \$600,000. Last year we collected \$800,000.

Mr. Rogowski commented that in the next few months, Council will need to make a decision on whether they want to renew or replace the current 1.5 mill General Operations Levy and the .5 mill Recreation Levy.

GENERAL FUND

The various department budgets were reviewed with the directors. There are no additions in personnel. The following are comments made while discussing the various budgets.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Patrol – Part Time Police & Fire was increased by \$10,000 and Overtime Police & Fire was increased by \$55,000 due to an increase in the downtown patrol. Mayor Anderson commented that this spring he will be discussing a Special Assessment District with the business owners in downtown. The property owners would tax themselves a little higher on their property tax with all the money going back to their organization in order to provide increased security, street sweeping, snowplowing etc.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT– An increase in Periodicals provides for new code books.

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Pool – Part Time wages have increased due to the minimum wage increase.

Administration – Contractual – The Registration Computer Program was replaced. There is an increase in cost to maintain the support.

Recreation Programs– Education – Increased to allow the two Program Coordinators to attend the International Conference.

Golf Course - The Golf Course was also effected by the minimum wage increase.

FIRE DEPARTMENT - The Fire Department is down three personnel.

Training Coordinator – The Training Coordinator no longer works for Eastlake. Willoughby hired him as a part time Training Coordinator at a rate a little less than 50% of what it was before. We do not pay benefits. The Contractual Account is budgeted for what is still owed Eastlake for 2006.

SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Sewer Fund – There has been a significant drop in total percentages from the hospital.

Capital - \$50,000 is for the replacement of a truck and a push Camera.

Service Construction – part time - Mr. Tomaselli explained the duties of the part time Inspectors.

Lands & Buildings – City Hall - The Supervisor I position has been eliminated.

Traffic – This department is down one employee. Only half of the Contractual Account was used for street stripping. The company was terminated before the job was finished. Also, Traff-Pro is not being used as much as they were before.

Mr. Tomaselli said that the Service Department Budget came in under budget in 2006. He commended Mr. Rogowski and Mrs. Bosley on the good job they did with getting money from FEMA for flood damage and associated costs this summer.

COURT – The budget is the same as last year. All positions are not filled but they are Funded. Employees will receive a 3.5% raise effective January 1st.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Administration – There are additional funds in Contractual Services for the D. B. Hartt Study.

Commercial Revitalization – There are additional funds in Contractual Services for a House Doctor Seminar and a concert series.

SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

Court Computer Fund – Mr. Rogowski said he will change the \$225,000 in Expenditures to \$300,000 because \$221,000 has already been spent.

DEBT SERVICE FUNDS

Special Assessment Retirement Fund – The only project the city is paying on is the Meadowlands.

ENTERPRISE FUNDS - No comments or questions.

TRUST AND AGENCY FUNDS - No questions or comments

Mr. Rogowski said the Appropriation Ordinance will be on the agenda next week.

Finance Committee adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Date _____

Jerry Ranally, Chairman

Clerk of Council