

## Finance Committee Minutes

Honorable Council  
City of Newark, Ohio  
September 7, 2021  
5:45pm

The Finance Committee met in Council Chambers September 7, 2021 with these members in attendance:

Doug Marmie – Chair  
Ryan Bubb  
Jeff Harris  
Spencer Barker sitting in for Jonathan Lang (first two items)  
Jonathan Lang  
Mark Labutis sitting in for Jeremy Blake

### We wish to report :

1. Consider **Resolution No 21-53** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDED SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH THE HEREINAFTER NAMED ORGANIZATIONS TO CARRY OUT ACTIVITIES INCLUDED WITHIN NEWARK'S FY 2021 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ONE YEAR ACTION PLAN, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Mayor Hall** – Number two we'll talk about the CDBG itself, but then each year as we do each year we'll do some sub grants, we have some local non-profits in the area that are listed in the legislation, and that's what item number one addresses.

**Motion to send to full council by Mr. Bubb, second by Mr. Barker**

**Mr. Marmie** – Do we have the amounts that we're providing for each?

**Mayor Hall** – Yes. Coalition for Care - \$5,000; Licking Coalition for Housing - \$7,500; Together We Grow - \$7,500; St. Vincent Depaul - \$7,500; St. Vincent Haven - \$15,000; Canal Market - \$5,500; New Beginnings - \$7,500; Behavioral Healthcare Partners - \$7,500; Newark Development Partners - \$60,000, Salvation Army did not end up applying although they are listed in the legislation.

**Motion passed 5-0**

2. Consider **Resolution No. 21-54** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO PREPARE AND SUMIT TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) A ONE YEAR USE OF FUNDS/ACTION PLAN ALONG WITH AN APPLICATION FOR FY 2022 FEDERAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS (CDBG), AS REQUIRED BY 24 CFR PART 91.220, FOR VARIOUS PROGRAMS RELATED TO HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

**Mayor Hall** – This is our application for the next year. What we just received in the past couple weeks was for 2021, so now we turn around and apply for the next years SCBG funds.

**Motion to send to full council, second by Mr. Harris, motion passed 5-0**

3. Consider **Resolution No. 21-55** A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

**Mayor Hall** – This is standard boiler plate. Obviously numbers change every year, but this is something we have to do to technically certify our dollars and it goes to the County Auditor. The expedite reason is because it has to be there by October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Motion to send to full council by Mr. Bubb, second by Mr. Harris, motion passed 5-0**

4. Consider **Ordinance No. 21-28** TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$300,000 OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANBTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING A PORTION OF THE COST OF BURIAL OF OVERHEAD ELECTRIC, CABLE AND TELEPHONE LINES, INCLUDING EASEMENT ACQUISITION AND ALLEY REPAIRS, AND ALL NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Mayor Hall** – The next five items have to do with new issuance for five different projects that we have brought to council prior, then there's going to be some rolling of money. This first one has to do with downtown overhead lines that we're working with AEP for a couple of years now to get the dangerous aerial mounted transformers down and to get some alleys into better use to promote economic development downtown. Alleys are used quite differently than they were 50 or 60 years ago.  
**Motion to send to full council by Mr. Bubbs, second by Mr. Labutis**

**Mr. Marmie** – Just for the record, correct me if I'm wrong, but AEP did us a heck of a deal on this and we also had some additional assistance from downtown.

**Mayor Hall** – Some of this crosses Park National Bank land and we're partnering with other entities, thank you for bringing that up, it was a good timing with AEP, they're not always, the burial of lines is questionable at times, down in Miami it makes sense because of hurricanes, but they partnered with us.

**Rochelle Volen- Smith** – I was wondering whether we were planning on doing that in the residential areas because I've been noticing on the news that the overhead wiring that is prevalent in the residential areas has been a big reason for a lot of the fires and that sort of thing.

**Mr. Marmie** – I'm not aware of any such plans from AEP, pretty much any new lines they're putting underground, but due to the cost of it, unless there's apparent, they are not doing new underground lines for residential.

**Ms. Volen – Smith** – They're doing 40<sup>th</sup> Street now and they took down the trees that were in line with that.

**Mr. Marmie** – That's the wildfires and that's a whole different thing than what's happening here in Newark, Ohio. I'm aware of what's happening with the wildfires and the lawsuits, but I have not heard of anything within our municipality that is creating that type of issue.

**Ms. Volen – Smith** – Are we considering a change to the residential areas?

**Mr. Marmie** – Newark, Ohio has nothing to do with the power lines, that is AEP and if you contact them they will tell you their plan.

**Ms. Volen – Smith** – So, why are we subsidizing this?

**Mr. Marmie** – This is a plan that we're trying to work with the Newark Downtown area to help stimulate the area and also reduce some hazards that the city of Newark has seen, including our Fire Department has identified that some of the overhead with the high electrical current is a great concern.

**Ms. Volen – Smith** – That's my point.

**Mr. Marmie** – But the residential has not been determined in Newark as far as I'm concerned to be a hazard.

**Ms. Volen – Smith** – I've actually seen sparks in some cases.

**Mr. Marmie** – If there is an individual and they have a hazard on their property, they're actually asked to help contribute to do anything along those lines. But as far as the city of Newark getting involved in anything residential, there's been nothing that's showing that there's huge hazards.

**Ms. Volen – Smith** – So this means the residents have less rights than businesses?

**Mr. Marmie** – No that's not what I'm saying, I'm not saying that at all. This has to do with one particular plan that we have and some hazards that we see as a downtown area, plus our fire services are in harms way because of where the electric is located, are you familiar with where we're talking about? They're in a small compact alleyway in which we have these huge electrical grids that really are a huge hazard to the entire downtown Newark area, which if one of those buildings catches on fire because of the connectivity of them it could create a huge problem for the city of Newark.

**Mayor Hall** – It's the close proximity to the buildings, you don't have that out on city streets. Their service line runs in, but nothing other than that. These are multiple phase lines that carry massive amounts. Now we have residents in the upper floors which does promote business, taxes, a lot of good things and those lines are precariously close to those buildings, but you're right getting ladder trucks or bucket trucks up to those buildings, the lines would be in the way.

**Motion passed 5-0**

5. Consider **Ordinance No. 21-29** TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$850,000 OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING A PORTION OF THE COST OF CONSTRUCTING A NEW 4<sup>TH</sup> AND MAIN ROUNDABOUT, AND ALL NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

**Mayor Hall** – This is as it says, for the round-a-bout adjacent to the building. It is a separate project that ODOT is overseeing. We're getting in excess of \$730k from ODOT, they did a safety study and this is our portion of that project.

**Mr. Lang** – What's the timing for this construction

**Brian Morehead, City Engineer** – The project will go out to bid in January, we have to deposit the money to ODOT by December. It will be constructed next construction season. The work they do now will get the utilities through the intersection, get the street opened back up when they're done and then when the round-a-bout gets constructed next year, unfortunately it will be closed down again.

**Mr. Lang** – Do you have an idea how long the intersection will be closed next year when they do that?

**Mr. Morehead** – Probably about two months.

**Motion to send to full council by Mr. Lang, second by Mr. Bubb, motion passed 5-0**

6. Consider **Ordinance No. 21-30** TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$1,550,000 OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING A PORTION OF THE COST OF ROAD, BRIDGE AND BIKE PATH IMPROVEMENTS, AND ALL NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Brian Morehead, City Engineer** – There will be multiple projects that will be funded by this. We've got ODOT projects underway to replace Moull and Jefferson Road bridges, develop a bike path on Granville Rd., Roadway improvements on W. Church St. from Green Wave Dr. west to N, 29<sup>th</sup> Street, for all of those projects we still have engineering work to pay for and we'll have right of way acquisition to deal with on those. Additionally, we have been awarded \$800k towards construction of replacement bridge on Granville Rd over Log pond run diversion channel, that will be in an out year, but by January of next year we need to start the engineering work on that, so we estimate that \$350k of those funds will go towards that. We also want to begin preliminary engineering work on Baker Blvd roadway extension out to Evans Blvd, we'd like to begin some preliminary engineering and to get some cost estimates for that and then we want to do

some additional study and preliminary design work for roadway improvements up in the Horns Hill area since that area is continuing to grow and we want to deal with some of those traffic and development issues up there.

**Mr. Lang** – I'm excited for the Baker Blvd. I'm curious on the timing for that and there's mention here of bike path improvements and I'm not sure where.

**Mr. Morehead** – The first project is the Granville Rd bike path. We've got some engineering still to pay for and then right of way acquisition, so a small portion of those funds will go towards that. Baker Blvd, we would anticipate trying to get engineer underway the first part of 2022 and start the study work after that.

**Mr. Lang** – So that would potentially put construction at 2023?

**Mr. Morehead** – 2024 I would think.

**Motion to send to full council by Mr. Lang, second by Mr. Labutis, motion passed 5-0**

7. Consider **Ordinance No. 21-31** TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$800,000 OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING A PORTION OF THE COST OF ICE RINK ROOF REPLACEMENT, AND ALL APPURTENANCES THERETO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Brian Morehead, City Engineer** – In 2019 new had a study done on the ice rink roof because there were several leaks and we'd been spending a lot of money over the last several years to repair those and the roof now is 29 years old. It's a 32,000sf roof on there and the 2019 report for replacing the roof, they gave us several layers for repair or replacement, but replacement with a 30 year life going forward at that point from \$650k - \$800k, so we're lying on the high end of that figuring that's what we're going to be closer to today. The other repairs were for time ranges of between 10 and 20 years and the 20 year repair was still going to be \$500k - \$600k.

**Motion to send to full council by Mr. Lang, second by Mr. Bubb, motion passed 5-0**

8. Consider **Ordinance No. 21-32** AN ORDINANCE CONSOLIDATING FOUR BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE ISSUES OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

**Mayor Hall** – This is so we can let you pass at committee level, combine them, do one issuance and save the cost associated with that.

**Motion to send to full council by Mr. Lang, second by Mr. Labutis, motion passed 5-0**

9. Consider **Resolution No. 21-56 Expedite** APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION  
Section 1. There is hereby an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 100 General Fund, in the amount of \$75,000.00 (Overtime)

100.205.5118	Overtime	75,000.00
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**Tim Hickman, Safety Director** - The Fire Department has faced unique challenges over the last year, the result of those challenges is an increase of use of overtime, so we're asking for this money to help supplement our overtime funds.

**Motion to send to full council by Mr. Lang, second by Mr. Bubb**

**Mr. Marmie** – In speaking with the director, there was some research done and a lot of the increase is due to increased runs, COVID related and so it has increased not just the fire department, but a lot of the other services in the area, so this is

not uncommon we made sure this is something that is happening across the board. I think we all knew that, but we literally did go out and make sure that research was done to justify it. I appreciate the director taking care of that.

**Motion passed 5-0**

Finance Meeting stands adjourned

Doug Marmie, Chair