

## Finance Committee Minutes

Honorable Council  
City of Newark, Ohio  
May 21, 2019

The Finance Committee met in Council Chambers on Monday May 20, 2019 with these members in attendance:

Doug Marmie  
Jeremy Blake  
Ryan Bubb  
Bill Cost Jr.  
Mark Labutis for Mark Fraizer

We Wish to Report:

1. Resolution No. 19-44 authorizing and directing the Mayor of the City of Newark to enter into a Community Development Block Grant funded sub recipient agreement with the hereinafter named organizations to carry out activities included within Newark's FY 2019 Community Development Block Grant One Year Action Plan.

**Barbara Gilkes-** this legislation allows us to enter into contract with eight different non-profits. Each of the non-profits, Behavior Health Partners, St. Vincent de Paul's, St. Francis, Coalition of Care, Licking County Coalition of Housing, Canal Market District, Together We Grow, Woodlands New Beginnings will receive \$5,000.00 of CDBG funding in 2019. Newark Development Partners, the CIC will receive \$60,000.00.

**Motion by Mr. Bubb to send Resolution No. 19-44 to full Council, second by Mr. Cost  
Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.**

2. Resolution No. 19-45 appropriating monies for the current expenses of the municipal corporation was considered.

Section 1. There is hereby an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 153 Compensated Absences Fund, in the amount of \$3000.00 (Payout Phil Rhoads)

Account	Description	Amount
153.112.5144	Termination Vacation	\$3000.00

**Motion by Mr. Bubb to send Resolution No. 19-44 to full Council, second by Mr. Cost  
Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.**

**Mark Fraizer entered the meeting.**

Section 2. There is hereby an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 153 Compensated Absences Fund, in the amount of \$1900.00 (Payout Dylan Mullen)

Account	Description	Amount
153.205.5144	Termination Vacation	1900.00

**Director Baum-** this is a payout for Dylan Mullen

**Motion by Mr. Bubb to send Resolution No. 19-44 to full Council, second by Mr. Fraizer**

**Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.**

Section 3. There is hereby an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 231 Probation Grant Fund, in the amount of \$1263.20 (Law Enforcement Supplies)

Account	Description	Amount
231.236.5312	Law Enforcement Supplies	\$1263.20

**Director Sadd-** this is in reference to our Justice Reinvestment Grant and the grant cycle ends June 30<sup>th</sup> and we are in the process of purchasing a vest for our LIFT Court Probation Officer so we would like to appropriate money to pay that bill.

**Motion by Mr. Bubb to send Resolution No. 19-44 to full Council, second by Mr. Fraizer**

**Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.**

3. Resolution No. 19-46 appropriating monies for the current expenses of the municipal corporation was considered.

Section 1. There is hereby an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 100 General Fund, in the amount of \$231.25 (Equipment Supply Fund)

Account	Description	Amount
100.205.5331	Equipment/Supplies	\$231.25

**Director Baum**- this is for the Fire Department, they sold a vehicle on GovDeals and would like the money put back into their account.

**Motion by Mr. Bubb to send Resolution No. 19-44 to full Council, second by Mr. Fraizer**

**Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.**

Section 2. There is hereby an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 100 General Fund, in the amount of \$10,000.00 (Donation for Flory Bike Park)

Account	Description	Amount
100.432.5271	Bldg Maint. Grounds	\$10,000.00

**Director Rhodes**- the \$10,000.00 came from the Licking County Foundation and we are asking that it get appropriated so we can use it on Flory Park care and maintenance

**Motion by Mr. Bubb to send Resolution No. 19-44 to full Council, second by Mr. Cost**

**Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.**

Section 3. There is hereby an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 152 Budget Stabilization Fund, in the amount of \$30,000.00 (Homeless Consultant)

Account	Description	Amount
152.100.5901100	OPT	\$30,000.00

**Director Rhodes**- we would like to put out an RFP, request for proposal, to hire a professional to give us some advice on the homeless population. We are going to do this through the CIC and we are going to involve the United Way. It is going to be a community RFP. What I am asking for is an appropriation of \$30,000.00 from our rainy day fund and I use the term up to \$30,000.00 because what this does is show our community partners that we have a commitment that we are going to pay something. Now what is something? Once the RFP is put together and it goes out and we get some quotes back then we will know exactly what something is. After that we can ask the Newark Development Partners to pay part of that, the United Way to pay part of that and the Special Improvement District to pay part of that. There may be some hesitation to pass this out of committee with not knowing exactly what that number will be but I will give you some examples. When we did the 2028 plan that was about \$100,000.00 to get that consultant in and help us get the plan underway. The city paid about 20% of that through bed tax dollars. When we did the image and branding consultant

and when we did the Way Finding consultant those numbers were between \$40,000.00-60,000.00. We don't know exactly what this fee will be but we do know this that if we put our best foot forward and show that we are willing to pay something yet to be determined then at that point the community partners will follow and kick in. We hope to have a healthy discussion about the homeless people.

**Motion by Mr. Fraizer to send to full Council, second by Mr. Cost**

Mr. Fraizer- what is the outcome of the proposal that we are looking for? Are we looking for a best practice, a plan, a collaborative agreement with the organizations?

**Director Rhodes-** we are looking to get some guidance on a new issue that has come to town and see how other cities and communities have handled that.

**Mr. Fraizer-** is there an organization with the subject matter expertise that we have already identified?

**Director Rhodes-** no that is why we want to put it out for an RFP. We are going to put it out and we are going to get some proposals then look at the proposals. When I say we that will be the City, United Way and Newark Development Partners. We will determine which proposal fits best and we will enter into negotiations for a cost of that proposal then we will break out the cost to who is going to pay what.

**Rochelle Bolen Smith, 237 Violet Ct-** I was wondering how long of a contract that is for?

**Director Rhodes-** we don't have a length of time for a contract at this time, what we are looking for is some advice on how other communities have handled the situation when it has arose.

**Mr. Blake-** it is my understanding that there is a task force that is meeting this coming Wednesday.

**Director Rhodes-** there is a task force that is correct.

**Mr. Blake-** these dollars are to go for this requested proposal coming out of the Licking County Housing Strategy Development. That is what the request proposal says at the top so it's not necessarily just the City of Newark and the CIC this is a group of people.

**Director Rhodes-** again, this is a community proposal and I just named three people that have been involved. When the proposal goes out a lot of entities will be involved. If you are asking me to name the specific ones I'm not going to do this at this point but there is a task force meeting that is correct; we are going to listen to everybody then we are going to make the best decisions on the proposal.

**Mr. Blake-** this is a significant amount, have we got a sense of how much other organizations are going to contribute in?

**Director Rhodes-** no, what we hope to do is put our best foot forward and say we are going to be a good partner that is why I used the term up to \$30,000.00. If we get a proposal back and it is \$20,000.00 we are still going to go to our community partners and not pay the whole \$20,000.00. As I referenced the 2028

plan was around \$100,000.00, Image and Branding and Way Finding were around \$ 40,000- 60,000.00. I don't believe this is going to be less than \$30,000.00.

**Mr. Cost-** what I am hearing you say is that this could go beyond the scope of the city limits in terms of the scope of the problem since it goes beyond the city limits.

**Director Rhodes-** once we get back a proposal we hope to engage the County Commissioners, we hope to engage Grow Licking County as well as the Special Improvement District. Newark is unique we are the county seat.

**Mr. Fraizer-** where does this leave our rainy day fund?

**Director Rhodes** – at the end of April we were at a little over \$600,000.00.

**Mr. Fraizer-** when do you think that you will have the actual dollar amount that the city needs to contribute is going to be?

**Director Rhodes-** depends on how long the RFP is put out there for. If I had to guess, 8 weeks to 10 weeks. What you have before you tonight is us showing the community that we are willing to be a good partner in this. If this gets to a second reading and I don't have a final number and you want to table it at the second reading until we have all of those numbers broken apart I am fine with that. Then we can come back to you and tell you the scope of work that we are going to get for that amount and here is who is paying what.

**Mr. Marmie-** the questions that I have first is has any other community done anything like this and if not then where are we going to get expertise and advice on this if no one else has ever done it?

**Director Rhodes-** that is a fair question and if we don't get a good response then it will be just that we don't get a good response.

**Mr. Marmie-** I would say at some point and I know we have time if it passes forward there should be something in our legislation that indicates that we are only going to pay up to a certain percentage. I understand you saying that we want to be a good partner which we do but we also don't want to be the bearer of the entire burden.

**Director Rhodes-** I get that too, it is very difficult to say what percentage we would be at until we got the proposals back. That is why I said to you earlier get it out of committee go to first reading then second reading if you want to table it until such time when I can come back and fully break it apart I am ok with that because what that does is gets it out of committee, gets it out of first reading and then if we find something we really like we are poised to act. If we don't find anything then you can take it off of the table or leave it on.

**Mr. Blake-** I agree with your comments Mr. Chairman I would feel more comfortable with a percentage of what this total cost is. The meeting to discuss the request for a proposal is Wednesday evening so even the details of when it is going to go out and the finalization for request of proposal we could have it out for a month or two who knows. That meeting hasn't occurred until Wednesday night so it seems premature for us to commit \$30,000.00 out of the rainy day fund for something that may need \$40,000.00 which then I don't think that the

City of Newark should be paying the majority of that cost it should collaborated with other partners. I have no disagreement with wanting to be a partner in this effort my question is just related to the timing of this. I think that this should be held off until after at least Wednesday when the task force comes together to finalize their request for proposal. If we are thinking about \$30,000.00 to put in from the City of Newark side then I would hope other Councilmembers would attend that meeting on Wednesday. You have a right to know what is going to be in this request for proposal. In my opinion that is a significant amount to a consultant, if it was a direct service I would be comfortable saying up to \$30,000.00 for a direct service but this is for a consultant. This is for someone to study what we are doing in our community and I agree with Mr. Cost this is most definitely a county wide effort so the entire burden shouldn't rely on the City of Newark.

**Director Rhodes-** what I would say to that is I would welcome any help in attracting any other community members into paying for this. This isn't a one person idea it is a community idea. In addition to the meeting that goes on Wednesday night there have been several other meetings that have been held towards this and this will be grouped together in that RFP.

**Mr. Cost-** when and where is that meeting?

**Mr. Blake-** Wednesday at 5:00 at the Newark Commerce Center 195 union Street.

**Mr. Fraizer-** so it is all about having a path, so we approve this out and see what the appetite is for the other community members as well as the best proposal we go to first reading then second reading something comes back saying the proposal is \$50,000.00 and we have community members on the hook for \$35,000.00 our contribution level is \$15,000.00.

**Director Rhodes-** Mark that could very easily happen

**Mr. Fraizer-** what happens after that?

**Director Rhodes-** you would bring it off of the floor you would make an amendment to that level, it would pass and then we would enter into contract. The consultant then would begin his scope of work that has been outlined.

**Mr. Fraizer-** and as a part of that proposal we have firm dates associated with

**Director Rhodes-** yes, generally when you get those you do get dates, timelines, community meetings that are going to be held. Each consultant is a little bit different.

**Mayor Hall-** I want everybody to keep in mind that this is just to get some plans going, the remedy will be far greater than that and I'm not saying that it is coming to us. Franklin County for instance spends 33 million in a year on homelessness and affordable housing. It is a big number and that is not what we are anticipating over here but I am saying that remedies include housing and buildings and facilities to bring people through. It's all about programming not just a roof over someone's head for a night. Those are things this task force is working on. It is also bringing together a lot of groups and to try to get them together on one concept it sometimes takes a third party out there to find an

effective way. It has gone through some pretty good stages at this point. It takes some time to do things right. This is on the front edge of this again to understand that the remedy no matter what it is not saying that we have a burden on that necessarily but I am saying that we will be quite a bit more than that by far in the long run.

**Rochelle Bolen Smith**, 237 Violet Ct- several questions, is this conference open to the public and is it at the state building and that sort of thing? I am assuming that this task force is involving funds from the state as well? Are we looking at other models in other countries as well as Texas has a very well-known model.

**Mr. Marmie**- the meeting is open to the public. I don't think that any money is being brought forward at this point. It is a task force looking at different solutions. There haven't been any discussions yet on fees and where we are going to get our funding from.

**Rochelle Bolen Smith**- who all is a part of the task force

**Mr. Blake**- the Mayor is there, I am there but it is basically the heads of the social service agencies. Right now the request for proposal was submitted in draft form from John Fisher to the committee which meets on Wednesday. I have only been involved in the large task force meetings I have been involved in the sub-committees.

**Mr. Fraizer**- I am interested to understand what the strategy is, what the cost is to the city and what the next steps are. I am going to vote to send this out of committee but if we don't have those details I am going to recommend we table it.

**Director Rhodes**-I would encourage that, I see that line of thought. This puts it out there that the city is going to be a good partner but we aren't going to bare the entire costs. By the time we would ask for that to be off the table we will have selected a group, we will have identified who is paying what and how much and we will break that down to full Council.

**Mr. Blake**- I would encourage us to keeping open dialogue on this topic and I feel like committee is where we would have more open dialogue. I would encourage the thought of tabling it now until after at least this meeting on Wednesday. Table it for two weeks to see what happens Wednesday. Have any of the other committee members even seen the draft? No, no one has even seen the draft. I would recommend us keeping it in committee then in two weeks the committee could see the final request for proposal.

**Motion to table for two weeks by Mr. Blake, second by Mr. Marmie**

**Motion to table passed by a vote of 3-2.**

Section 4. There is hereby an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 100 General Fund, in the amount of \$30,000.00 (Homeless Consultant)

Account	Description	Amount
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100.121.5238	Services	\$30,000.00
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**No action taken, Section 3 was tabled.**

**Doug Marmie, Chair**