

## Capital Improvements Minutes

Honorable Council  
City of Newark, Ohio  
August 29, 2017

The Capital Improvement Committee met in Council Chambers on Monday August 28, 2017 following the Service Committee with these members present:

Jonathan Lang, Chair  
Dee Hall  
Jeff Rath  
Mark Fraizer  
Mike Mangus

We wish to Report:

1. **Resolution No. 17-61** 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 335, Capital Improvement Fund, in the amount of \$24,497.00 (City Building Projects)

Account	Description	Amount
335.124.5271	Bldg & Ground Maint	\$24,497.00

**Director Rhodes-** as the year comes to an end each year it is a balancing act, how long do you hold on to capital improvement dollars, are you in fear of something breaking, is an air conditioner going to go out? We are about to September and understanding the legislative process the way all of us do we know by the time that this is voted on it might almost be October which leaves November and December. This is the remaining dollars of the capital improvement fund. These dollars are not completely spoken for at this point but I thought that we would appropriate them. If they are not spent what happens to them is they stay in the Capital Improvements Fund and next year I would have some dollars to add to capital improvement so all we are doing is asking for an appropriation. We are going to be doing some municipal building security upgrades that has been requested by the judges. Director Baum, myself and the Mayor are currently negotiating with the judges. We don't think that those funds are going to all come from this some of them will but I thought that we should get it all on a P.O. in case we do have a heater or an air conditioner that breaks I don't have to come here and expedite anything.

**Motion by Mr. Rath to send to full Council, second by Ms. Hall**

**Mr. Rath-** I know you are negotiating but can you give us some idea of what security upgrades you are thinking and estimated cost.

**Director Rhodes-** it depends who you ask on estimated cost. In all fairness to the Judges this is a unique building. You have local government here blended with Judges, Judges that hand out sentences. We are looking at the roll up gate where you go underneath the city garage is currently broken. We are going to get that fixed so the Probation Department and Judges can get in a secure area and come up a secure elevator and get into the courtrooms. You know there was a Judge that was just shot at in the Steubenville area. We are taking a look, nothing is etched in stone. We are looking at scanner; people who come into court would have to go through a scanner. Not unlike what happened at the County Courthouse. If you have been over to the courthouse lately for whatever reason you enter through the basement you go through a scanner. We are talking about whether employees would be subject to that scan or not. We are working out the details. Effort is ongoing, today we met with one of the Judges and the Clerk of Courts and when I say we I mean myself, Director Baum, Carl Hurst who runs maintenance for the city building just addressing all of the needs because people come in and out of a lot of different doors and a lot of different angles. If you follow what the State guy recommended for upgrades we could spend a million and a half dollars. We will be far less than that. Gate closure is around \$11,000.00 a scanner is around \$49-52,000.00. The Judges have a Judicial Fund if there are any personnel needed they have offered to pay to have the personnel perform those services not a general fund expense.

**Mr. Rath-** \$50,000.00 for a scanner is significant and you have to take into consideration those have to be staffed with armed personnel. Probably three additional staff members would be needed; they have already hired a Bailiff.

**Director Rhodes** – that was one of the first things we negotiated who would pay for personnel. Tonight is not the right venue to have a complete discussion because we are not done. We have an open line of communication; we are working with both Judges to come to a reasonable security upgrade.

**Mr. Fraizer-** is there any other projects earmarked for this outside of the judiciary?

**Director Rhodes-** I am going to hold back, there are all kinds of needs in City Hall. If you look at the flooring but we are going to hold them back in case something breaks. The pool is closed now, baseball is winding down the paving program for this year is in place and if there are dollars left we can put them towards paving next year.

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

Jonathan Lang, Chair