

## Capital Improvements Minutes

Honorable Council  
City of Newark, Ohio  
August 31, 2016

The Capital Improvement Committee met in Council Chambers on Monday, August 29, 2016 following the Economic Development Committee with these members present:

Curtis Johnson, Chair  
Dee Hall  
Jeff Rath

Mark Fraizer  
Alex Rolletta

We wish to Report:

1. **Resolution No. 16-75** authorizing and directing the Director of Public Service for the City of Newark, Ohio, to enter into a lease agreement with Park National Bank for the lease-purchase of one (1) medic unit for the Division of Fire was considered.

**Director Rhodes-** in the EMS legislation there is a certain percentage allotted for lease payments for medic units. A lease payment is an accounting term. We lease them and at the end of the term we own them. This allows us to more efficiently purchase these vehicles. We put it on a spreadsheet, we work with the Fire Department on when we think we need another medic and then once we have your approval we will enter into an agreement to build a medic. It takes about 6 months to build this medic sometimes a little longer. At that point we will bond the money and then make our first payment a year later. On the spreadsheet we have two medics that we bought four years ago and I make my fifth payment next year that payment will go away which will free up the funds to pay for this medic. This medic is a little different, there are some things built in for transporting some larger patients.

**Assistant Chief Simmons-** it is going to meet a demand that is becoming more frequent. As a general population we are not getting smaller we're getting bigger and our medics have not changed in design. Now they are starting to change in design to accommodate people that are larger and heavier. They have to be because the current design has limits we are pushing those limits in both function and patient comfort. There is a little bit of an additional cost that comes along with that but the added functionality is something we need. We end up calling people from specialized ambulance companies to come get patients that have this equipment because we can't do it ourselves.

**Mr. Fraizer-** where do you plan on putting this medic unit?

**Assistant Chief Simmons-** we would have to see where the highest demand is for this bariatric unit. I'm not quite sure of where that is. Statistically downtown takes 48% of the runs but I don't know that is necessarily tied with bariatric runs.

**Mr. Fraizer-** do you track bariatric?

**Assistant Chief Simmons-** yes we do. It is easy because we can't take care of them ourselves. We can track when we call mutual aid and we can specify what that mutual aid is.

**Mr. Fraizer-** this is our first bariatric unit?

**Assistant Chief Simmons-** that is correct. What it also does is not only accommodate them it has a lifting system so the people lifting the cot don't actually have to lift it. It is mechanically lifted. It takes the stress off the people lifting too.

**Mr. Fraizer-** what is the current weight limit of our units versus the bariatric unit?

**Assistant Chief Simmons-** I believe that it is about 600 pounds but again there is not enough physical space.

**Mr. Fraizer-** as far as the chaise I know that we use a new chaise now for a lot of the new medic units to more easily maintain them are we looking at the same?

**Assistant Chief Simmons-** yes, same manufacturer, same style, etc.

**Mr. Rolletta-** have there been any injuries to a fire paramedic from lifting one of these larger patients?

**Assistant Chief Simmons-** there has been some back injuries from lifting but I don't think that they were someone that you would necessarily consider a bariatric patient. We looked into that. We thought maybe it was someone trying to lift too much without calling for help but that wasn't the case in the back injuries so far. You wheel the patient where they need to go and the lift is tracked and without any effort push it in with one hand no matter what the weight is on the cot.

**Mr. Rath-** made the motion to send to full Council. Whether we get a bariatric unit or not are you in need of another unit?

**Assistant Chief Simmons-** yes we are

**Mr. Rath-** it just makes sense at this time to make it a bariatric unit.

**Assistant Chief Simmons-** it does. Medic one we just purchased last year that only has a couple thousand miles. Medic two and medic three which would be the north end and the west end were both purchased in 2012. One has about 50,000 miles on it that is the west end the one up north has about 80,000 miles on it. It would make a great truck to have in reserve because the two that we have in reserve I believe the maintenance costs are going to be over what they are worth. The fourth medic that we have is at a 100,000 miles.

**Ms. Hall-** how so can we get that?

**Assistant Chief Simmons-** we are a little bit ahead of the game but typically they take 6-7 months but Director Rhodes and I have been talking about this for a while, we have the manufacturer on board. Typically 6 months but we could get lucky and it will be in service a little sooner.

**Mr. Fraizer-** you probably need another medic unit on top of this relatively soon right?

**Assistant Chief Simmons-** yes but not immediately

**Mr. Fraizer-** Director Rhodes you said that there were two medic units that were coming off?

**Director Rhodes-** that is correct.

**Mr. Fraizer-** do you know how much that totals?

**Director Rhodes-**\$77,000 a year. Per the legislation the EMS dollars that is created by the legislation stay in a certain account so if we accrue some extra dollars in there the next time that we go we will just borrow a little bit less and take some money out of there. The perfect solution would be to over time just be able to pay for these but we are not even remotely close to that at this point. We work very well with local lenders on this lease purchase agreement to get very fair rates.

**Mr. Fraizer-** are we looking at next year possibly purchasing another medic unit?

**Director Rhodes-** if the levy passes absolutely if not no.

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

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

2. **Resolution No. 16-78** appropriating monies for the current expenses of the municipal corporation was considered.

Section 1. There is hereby a request for an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 335, Capital Improvement Fund, in the amount of \$17,138.58

Account	Description	Amount
335.122.5502	Land Improvements	\$17,138.58

**Director Rhodes-** you are all familiar with the 85/15 split on capital improvements this year we did a 90/10 split. At this point I have \$17, 138.58 left. I would like to have that appropriated there are some things around city grounds that need to be brushed up and made a little better so I wanted to encumber these dollars.

**Mr. Rath-** \$17,000.00 seems like an awful lot of money to brush some things up.

**Director Rhodes-** one area of flooring is over \$4,000.00. We got grounds and let me explain what grounds is, is not just not carpeting, it's not just trimming of shrubs, it's not grass seed it can be for things like putting towards our air handler system. The air handler system is old it is antiquated, it needs redone. I'm not saying that we want to use that towards it but it could be put towards that. It could be put towards buying light bulbs and putting led light in. When you say grounds and maintenance it's not just City Hall it could be the Police station, Fire station, the Service Complex other places like that. If you want to put a slash on there and use part of that for paving you are more than welcome to. What I am trying to do here is simply encumber the dollars. We don't have these spent at this second. We are going to be into September and by the time it goes to a couple of

readings to Council we are into October and November that is why I am asking you to begin that process now.

**Mr. Rath-** and that is the end of it?

**Director Rhodes-** yes that is all of capital improvements dollars. We came in immediately when we had some dollars and we asked you to appropriate initially \$80,000.00 for paving. We came back and asked to take money out of Budget Stabilization for paving, \$300,000.00 for paving and then we keep these dollars around for emergencies too. We had an air conditioner unit go out not too long ago that cools the server room. Today I got a call at the Hollander Pool that a valve didn't open at the pool. Roger is going to be nice enough to go over and help us drain it. We are going to have to get into the valve system and that could be considered grounds and maintenance too and I don't know what we are looking at there. Again I just wanted to start the process because it will go to readings to Council and that will put me into October.

**Mr. Fraizer-** what are the top two projects that you are looking to use this for?

**Director Rhodes-** I am going to use it in part for carpeting and in part for parks and for other buildings.

**Mr. Fraizer-** if an emergency pops up then we can still use this money for that?

**Director Rhodes-** yes, as we begin to hold on to these dollars because as we come to the end of the year we won't really spend all of these dollars, we will hold them back for an emergency.

**Mr. Fraizer-** I take \$17,000.00 worth of paving won't get me very much paving?

**Director Rhodes-** it wouldn't even get your alley paved back by the park

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

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

Curtis Johnson, Chair