

Finance Committee Minutes

Honorable Council
City of Newark, Ohio
May 2, 2022
5:45pm

The Finance Committee met in Council Chambers May 2, 2022 with these members in attendance:

Doug Marmie – Chair
Spencer Barker
Cheri Hottinger
Jonathan Lang
Michael Houser

We wish to report :

Mr. Marmie – The General Fund stands at \$358,131.00, the Budget Stabilization Fund stands at \$1,145,137.00

1. **Resolution No. 22-45 Exp** A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Section 1. There is hereby an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 153 Comp Abs Fund, in the amount of \$2,700.00 (payout for resigning Community Development rehab/code enforcement employee Robert Bame)

153.601.5144	Termination Vacation	1,800.00
153.601.5145	Termination Comp	900.00

David Rhodes, Service Director – This is just a payout for an individual who resigned out of Community Development.
Motion to send to full council by Mr. Lang, second by Mr. Barker, motion passed 5-0

Section 2. There is hereby an appropriation of the unappropriated balance of the 1 General Fund, in the amount of \$100,000.00 (Fire Overtime)

100.205.5118	Fire Overtime	100,000.00
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Tim Hickman, Safety Director – Overtime for the Fire and Police continues to be a challenge and because of those challenges we're predicting that we are not going to have sufficient funds to cover overtime for the rest of the year. So, we want to get out in front of this and get some funds appropriated so we have sufficient funds when they are needed.

Motion to send to full council by Mr. Barker, second by Mr. Lang

Mr. Lang – If you could speak to where are we relative to what we had budgeted, do you feel like this \$100k is going to be it, or that you may need more?

Director Hickman – To be honest, this \$100k is probably not going to cover what we need for the rest of the year. Year to date we've used about 53% of the budget amount for the year, so if things continue like they are we will need at least another \$100k to get to the end of the year.

Mr. Lang – Can you speak to how we got so far off and what may be at the root of this.

Director Hickman – Staffing is an issue, having enough people, the call volume, it's a combination of things, I don't think we would be able to point just to one cause.

Ms. Hottinger – Can you tell me how many vacancies you have, how many people are we understaffed by.

Director Hickman – I would just be guessing, but I think that we're down about 3 or 4 right now. We've got some people, we're going to be hiring 3, I think May 16th is their swear in date, but once those go, I think there's still some, it's kind of a revolving door, as soon as we hire somebody, someone retires or leaves to go to another agency.

Ms. Hottinger – So if we have all 3 or 4 filled, we'll still be having an issue?

Director Hickman – Probably.

Ms. Hottinger – Is it because of the volume?

Director Hickman – Sure, that’s part of it.

Mr. Lang – Just curious, but could we put a comparison together for year to year for Council to look at.

Director Hickman – I know that last year the call volume was in excess of 13,000 calls for service which is really high for Fire Service.

Motion passed 5-0

2. Consider **Resolution No. 22-46** A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR 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 \$17,773.00 (Reimbursement from PNB for 2022 Stand on Blower and ABI Water Trailer)

100.121.5533	Machinery & Equipment	17,773.00
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David Rhodes, Service Director – I stood in front of Council to ask for a lease purchase of some equipment, and as you know not everything is coming in a timely manner, so what I did is I just paid for these out of my own budget. I did close on a loan with Park National Bank, this is part of the proceeds that I’d just like re-appropriated into my budget.

Motion to send to full council by Mr. Lang, second by Mr. Barker

Ms. Hottinger – I will be abstaining

Mr. Houser – I will be as well.

Mr. Marmie – Law Director. Just to go back in history, we’ve had previous employees who have been on Council with our lease agreements and things, is it a conflict of interest if they are employed by a company that we are getting a loan with, that the Service Director is in contract with, all we’re doing is approving funds to be moved, we’re not approving the loan. So, do they have to abstain?

Ms. Hottinger – But it’s my department, I should abstain, I was aware of that issue.

Mr. Houser – It’s not my department, I can go ahead and vote.

Motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Hottinger abstaining

Finance Committee meeting stands adjourned

Doug Marmie, Chair