

Finance Committee Minutes

June 7, 2021

Members present: Schaber, Meade

Members absent: Daniels

With a quorum present, Schaber called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Minutes -- 05/17/2021

Meade made a motion to recommend to Council; Schaber 2nd; Roll Call: Ayes – Schaber, Meade; Nays – none.

Minutes of 05/17/2021 approved (2-0)

Old Business

New Business

Item 1. tempORD2021-43: ORDINANCE MAKING AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BELOW LISTED FUND TO PROVIDE FOR UNAPPROPRIATED FUNDS FROM THE 2019 FORMULA GRANT (Warr-Cummings)

Mrs. Warr-Cummings (Regional Planning) explained that there was extra money from last year on the slide project. They need to appropriate that to use on other projects.

Meade made a motion to recommend to Council; Schaber 2nd; Roll Call: Ayes –Schaber, Meade; Nays – none.

tempORD2021-43 Recommended to Council (2-0)

Item 2. tempORD2021-44: ORDINANCE MAKING AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BELOW LISTED FUNDS PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING RECEIVED FROM OHIO DISTRICT 5 AREA ON AGING, INC. (Badertscher)

Mr. Badertscher explained that District 5 is reallocating money, and they need to appropriate to be able to spend it. Their award is more than they usually get.

Meade made a motion to recommend to Council; Schaber 2nd; Roll Call: Ayes – Schaber, Meade; Nays – none.

tempORD2021-44 Recommended to Council (2-0)

Item 3. tempORD2021-46: ORDINANCE MAKING AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN VARIOUS FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021 (Chaffin)

Miss Chaffin distributed memo detailing appropriation. There have been major problems related to City Hall. The AC was out due to chiller being out. Generator had problems over the weekend. This took CAD system down. A controller is out and is on order (\$15,000).

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The roof is leaking in three places. It has been repaired multiple times. There is also a leak in the basement lady's locker room. The elevator has had three cables replaced in the past 18 months. They need to rehab before a complete replacement is required.

In response to Mr. Neff, Chaffin explained the professional services are for permits, design, and engineering.

Meade made a motion to recommend to Council; Schaber 2nd; Roll Call: Ayes – Schaber, Meade; Nays – none.

tempORD2021-46 Recommended to Council (2-0)

Item 4. tempRES2021-16: RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE BUDGET OF THE CITY OF MARION, OHIO FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Landon)

Deputy Auditor Watts stated this is the annual tax budget. It is not the final budget for 2022. It was prepared by the Auditor's office based on the current year budget and expected increases. It is due at County Auditor by 07/20.

Meade made a motion to recommend to Council; Schaber 2nd; Roll Call: Ayes – Schaber, Meade; Nays – none.

tempRES2021-16 Recommended to Council (2-0)

Item 5. Discussion of HB 157 (Mayor/Pannett/Landon)

Mayor Schertzer said that Watts has approached Treasurer Pannett and him about this bill. If approved, it is retroactive. It has passed the house and is now in the senate (state legislature). Watts has done some estimates as to how this might affect the city's 2% income tax revenue. They would be giving refunds this year cutting into our estimated revenues, and they are almost half-way through the year. Watts said the bill will allow people who worked at home due to COVID to ask for refunds from their place of work. They do not know how many people worked from home. He ran some numbers and considered them very rough estimates. 38% of the people who pay city income tax do not live in the city. If everyone requested refunds, it would cost about \$5.4 million. For the people who live in Marion but work outside of Marion they would get back about \$237,000 (under the same method of estimating).

Schertzer said that, in the bill, the person would need to have a letter from the employer to verify situation. They have talked about options, depending on whether it is retroactive.

tempRES2021-17: RESOLUTION URGING GOVERNOR DEWINE, THE OHIO SENATE, AND THE OHIO HOUSE TO OPPOSE THE PASSING OF HOUSE BILL 157, PROVIDING REFUNDS TO PEOPLE THAT WORKED AT HOME DURING COVID 19 PANDEMIC AND NOT PAYING MUNICIPAL TAXES TO THEIR NORMAL WORK LOCATION.

The three would like council to consider a resolution to oppose this portion of HB 157.

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Auditor Landon supported this and pointed to the \$7.3 million in ARPA funds. One of the uses is to replace lost revenue due to COVID.

Chaffin explained that there is a provision within ARPA money that they cannot use to make up changes in tax code. Chaffin said that would need to be reviewed carefully.

Schertzer said that because Marion is historically a blue-collar town, many of the largest employers continued to work. It is hard to factor that in to estimates. Also, the proposal could change in the final bill.

This information is not updated in the tax budget. Christian Dunston (211 E. Fairground Street) said that he wants to see an accurate budget and have a real discussion on a balanced budget.

Meade made a motion to recommend to Council; Schaber 2nd; Roll Call: Ayes – Schaber, Meade; Nays – none.

tempRES2021-17 Recommended to Council (2-0)

Item 6. Auditors Monthly Reports (Landon)

Reports have been distributed. Watts stated that they had a better May than normal. The city has had good collections to this point and the city is in good shape.

Other Matters

Adjourn

With no other business, Schaber adjourned the meeting at 7:08 PM.

Chairman Daniels

Clerk of Council

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