

## FINANCE

Tuesday, February 20, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.

Police Training Room – Olean Municipal Building

Present: Members: Chairman Witte, Vice Chairman Crawford, Alderman Gonzalez, Alderman Dougherty, and Alderman George. Others: Mayor William Aiello; Nicholas DiCerbo, Jr., City Attorney; Fred Saradin, City Auditor; Bob Ring, Director of Public Works; Jeff Rowley, Police Chief, and Tiffany Taylor, Managerial Confidential Administrative Secretary.

### 1. Roll Call

Alderman Witte called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and asked that the record show that all committee members were present except Aldermen Andreano and Smith, who were excused.

### 2. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Committee Meeting (Thursday, February 8, 2018)

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2018 meeting was made by Alderman Witte, seconded by Alderman Gonzalez. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

### 3. Monthly Financial Review

Alderman Witte stated that she would like to begin reviewing finance and bills a week in advance of its approval, in order to give the Council more time to look over what is presented to them and ask questions. She stated that, looking at the bills to be presented for this month, everything looks pretty routine.

Alderman Crawford stated that he sees a lot of recurring Home Depot charges. Mayor Aiello stated that the City uses Home Depot for most of their immediate needs. There is a yearly limit to how much they can spend at Worth Smith, as Alderman Smith has a financial interest in the company.

Alderman Witte stated that she sees a lot of Staples charges. Mayor Aiello stated that employees order office supplies from Staples.com because they give better pricing to governmental entities.

Alderman Witte questioned if vehicle warranties help reduce the maintenance expenses, and Mayor Aiello replied that it probably does not, as warranties do not cover maintenance expenses such as brakes, tires, and minor damage to the vehicle caused by the user.

Alderman Witte questioned if the street lighting expenses for Oak Hill Park are being reimbursed, and Mr. Saradin replied that two of the lights are the City's expense as we decided to add them. The rest is reimbursed 100%. Alderman Witte questioned if there is any way to

show what bills would be reimbursed, and Mr. Saradin stated that he will have to discuss this with his office personnel as they are the ones that run this report.

Alderman Crawford asked what the “Flash Technology” for \$18,000 is for. Mr. Ring stated that this is a lighting system for landing at the airport. The County will reimburse \$17,000 of this cost. Each year, the City chooses a Capital Project at the airport, and the County reimburses \$17,000 towards that project once it’s complete.

Alderman Witte questioned if the taxes paid to the Town of Ischua for the airport property are higher or lower than normal. Mayor Aiello stated that we paid the actual tax cost, and we are currently trying to negotiate a new PILOT with the Town. We currently have a PILOT agreement with the school and pay \$15,000 per year, and with the County’s airport PILOT we pay \$1 per year. Alderman Crawford asked how long the PILOT agreements are for, and Mr. DiCerbo replied that they last five years.

Alderman Witte asked if the exhaust hood at Bradner Stadium’s concession stand was a part of the grant that the City received. Mayor Aiello responded that it is the last piece of work that needed to be done in order to receive the funding, and the City is now working on request for reimbursement for Senator Young’s grant.

Mr. Saradin stated that the Council is always welcome to contact him or department heads with any questions regarding the bills.

#### 4. Unfinished Business

None

#### 5. New Referrals for Consideration

- a. PL #14-18: (Crawford) To enact a Local Law amending Local Law No. 02-2008 granting a partial exemption from City real property taxes for Cold War Veterans.

Alderman Crawford stated that it is his understanding that there is a time limit on the current Cold War Veteran’s exemption. The ten year period is expiring this year. The County has done away with the time limit, and he proposes that the City should, too.

Mayor Aiello replied that this is correct. He spoke with Mr. Piechota, the City Assessor, and continuing the exemption will not change anything in terms of revenue. Alderman Crawford added that the amount that the City would gain by discontinuing the exemption is immaterial and would not add much to the budget.

A motion to approve PL #14-18 was made by Alderman Witte, seconded by Alderman Crawford. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Referred to City Attorney for Resolution.

b. Budget Schedule

The following budget discussion schedule was arranged:

Thursday, March 8, 2018 – 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 15, 2018 – 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 22, 2018 – 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 29, 2018 – 5:30 p.m.

6. Approval of Committee Reports

A motion to approve committee reports was made by Alderman Crawford, seconded by Alderman Witte. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

7. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Witte, seconded by Alderman Dougherty. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.