

FINANCE

Tuesday, May 21, 2019 – 6:05 p.m.

Police Training Room – Olean Municipal Building

Members: Chairman Witte, Alderman Andreano, 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; Bob Bell, Fire Chief; Jeff Rowley, Police Chief, and Tiffany Taylor, Managerial Confidential Administrative Secretary.

1. Roll Call

Alderman Witte called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and asked that the record show that all committee members were present except Aldermen Crawford and Smith, who were excused.

2. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Committee Meetings (Tuesday, May 7, 2019)

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2019 meeting was made by Alderman Witte, seconded by Alderman George. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

3. Monthly Finance and Bills Review

Alderman Witte explained that she feels that over \$3,000 is a lot for fire alarm testing, and asked if this is something that the Fire Department can do instead. Mayor Aiello explained that this is a conversation that was had between himself, the City Electrician, the Fire Chief, and Mr. Ring, and it was determined that it would be too much of a liability. He explained that the City is going to see what needs to be done to certify Fire Department members to do the testing, however, and will then determine if the City wants to take on this liability.

Alderman Witte asked what properties are included for asbestos testing, and Mayor Aiello noted that testing is not done on County properties. He explained that tests are only passed along if they were previously completed when the City was considering taking action on the properties.

Chief Bell explained that the properties tested are located on Henley Street, Thirteenth Street, Seventh Street, and North Fifth Street.

Alderman Witte asked if the tree removal that the City is paying for is for public or privately owned trees, and Mr. Ring replied that the trees removed were for the Whitney Avenue Parklet Project and the Farmers' Market Project in Lincoln Park.

Alderman Witte asked if the Olean Oilers pay for any of the turf work done at the stadium. Mayor Aiello responded that there was a collapsed sewer line that needed to be repaired, so associated turf repair is being paid for by the City.

Alderman Witte asked if it is possible to get a statement for billing charges for the North Union Street lawsuit, and Mr. DiCerbo responded that he has requested a bill by the end of the month in order to encumber funds for the cost.

4. Unfinished Business

None

5. New Referrals for Consideration

a. Discussion – Year End Contingency Transfers

Mr. Saradin explained that the transfers presented are those that were discussed during budget time.

Mayor Aiello explained that from the General Fund Contingency, \$80,000 is for police cars, \$38,000 is for body cameras (although the City is applying for a grant to cover the costs, costs are still being budgeted in case the grant is not received); \$12,000 is for the license plate reader for the Police Department; \$25,000 is for the Capital Fund for the Property Revaluation; \$12,500 is towards the purchase of a forklift; \$13,500 is for traffic signal upgrades, and \$4,282 is for the sidewalk reserve fund. He noted that \$12,500 from the Water Fund Contingency is also for the purchase of the forklift, and at some point in the future, \$12,500 will need to be found in the Sewer Fund for the purchase.

Alderman Witte noted that \$5,000 should also be encumbered for the TNVR Program, and Mayor Aiello explained that transfers from other line items, as well as encumbrances, are being worked on now.

Mayor Aiello explained that Mr. Saradin has provided a handout that shows active lease payments for a flail mower, a snow plow, and a hi-lift. He explained that he would like to move into new leases when these are over. He explained that he would like to replace the flail mower lease with another mower lease, the snow plow lease with a lease for a new ten wheeler truck, and the hi-lift lease with a lease for a new bucket truck, as previously discussed.

Mr. Saradin noted that he has requested all departmental encumbrances by the end of the week.

Mr. Saradin explained that he has had a conversation with Municipal Solutions, and that the conversion from a BAN to a Bond for the Recreation Center Funding came in with a rate of

2.15%, which is much lower than the 3 – 3 ½ % that was anticipated. Alderman Gonzalez asked if this is due to the City's Bond Rating, and Mr. Saradin replied that it is because of the market. He explained that the 1% saves over \$200,000 over twelve years in interest payments.

Mayor Aiello explained that the City has received its Moody's Rating and that it has decreased from an A1 to an A2. He explained that they claim that it is because of a decrease in the City's population, which is a decrease of about 500 people from the last census, as well as a decrease in the City's Fund Balance. He explained that they recommend that the City's Fund Balance be at 24 to 30%, where the City's Fund Balance Policy currently dictates a recommended balance of 15%. He explained that he will be working with Municipal Solutions on this.

A PL and Resolution will be presented at the next Regular Meeting for the Council to approve the presented fund transfers.

6. Approval of Committee Reports

None

7. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Witte, seconded by Alderman Andreano. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:25 p.m.