

**Cuyahoga Falls City Council**  
**Minutes of the Finance and Appropriations Committee Meeting**

**June 1, 2020**

**Members:** Tim Gorbach, Chair  
Drew Reilly  
Jeff Iula

Mr. Gorbach called the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m. All members were present.

**Legislation Discussed**

Temp. Ord. A-29

**Discussion:**

**Temp. Ord. A-29**

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, without competitive bidding, with Thompson Electric, J.F. Electric, Inc., Hydaker-Wheatlake Company, Vaughn Industries, and Kent Power for make ready work in connection with small cell wireless 5G technology, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Michael Dougherty, Electric Superintendent, presented Temporary Ordinance A-29. The Director of Public Service will be authorized to enter into a contract or contracts, without competitive bidding, with Thompson Electric, J.F. Electric, Inc., Hydaker-Wheatlake Company, Vaughn Industries and Kent Power for the make ready work in connection with small cell wireless 5G technology. The Director of Finance is hereby authorized and directed to make payment for same in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.00 from the Electric Fund, line item Other Operations. Furthermore, the Director of Finance will be authorized to increase appropriations in the Electric Fund, line item Other Operations by \$400,000.00.

Mr. Gorbach asked if there has been any communication from any residents regarding this issue. There was none.

Mr. Dougherty stated that it was not known at the time of the budget hearing that this was going to be done. They want to contract out the make-ready work. The contract is to do the work and not be limited by the \$50,000 cap and impede the progress.

Mr. Gorbach asked if the City would be made whole before the work is commenced. Mr. Dougherty stated that is correct. Mr. Gorbach asked if this was the same contract for the 5G tower that Ms. Janet Ciotola, Law Director, worked on for wireless in the City. Ms. Janet Ciotola, Law Director, stated that is correct. Mr. Gorbach asked if she was comfortable, A Law Director, with this piece of legislation. Ms. Ciotola stated that she is. It handles the work that needs to be done to all applicable state, local and federal standards. Also, the City is being reimbursed. The upfront costs will be paid before the work begins and ensures the City's financial records are appropriate, as well.

**Finance and Appropriations Committee**  
**June 1, 2020 – Page 2**

Ms. Nichols-Rhodes stated that she had received an e-mail from constituent with concerns about health issues related to 5G technology. Since that time, Ms. Ciotola has worked on comprehensive legislation to ensure safety and proper procedures of these companies. This was something that has been very well prepared for.

Mr. Miller asked if the make-ready work is going to be on existing telephone or are these going to be new telephone poles. Mr. Dougherty stated that it would be various structures. It is going to be on existing utility poles. That is part of what the make-ready work is for. In areas where there are underground utilities, where they want to put an antenna, they would remove the existing post-top streetlight and put in a taller structure with an antenna at the top of it. There are some antennas that are going to be on traffic signal poles. The signal does not travel far, so they need to get them in particular areas. The City is trying to work with them to get them in the areas that supply them power, because they need power from our system in order to operate. Mr. Miller asked how many of these antennas they are going to install for the City. Mr. Dougherty stated that it is right around 150.

Mr. Iula moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-29 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Reilly. Motion passed (3-0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.