

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

July 20, 2020

Members: Tim Gorbach, Chair
Drew Reilly
Jeff Iula

Mr. Gorbach called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All members were present.

The minutes of the July 16, 2020 Finance Committee meeting were approved as written.

Legislation Discussed

Temp. Ord. A-43

Temp. Ord. A-44

Temp. Ord. A-45

Temp. Ord. A-46

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. A-43

An ordinance requesting that the City of Cuyahoga Falls receive its share of funds from the County COVID-19 Local Government Payroll Support Grant Program funds, establish appropriations in the amount of \$1,402,980.00 and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Bryan Hoffman, Finance Director, presented Temporary Ordinance A-43 to Council. The County of Summit received funds under the CARES Act as a political subdivision with a population more than 500,000. Under guidance issued by the U.S. Treasury Department and the Auditor of the State of Ohio, the County of Summit has determined to share funding it has received with local government entities within the County of Summit in the form of a grant program, called the COVID-19 Local Government Payroll Support Grant Program (PSGP). The City of Cuyahoga Falls is requesting its share of funds from the County of Summit and wishes to authorize the Mayor to execute the Application and Agreement for the PSGP. Pursuant to the PSGP guidelines, the City of Cuyahoga Falls is required to establish a Special Revenue Fund titled Summit County COVID-19 PSGP Fund, and it is necessary to authorize the establishment of that fund within the accounts of City of Cuyahoga Falls.

Mr. Gorbach asked if the funds created for those monies are going to be in addition to the fund. Mr. Hoffman stated that this will be a separate fund. It is going to be required by the County that they keep them separate, but they will spend the dollars in the same fashion as the other fund. Mr. Gorbach stated that, in Section 6, it states they had a reserve of 6 percent of the money from the General Fund. He asked if they would create a separate reserve account for those monies. Mr. Hoffman stated that they will create a separate line item and budget for those monies. The County's reasoning behind that is if a political subdivision accepts these dollars and spends these dollars in an inappropriate way, they will have a little more security to be able to get those dollars from that political subdivision.

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Mr. Iula stated that the wanted wanted to congratulate Mr. Hoffman for getting those funds. He stated that it is great, and they should spend it wisely.

Mr. Reilly moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-43 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Iula. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Ord. A-44

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Safety to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for the purchase of turnout gear for use by the Fire Department, and declaring an emergency.

Fire Chief Jackson presented Temporary Ordinance A-44 to Council. The Director of Public Safety will be authorized to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for the purchase of turnout gear for use by the Fire Department. The Finance Director will be authorized and directed to make payment for same from the Capital Projects Fund, line item Capital Outlay.

Mr. Gorbach asked if Chief Jackson could give Council a quick overview of the station on Portage Trail. Chief Jackson stated that, hopefully, everyone has had an opportunity to see the virtual tour. It has turned out quite well and meets all the things we were hoping for. It is a modern fire station designed to serve for many decades to come.

Mr. Reilly moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-44 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Iula. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Ord. A-45

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a modification of Contract No. 8040 with Fioritto Construction, LLC, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Tony Demasi, Engineer, presented Temporary Ordinance A-45 to Council. The Director of Public Service will be authorized to enter into a modification of Contract No. 8040 with Fioritto Construction LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$125,000.00. The total contract price after modification as authorized herein shall not exceed \$421,452.94. The Director of Finance will be authorized and directed to pay invoices for work based upon the Contract as modified, in an amount not to exceed \$125,000.00 over the original contract price, from the Water Fund, line item Capital Outlay.

Mr. Reilly stated that it is great that they are doing this, because, whenever they are already are working on a project, the more the more that can be done to prevent the need for future projects, the better. He stated that he is in favor of this ordinance. Mr. Iula stated that he also is in favor of Temporary Ordinance A-45.

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Mr. Iula moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-45 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Reilly. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Ord. A-46

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) grant agreement for a \$625,189.00 grant with a twenty-five percent (25%) local match to design and construct Phase 1 of the Mill Pond-Mud Brook Trail, and declaring an emergency.

Ms. Diana Colavecchio, Community Development Director, and Mr. Fred Guerra, Planning Director, presented Temporary Ordinance A-46 to Council. The City of Cuyahoga Falls has received a grant in the amount of \$625,189.00 from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) through its Clean Ohio Trail Fund for the design and construction of Phase I (from Pleasant Meadow Blvd. to E. Bath Road) of the Mill Pond-Mud Brook Trail. The grant requires a minimum match of twenty-five percent (25%). The Mayor will be authorized and directed to enter into a Grant Agreement with ODNR in the amount of \$625,189.00, with a twenty-five percent (25%) local match.

Mr. Gorbach asked what condition the barn on Bath Road is in presently. Mr. Guerra stated that it is rustic. It was maintained by the Hunter family and painted probably 10 years ago. It looks like a barn inside. Mr. Gorbach stated that it is a great idea and he looks forward to doing something with it and keeping some of the history.

Mr. Brillhart stated that he is excited about this project. It is going to be fabulous and a great asset for the community. They have spent an inordinate amount of time on it, and the residents are going to be happy. He thanked Mayor Walters, the Administration, Ms. Colavecchio and Mr. Guerra.

Mayor Walters stated that this has been a long time coming. What is unique is the area has been built up and a lot of housing and town homes do not have yards to run around it. It is perfect for the Enclave and Brookpark. The nature is breathtaking. He is glad they are moving forward.

Mr. Gorbach thanked Mayor Walters for his leadership in this endeavor.

Mr. Reilly moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-46 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Iula. Motion passed (3-0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.