

**Cuyahoga Falls City Council  
Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting  
October 15, 2012**

**Members:** Diana Colavecchio, Chair  
Don Walters  
Jeff Iula

Mrs. Colavecchio called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m. All members were present.

Mrs. Colavecchio stated that A-95 had been tabled last week. Mr. Rubino moved to remove A-95 from the table so it could be discussed this evening, second by Mr. James. Motion passed (3-0).

The Committee meeting recessed into a Council meeting at 6:53 p.m. and reconvened at 6:55 p.m.

**Legislation Discussed:**

Temp. Ord. A-95  
Temp. Ord. A-103  
Temp. Ord. A-104  
Temp. Ord. A-105

**Discussion**

**Temp. Ord. A-95**

An ordinance assigning and/or re-assigning the various job classifications of the City to appropriate established pay grades, and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Colavecchio stated the request was made for the salary and pay grades to be supplied to Council but they had only been supplied to Mrs. Klinger. Council members have since received a copy. She asked Mr. Rubino if he was satisfied with the documents received and whether he had additional questions.

Mr. Rubino stated Council was about to head into budget planning for 2013, and the budget was anticipated to be tight due to changes in revenue at the State level which may cause the City to have a deficit on an annual basis starting next year in the amount of \$1.5 million to \$2 million. Everyone is doing what they can to help keep the City financially strong, but he was concerned about the discussion last week regarding the classification of wages. Mrs. Carr stated the reason they made the change was because they are introducing a new position into the Electric Department. The new position is at a lower grade than the position they are trying to replace. Mr. Rubino was concerned about approving the whole list that also included many positions in the General Fund, and wondered whether the City could afford them next year. They have not had a chance to look at next year's budget. Mr. Brodzinski stated the ordinance is simply making the change for the Electric Fund. By not passing this ordinance, it will prevent Mrs. Carr from putting someone into the department. Mrs. Carr stated they can do this differently if they need to. This position has become more crucial because someone in that division is going to retire, which means she will be down two people. Mr. Janis stated as far as that one position, it can be done alone in a separate ordinance. Mr. Brodzinski pointed out that keeping everything in one ordinance also keeps things cleaner for tracking purposes. Mr. Rubino asked as Council gets into budget discussions for 2013 and finds something needs to be cut, would approval of this ordinance prevent that. Mr. Brodzinski stated it would not. Mrs. Colavecchio asked about the pay grades. Mr. Brodzinski stated the "N" stood for nonbargaining. Mrs. Carr added that the list was all nonbargaining. Mrs. Colavecchio stated that some positions have been deleted and that is because they have been vacant. Mr. Brodzinski confirmed that.

Mr. Iula moved to bring out A-95 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Walters. Motion passed (3-0).

**Temp. Res. A-103**

A resolution accepting the amounts and rates of taxation as certified by the Summit County Budget Commission, authorizing the necessary tax levies, certifying such authorization to the County Fiscal Officer, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brodzinski stated this is the standard ordinance they base certifying rates to the County. He added that the numbers on the General Fund police and fire pension is projected to be down 1.27%.

Mr. Iula moved to bring out A-103 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Walters. Motion passed (3-0).

**Temp. Ord. A-104**

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Finance to enter into a contract or contracts without competitive bidding with Wichert Insurance Services, Inc. for the professional services necessary to manage the City's risk management and insurance program and for the purchase of public entity insurance coverages, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brodzinski stated this is for the insurance the City carries, excluding health. It includes auto, law enforcement, public professional, etc. The City budgeted \$323,150 and the numbers came in at \$319,018, which is approximately 4,000 under what was budgeted. Also, this figure represents less than a 3% increase over the previous year. Mrs. Colavecchio asked if each fund will be charged its pro rata share. Mr. Brodzinski stated they would. Mrs. Colavecchio asked why this wasn't bid. Mr. Brodzinski stated the City has a good working relationship with Wichert Group. Costs have remained down and the company knows everything that goes on in the City. It also shops the different components for the City. Claims last year included some auto claims and damage due to storms. Mrs. Colavecchio asked if the claims were put into some kind of annual report. Mr. Brodzinski stated not to his knowledge. Mrs. Colavecchio asked if Wichert would be able to provide a list of all claims for the year. She would like to see something showing how many auto claims there were and what those claims yielded. Mr. Brodzinski stated they could do that. Mrs. Klinger asked if there were any changes in policy limits or deductibles. Mr. Brodzinski stated not compared to last year's contract.

Mr. Walters moved to bring out A-104 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Iula. Motion passed (3-0).

**Temp. Ord. A-105**

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract and/or contracts without competitive bidding with Karvo Paving Company for emergency pavement repairs to a portion of Graham Road, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Demasi stated that on September 17, 2012, two cast iron water mains broke. One was a 16" main built in 1959 and the other was a 6" main built in 1955. The breaks caused damage to the pavement so Graham Road was closed to traffic. Everything was back in service by September 8. Karvo Paving then made repairs which were completed on September 11. Costs totaled \$99,177.45. Mrs. Colavecchio asked if the mains were located on the north or south side of the street. Mr. Demasi stated the 16" main was on the north side and the 6" was on the south. Mr. Christopher stated that in each case, an entire stick of pipe needed to be replaced. Mrs. Pyke asked how much was left in the emergency fund as of August. Mr. Christopher stated there was \$150,000 in the budget for miscellaneous repairs. This repair was

approximately \$100,000. Mrs. Pyke asked if that took away any possibility for work to be performed at Chestnut and Olive where there were 16 breaks last winter. Mrs. Carr stated they did a cost benefit analysis but it is going to be so much money. They are taking their chances and hoping everything holds. Graham is \$2 million. They are working on other ways to get funding to do more replacements. Mrs. Pyke stated her main concern was how much was left in that fund. Mrs. Carr stated they are keeping an eye on Chestnut and are keeping their fingers crossed. Mrs. Colavecchio asked if this was the first break this year. Mr. Christopher stated it was the first of this nature.

Mr. Iula moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-105, second by Mr. Walters. Motion passed (3-0)

Other Business

Mrs. Colavecchio stated it has been awhile since they have seen a spreadsheet of legal claims and asked if Council could have another update in the next few weeks. Mr. Janis stated the draft is sitting in his inbox. He will make sure it gets out.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.