

Temp. Ord. A-100

An ordinance establishing annual appropriations of money for the current expenses, capital expenditures and other expenses of the City of Cuyahoga Falls for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015, and declaring an emergency.

The Chair recognized the Director of Information Technology, John Konich regarding the budget of the Information Services ("IS") Dept. The Chair noted that the office supplies budgets of the departments had been moved to the IS budget. The Chair asked about increases in the computer systems support budget. Mr. Konich stated there is a \$28,000 item for Community View software, which allows users to view maps. This amount will be allocated to direct charges. There is a \$13,000 for NeoNet, which is housing the City's servers until a new location is found. The Chair asked about the amount stated for repairs. Mr. Konich stated that \$2,500 was set aside last year for repairs to the City's fiber optic network caused by casualty. The City spent almost \$8,000 last year in repairs.

The Chair asked about the increase in building maintenance and repairs in the Technical Services budget. Mr. Konich stated that the City needs to replace batteries in the UPS and siren systems every four to five years. The replacement is scheduled for this year.

The Chair recognized Police Chief Jack Davis regarding the budget of the Police Dept. The Chair asked how the department plans to increase its staffing to 55 officers. Chief Davis stated that a civil service test was given in May. Four conditional offers of employment have been made. These officers are currently in the Academy. The Chair asked how many retirements are anticipated in 2015. Chief Davis stated he believes there may be two. The Chair asked if there is a higher demand for police officers. Chief Davis stated many communities are

currently hiring, and the pool of applicants is noticeably reduced.

The Chair recognized Mrs. Pyke, who asked what grants will be received by the Police Dept. Chief Davis stated the department receives a grant for a juvenile officer, school resource officer, and for training. Mrs. Pyke asked if the department has anyone assigned to apply for grants. Chief Davis stated that a grant writer is assigned as the grant comes up.

The Chair asked about why the transfer out to general fund is being reduced. Finance Director Brian Hoffman stated that the reduction is the 27th pay day.

The Chair recognized Mrs. Pyke, who asked the Chief to explain the department's \$33,000 in miscellaneous revenue. Chief Davis stated it is reimbursement for overtime from the Summit County Drug Task Force.

The Chair asked about staffing in the Communications Dept. Chief Davis stated that the staffing is anticipated at 10.

The Chair recognized the Mayor, who asked Chief Davis to give an overview of the tip line. Chief Davis stated the crimefighters' tip line has been active since July. It is marketed through Facebook and signage. The City will continue to promote it.

The Chair asked about a capital outlay of \$20,000 in the Drug Enforcement Fund. Chief Davis stated this money will be used to buy a new vehicle for the narcotics unit. "Buy" money, test kits, camera, computer maintenance and scale calibration are also taken from this fund. The Chair asked about expenditures of \$10,000 from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund. Chief Davis stated this amount is for professional services related to updating the department's rules and regulations and training on the department's rules and regulations. The Chair asked whether expenditures from this fund can properly be

made for items that appear to be administrative in nature. Mr. Hoffman stated he would need to review the rules and regulations to respond. Chief Davis stated these expenditures are permitted under that fund.

The Chair recognized Fire Chief Paul Moledor regarding the budget of the Fire Dept. The Chair asked why the number of Fire captains will be reduced from 5 to 4, while the number of firefighters will be increased from 48 to 49. Chief Moledor stated the Fire Dept. has 4 captains. Mr. Hoffman stated he would review the correctness of the staffing information provided. The Chair asked why the amount for cleaning supplies is increasing. Chief Moledor stated funds are being allocated differently by the Finance Dept. The Chair asked what is included in the increase for computer support systems. Mr. Hoffman stated the money need to pay for the Firehouse software is being moved to this account from another account.

The Chair recognized Mrs. Pyke, who asked why the Fire Dept. overtime budget is \$20,000 over estimate through September 30 of 2014 and is being increased in 2015 by \$100,000 over the 2014 budget. Chief Moledor stated this is necessary to keep the stations open with three people. Mrs. Pyke asked if the staffing provisions of the collective bargaining agreement will be looked at. Chief Moledor stated that because negotiation are ongoing, he cannot respond.

The Chair recognized Electric Superintendent Michael Dougherty regarding the budget of the Electric Dept. The Chair asked about the amounts budgeted for consulting. Mr. Dougherty stated that the regulatory requirements of NRC are changing. \$24,000 is provided for this as well as \$5,000 for a potential audit. The Chair asked about the changes to the staffing structure of the Department. Mr. Dougherty stated that the staffing is at 39 this year, but the

department has only 38. This replacement position will be not be another lineman. In 2010 the department lost a service representative position and a meter foreman position due to the AMR project. The associated duties were not reduced as expected and need to be reassigned. The department will hire an electrical engineer who can run a substation maintenance program as well as assist the Superintendent. The Chair stated one lineman position will be eliminated and replaced with an electrical engineer. The Chair asked for more information on the proposed personnel change and the cost implications, for next week's discussions on electric rates.

The Chair recognized Mr. Colavecchio, who asked why the line for operations is increasing from \$32 million to \$39 million from 2014 to 2015. Mr. Dougherty stated that this reflects the increase in the cost of power. This increase is being experienced by all other power agencies.

The Chair recognized Mr. Rubino, who asked if the amount needed for purchase power will go down in the next five years. Mr. Dougherty stated he expects the cost of power to remain at that level for the next 10 years. Further environmental regulations that force the closure of coal fired power plants could force the rates up. Retirement of debt on several projects in the mid 2020's will be the first foreseeable event that may cause the rates to go down. When that happens, power from the Bellville project will be reduced in price from mid-\$50/MWh to mid-\$20/MWh.

The Chair recognized Mrs. Pyke, who asked if the Council would receive a staffing report. Law Director Russ Balthis stated that staffing information has been provided in the budget presentation. However, it can be provided in the previous format if requested. Mrs. Pyke requested that a report be provided.

Non-Agenda Items

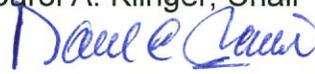
None.

Adjournment

Without objection, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:38 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Carol A. Klinger", written over a horizontal line.

Carol A. Klinger, Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Paul A. Janis", written over a horizontal line.

Paul A. Janis, Clerk of Council