

Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting
March 7, 2011

Members: Kathy Hummel, Chair
Don Walters
Carol Klinger

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

She recognized Girl Scout Troup 319 from St. Joseph Catholic School, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes from the February 22, 2011 and February 28, 2011 Finance committee meetings were approved as submitted.

Legislation Discussed:

Temp. Ord. B-22

Discussion

Temp. Ord. B-22

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Safety to enter into a contract or contracts, without competitive bidding, with Innoprise Software, Inc., for the professional services necessary to install, maintain and operate an enterprise software system, including associated software licensing, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Konich stated this will replace the current vendor, HTE. Innoprise Software was founded by the original founder of HTE. This software will help Utility Billing, Finance, Planning & Zoning, building permits and work orders, payroll and all on-line services. They negotiated an offer to replace the application at a cost savings to the City. There are three reasons why they decided to make the switch: (1) it is more user friendly; (2) it provides some technical capabilities and improvements they are excited about; and (3) it is a tremendous cost savings to the City. Over the next ten years, there will be a savings of \$349,000 in software maintenance, \$286,000 by not having to purchase new software, and \$54,000 in software license fees, for a total cost savings of \$689,000. He pointed out that these estimates are on the conservative side so there may be an even greater cost savings. It will be a full system implementation.

Mrs. Klinger asked if the systems would run parallel. Mr. Konich stated that Innoprise will maintain the current HTE system and continue to run the old applications until they are ready to convert them one at a time. The cost for the conversion and contingent costs are all included, as well as electronic document imaging and Citizen Access, which will provide citizens the ability to go on-line and contact City officials with any problems they have. The citizens can then check back for updates to see where their issue stands. The City can also track these contacts. Mrs. Klinger asked if it would be open source code. Mr. Konich stated it would not. It is Windows-based and will eliminate the AS100 entirely. It will also play nicely into virtualization, which he discussed last week. Mrs. Klinger asked about the new company. Mr. Konich stated it was founded in 2001 by the founder of HTE and has over 100 installations. They have done business mostly on the East Coast and on the West, and one of their goals was to hit Ohio, so the City is one of their first accounts in Ohio, which is why the City received such a good deal. The company also had excellent references. Both Utility Billing and Finance, two of the most crucial areas which would utilize the new software, tested it and were impressed. Mr. Konich stated it would also be integrated with the engineering system. They have not yet selected a timeframe in which to be up and running but they are thinking by the end of the year. Since the Finance Department is one of the more

crucial areas, any implementation needs to be worked in between the CAFR and budgeting. There is only a small window of opportunity there. Mrs. Klinger stated this will help what Council has been trying to achieve like displaying the budget on a screen for the audience to see.

Mrs. Colavecchio stated she liked the new website. It is much more interactive. She had a comment about the Employee Portal. Some members of Council have not yet logged onto the system. She asked Mr. Konich to give a brief description of the advantages of how it could be used. Mr. Konich stated he will forward the e-mail sent in August along with the documentation that was attached. Basically, it is a place for employees to get information, such as union contracts, events, pictures, EAP information, and HR forms. They also added W-2s and employee pay stubs. The site is www.cityofcf.com/employee. If anyone forgets their username and password, they should just click on the “forgot” link and it will walk them through the process. HR did a great job with the information posted to the site. Users can also access their e-mail through the link. Mrs. Colavecchio added that there is a cyber board for posting items for sale or tickets to events, similar to a bulletin board.

Mrs. Hummel stated that the legislation refers to the cost being paid out of Capital Projects. She asked whether this met the criteria in terms of a five-year useful life. Mr. Brodzinski indicated it did and added they plan to keep it for awhile. Mrs. Hummel asked whether the maintenance began in year six. Mr. Konich indicated it did.

Mr. Walters moved to bring out B-22 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mrs. Klinger. Motion passed (3-0).

The Committee meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.