

Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting
May 26, 2009

Members: Don Walters, Chair
Debbie Ritzinger
Carol Klinger

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

Legislation Considered

Temp. Ord. B-48

Temp. Ord. B-49

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. B-48

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between AFSCME Local 2662 and the City of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio effective from January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2011, and declaring an emergency.

Hope Jones stated that the City began earnest negotiations with this unit in February, 2009. This unit is the largest and most diverse. AFSCME Local 2662 has passed this tentative agreement. She added that Margo Tauber, AFSCME Representative and Grievance Chair was present. Ms. Jones stated that this will be a three year agreement effective January 1, 2009 and ending December 31, 2011. Merit increases are 2.5% effective January 1, 2009; 2.25% effective January 1, 2010 and 2.25% effective January 1, 2011. This unit also accepted the City's health care package, which had previously be accepted by the Electric, FOP, Dispatch and Fire unions. This unit also accepted the sick leave incentive program. Members will receive ten cent longevity increases at 5, 10, 12, 15 and 20 years of service rolled into base pay. The City also agreed to allow 56 hours per year of union training time for representatives. Currently, it is 32 hours. Ms. Jones added that there were several other issues that had nothing to do with economics but were more along the lines of language clean-up. Administration is asking for Council's approval to sign the agreement. Mr. Walters asked how many members were in the unit. Ms. Carr indicated there were 144, and added that members were currently working on terms under the expired contract.

Committee recommended bringing out Temp. Ord. B-48.

Temp. Ord. B-49

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract or contracts according to law for the sale of a 1996 International MedTec 4700 Squad in exchange for advanced driver training, and declaring an emergency.

Chief Moledor stated the City has an opportunity to give one of its old squads to Drive Team located on State Road. In exchange, the City would receive 40 training slots for fire and ambulance personnel to take advanced driver education. The Cities of Fairlawn and Parma have seen very good results from the Drive Team program. Ohio Edison also realized a 47% reduction in its accident rates. Mr. Walters stated the City gains quite a bit with this deal. He asked if Chief Moledor had an estimated value of the squad vs. the cost of the program. Chief Moledor indicated that the 40 slots are \$400 each for a total of \$16,000. He tried to sell the squad initially at \$35,000 but was unable. It has been at \$19,000 for a couple of months now. There are interested parties but they would like that price lowered even more. Drive Team has individuals at the

University of Akron who need drivers education on larger vehicles. Mr. Walters stated he looked at the brochure on line and was impressed. He felt there was an obligation when emergency vehicles travel through intersections to proceed with caution. He asked whether there would be any overtime used in order to attend the classes. Chief Moledor indicated they may have some overtime but he will be trying to stay within the budget as much as possible. They may break it into segments and do 10 now, 10 later, and progress however they can to help stay within budget. He added that it is for both fire and ambulance. Mr. Walters stated it was great to invest in our employees. You cannot put a price on safety.

Committee recommended bringing out Temp. Ord. B-49.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.