

**Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting
June 6, 2011**

Members: Kathy Hummel, Chair
Don Walters
Carol Klinger

Mrs. Hummel called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. All members were present.

The minutes from the May 16, 2011 Finance Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

Legislation Discussed:

Temp. Res. B-56

Temp. Res. B-57

Temp. Res. B-58

Temp. Ord. B-59

Temp. Ord. B-60

Discussion

Temp. Res. B-56

A resolution authorizing the Director of Public Service to apply for and accept financial assistance in the form of a grant or loan from the Ohio Public Works Commission for the State Road Widening Project (PID #81605), and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Demasi stated that this year the AMATS Policy Committee voted to allow cities to seek outside funding for projects. This legislation is for the State Road project. The current estimate is \$9 million. The City secured \$6 million in AMATS funding, which is the maximum. This legislation will allow the City to apply to the Ohio Public Works Commission for 50% of the City's share. The applications are due by noon on June 30. Mrs. Hummel confirmed that the City can apply for 50% of the \$3 million. Mr. Demasi stated it could. The requirements are based on scores. The City's preliminary score on this project is high. The project is ready to go for construction. ODOT will bid the project in October, 2012 and construction will begin in 2013. Construction will last two construction seasons in 2013 and 2014. If approved, the money would be available on July 1, 2012. Mrs. Klinger asked when this would be awarded. Mr. Demasi stated that preliminary scores would be available by October 20, 2011. Final scores would be available in late November. The City should know somewhere in the October/November timeframe if it is approved.

Mr. Walters moved to bring out B-56 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mrs. Klinger. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Res. B-57

A resolution authorizing the Director of Public Service to apply for and accept financial assistance in the form of a grant or loan from the Ohio Public Works Commission for replacement of a 16" water main in Graham Road, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Demasi stated this is also an Issue 1 OPWC application request. This project will replace 5,600 feet of 16" cast iron water line and replace it with 16" ductile iron. The line was originally built in the late 1950s or early 1960s and has had many breaks over the past years. The City began the design work over the winter months. The application is due by June 30. Mrs. Colavecchio asked whether this project takes place on the north side of Graham. Mr. Demasi stated it is predominantly on the south but there is some work to be done on the north side. The project is for the water line only. He added that Graham Circle is where Red Lobster is. Mrs. Hummel asked whether there has been any resolution on the Graham Road widening project that was discussed

earlier this year. Mr. Janis stated that since a lawsuit has been threatened, he would hesitate to discuss the matter in a public forum but offered that it could be discussed in a closed session at a later date if Council wished to do so. Mrs. Hummel assumed that the two projects would have taken place at the same time if there was a resolution. Mr. Demasi stated the City would have replaced the water line before the road was done but they plan to move forward with the water line regardless of what happens with the widening. Mrs. Hummel asked about the construction timeframe. Mr. Demasi stated they would receive the money on July 1, 2012 and would have two years to build the project. He felt they could probably bid it in July or August and start construction in the winter and finish in the summer of 2013.

Mrs. Klinger moved to bring out B-57 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Walters. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Res. B-58

A resolution authorizing the Director of Public Service to apply for and accept financial assistance in the form of a grant or loan from the Ohio Public Works Commission for replacement of an 8" water main in Front Street, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Demasi stated this was also an Issue 1 application. This project will replace 1,600 feet of 8" cast iron from Broad Blvd. to Sackett and replace it with 12" ductile iron. The original line was installed around the 1930s and has had several breaks. The City has completed the design on this and is ready to bid. The estimate is \$230,000. The replacement and upgrade of the line will help facilitate planned and future development in this corridor. Applications are due June 30.

Mr. Walters moved to bring out B-58 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mrs. Klinger. Motion passed (3-0).

Sub. Temp. Ord. B-59 (dated 6-6-11)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts without competitive bidding with Skylift, Inc. for the purchase of a track-mounted digger-derrick and aerial material handling device with trailer, and declaring an emergency.

Rod Troxell of the City's Electric Dept. stated that Duke Energy allowed the City to view a demo. They would like to replace the current machine because they can no longer get parts for it. The unit has tracks for going through gates, a 55 foot pole, and a bucket. They had a demo for which the City negotiated a purchase price of \$134,076. A new unit would cost \$158,375. The unit is budgeted for \$150,000. They had been using the demo for a month but the company sold it so they are giving the City a new unit for the same price as was negotiated on the demo. Mr. Walters asked how often the unit was used. Mr. Troxell stated with the current storm, it would have been used daily. There could be times when it would be used daily or it could go a month or two without being used. They plan to store it at the new substation. It should last a lot longer than the last one, which was stored outside. Mrs. Hummel stated if the City can get anywhere near the longevity with this new unit that it did out of the old unit, it will be money well spent.

Mrs. Klinger moved to bring out Sub. B-59 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Walters. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Ord. B-60

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for city-wide tree removal, trimming, and stump grinding, and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Carr stated this is a non-utility tree contract and is for all trees on the devil strips. They want to enter into a new contract after going out to bid. Jeff Amburn stated the City receives approximately 400 calls a year concerning trees to either take them down or trim them. This vendor is someone the City is currently using but is a different company than the one used for utility work. Mrs. Carr added that this has just recently been rebid.

Mr. Amburn added that there were four responses. This vendor is local and has been in business since 1978. Their bid was within the three percent variance. Mrs. Hummel asked how the pricing compared to what the City is paying now. Mr. Amburn stated the new contract was a decrease of \$5,000. The contract was bid in groups by tree diameter. It is for two years with up to three one-year extensions. Mrs. Hummel asked if the price would hold for those three years. Mr. Amburn stated it would. The company is called Pro Tree. Mrs. Pyke asked whose responsibility it was for trees that had been on the devil strip that fell and damaged property. Mr. Janis indicated that trees on a devil strip are considered to be objects of nature and, therefore, the City is not responsible unless the tree becomes a nuisance or hazard and the City, after being notified, does not remedy the situation. Mrs. Pyke asked if someone calls about a potentially hazardous tree and it falls before the City can do something, would it still be the property owners responsibility. Mr. Janis stated it still falls under nuisance. The City has to be notified of a hazard and would have to act unreasonably after being notified.

Mr. Walters moved to bring out B-60 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mrs. Klinger. Motion passed (3-0).

The Committee meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.