

Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Finance Committee Meeting
September 15, 2003

Members: Mr. Gorbach, Chair
Mr. Schmidt
Mr. Barnhart

Mr. Gorbach called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. All members of Committee were present.

LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

Temp. Ord. No. B-124
Temp. Ord. No. B-125
Temp. Ord. No. B-126
Temp. Ord. No. B-127

DISCUSSION

Temp. Ord. No. B-124

Mr. Gorbach read B-124 (second reading). Mrs. Carr stated this legislation would allow them to enter in a contract. They have been interviewing firms for a couple of weeks and are down to two. They expect to make a final selection this week. Either company will meet the City's entire needs. She does not think it is unrealistic to begin by October 1. Mr. Gorbach stated he appreciated the speed with which Administration has worked towards resolving this problem. He asked if any of the firms contributed additional suggestions during the interview process. Mrs. Carr indicated they have and added that the firms have far exceeded the map developed by Administration. They have also suggested smoke testing and dye testing as well. She wanted to emphasize this will not be done within a month and agrees it is important to keep the residents informed as to what the City is doing. Mayor Robart wanted to emphasize that they are not looking for a quick fix but rather a thorough fix. Other cities are calling the storms an act of God and that is that. His administration will have personal contact with everyone who had a flooded basement. There will be cases where the City has responsibility and cases where the home owner has responsibility. The City may be able to provide some funding opportunities for those home owners to fix their problem. He believes it is quite possible to have something finalized by spring, if not earlier. He wants to move forward and fix these once and for all. Mr. Gorbach stated that no city can build infrastructure to handle the amount of rain that fell. He agrees that some things should be handled on the City's tab. Mr. Walters stated the legislation indicates storm water and wondered if there will be sanitary as well. Mrs. Carr stated there would since the two overlap. The reason it states storm is because that is the catalyst of most of the issues. Mr. Bell added they will look at both systems depending on what the home owner perceived their flooding problem was. Mr.

Walters asked if the work would be done in-house. Mrs. Carr stated they are still working on that. Mr. Walters asked if the City was ever smoke tested. Mr. Bell stated they did some but it was not extensive. Mrs. Hummel asked if the study is preliminarily geared to the areas of the flooding or is it looking at anything beyond that. Mrs. Carr stated it is basically the areas that were flooded, however, they have talked about developing an overall plan to evaluate other areas as they come up. Mrs. Hummel asked if this amount of money meets the needs of all the flooded areas. Mrs. Carr stated they must first pick the firm and then negotiate the fees. This amount is what they have available in storm water. Mrs. Hummel asked if it was Administration's commitment to investigate wherever there was flooding. Mrs. Carr stated absolutely. Mr. Potts asked if the firm will give us corrective action and a cost associated with it. Mrs. Carr stated they will. She added that the initial report should be completed some time in the spring. It will take some time to investigate. Mr. Potts asked if the corrective action will be included in the \$120,000. Mrs. Carr acknowledged they are being vague with the dollar amount but it is difficult to determine an exact figure until they begin to negotiate. Mayor Robart added that this will not hold up the moral claims process and that Mr. Arrington will move forward with the committees. One does not impact the other. Mr. Potts asked if the resident has received FEMA, is he considered by moral claims for the difference. Mr. Arrington stated he would be and added that the May 15 and July 21 storms are being done in order. They have 35 claims filed for the May 15 storm with 30 having been resolved. There are hundreds of claims for July 21. They have told everyone to apply with FEMA first. Two-thirds of those have received a response. He stated they are gathering all the claims data and added it will still be another month or two before there is a serious dent made in resolving the claims. He stated the public has been very patient. Mrs. Carr stated that FEMA is still in town and they will be meeting with them to get a better understanding of the individual assistance. There is an appeal process that she wants to learn more about.

Committee recommended bringing out B-124.

Temp. Ord. No. B-125

Mr. Gorbach read B-125 (second reading). Mrs. Truby stated this project did not have a contingency. The legislation is for typical change orders. In her last report to Council two of the amounts were estimated and are now finalized. One is a dollar difference and the other is ongoing. She confirmed with the contract that it will not exceed the amount listed. The change orders equal four percent of Council's original cap. She feels this is a good number on change orders. Completion of the project will be in mid October at which time she will come back with one final recap. Mr. Gorbach asked how the last two festivals went. Mrs. Truby stated they were very successful and even the weather cooperated. Mr. Gorbach stated that the July 31 report indicated the pavilion was 58% done and asked how much is left. Mr. Winkler, of GGC, stated that 30% to 35% is left. They are working on the lower level. Mr. Schmidt stated that when people are standing on the mall level, they cannot see the stage. He wondered if the stage should have been higher. Mrs. Truby stated the stage was constructed exactly as planned. Input was sought from architects, engineers, sound designers and residents. If the stage was raised, the

tunnel would be lowered which would have increased the cost. There was also the noise issue which would be greater if the stage were higher. She pointed out that since the stage has been in use, there have been no noise complaints.

Mr. Eilert Ofstead, 610 Brookpark Drive asked if the City ever considered installing a jumbotron. Mr. Gorbach wondered how the weather would affect it. Mayor Robart stated he would like to see the addition of jumbotrons and added one could even be placed in the pavilion for people to watch from there. He stated it may be included in next year's budget.

Ed Davidian, 77 Meadow Lane, stated this site is one of the finest additions to the City. He appreciates Administration and Council for all they did to make it happen. It is attracting people from other communities.

Mrs. Hummel stated there was an article in the paper about some vandalism and wondered about the status of a security camera. Mrs. Truby stated they are getting firm names and are also talking to Dick Pierson. Once they decide, they will come back to Council if it exceeds the Board of Control limit.

Committee recommended bringing out B-125.

Temp. Ord. No. B-126

Mr. Gorbach read B-126 (second reading). Mrs. Truby stated this was not part of the original project. The total revenue was \$99,150 and expenses were \$17,188.15 to Tucker Supply, who supplied the bricks and engraving. The City netted \$81,962 on the project. Mr. Gorbach asked if this will complete everything with the brick wall with this payment. Mrs. Truby stated it would. Mr. Flinn asked where the \$81,962 will go. Mrs. Truby stated it would go back into the project and could help offset change orders. Mrs. Klinger wanted to acknowledge the work that Mrs. Truby put into this project. She did a good job getting the idea out to the public.

Committee recommended bringing out B-126.

Temp. Ord. No. B-127

Mr. Gorbach read B-127 (second reading). Mr. Brodzinski stated this is the standard ordinance that basically gives permission for the City to invest its funds in various banks. This will allow the City to come back to Council every five years, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code. Mrs. Hummel asked if the two banks in town were interested. Mr. Brodzinski stated they went through the program with them but they did not return any paperwork. He indicated the reason was because of the pledged collateral.

Committee recommended bringing out B-127.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.