

Cuyahoga Falls City Council

Minutes of the Finance and Appropriations Committee Meeting

March 14, 2005

Members: Mr. Flinn, Chairman; Mr. Barnhart, Vice Chair; Mr. Gorbach, Member.

Mr. Flinn called the Finance Committee to order at 6:40 p.m.

Pieces of Legislation this evening (second readings):

B-40	An Ordinance authorizing the Director of Finance to enter into a contract and/or contracts, according to law for professional services to provide a feasibility study for a citywide wireless network, and declaring an emergency.
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Mr. Konich indicates there has been a team established to review and assess the viability of a Citywide Wireless Network. The team consisted of various members from Information Services and other city employees. The team interviewed 9 consultants and narrowed the search to five, which resulted in the decision to use Uptown Services from Boulder, CO. Mr. Konich is requesting that Uptown Services review and outline objectives for our city based on the following criteria from the team:

- Review technology and available vendors
- Research future enhancement capabilities. For example, we don't want something that will be outdated in a few years with the rate of change in the technology world.
- Research with our residents. Is this something they want?
- Approach the project. Look at our infrastructure and see if we want to own this?
- Develop, maintain it, look at investment costs, and maintenance costs
- Grant Money. Check availability for the city to get funding assistance
- RFP. Develop the criteria for potential implementers of the project

Mr. Konich hopes to have a mid-summer presentation on Uptowns findings.

Mr. Flinn asks about the variety of options. Mr. Konich indicates there are several including WiFi, which are popular but only cover short distances. WiMax covers miles, is relatively new and then there is Broadband which works with our power lines. Mr. Konich indicates there will be some travel costs, which will not exceed 15% and feels comfortable capping the Ordinance to not exceed \$35,000.00. Mr. Gorbach likes the variety of options and is encouraged that Uptown will be addressing the implementation of private/semi-private ownership. Mr. Walters questions other projects that Uptown has completed. Mr. Konich indicates Sallisaw, OK; Valdosta, GA and Provo City, UT, are a couple of projects they completed which included fiber and WiFi combinations.

Don Nelsch, North Haven Blvd., asks if there will be any Public Meetings? Mr. Konich indicates once Uptown completes their findings, a report will be made to the Administration and Council. Mr. Konich is hoping for 2-3 various options for the city to go forward.

The committee recommended bringing out Temp. Ord. B-40

Held Legislation:

B-39	An Ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts for replacement of Substation #2 and to build new Substation #13 on Bailey Road, and declaring an emergency.
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Miscellaneous Business:

Finance and Appropriations Committee Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.