

Cuyahoga Falls City Council

Minutes of the Finance and Appropriations Committee Meeting

March 28, 2005

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

Mr. Flinn called the Finance Committee to order at 6:45 p.m.

Pieces of Legislation this evening (second readings):

B-50	A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to file an application and enter into an agreement with the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, for the purpose of acquiring funds for the purchase of fifteen tasers and related equipment, and declaring an emergency.
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Captain Tom Pozza indicates this is for the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG) that will provide the CFPD with 15 M26 Taser units. In 2003, the CFPD purchased 4 M26 Taser units and since obtaining these defensive tools, they have been used four times without sustaining injuries to either the involved officers or the subject. This grant will be utilized to equip our officers with the latest in subject control technology by purchasing 15 of the taser devices, cartridges, holsters and training (37 cartridges/100 holsters). There is four hours of training per year for our officers on a yearly basis. This is included with the non-lethal weapons training. The taser has a range of 21 ft. The officer will be able to take a shot within this 21 ft. Sergeant Gary Blevins provides a comprehensive display of the functions of the taser unit.

The committee recommended bringing out Temp. Ord. B-50

B-51	A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the State of Ohio, Department of Public Safety, Ohio Emergency Management Agency, for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, and declaring an emergency.
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Paul Moledor, Assistant Fire Chief, indicates this grant is for an outdoor warning system. The system will consist of 7 sirens strategically placed throughout our city. Once triggered, residents will tune into an AM Station (which the city will own) for safety directions and information on the emergency. It can be used for Amber alerts, tornado warnings, chemical spills, and much more. Because of the recent flooding in our City, the State of Ohio has provided this 50/50 grant in the amount of \$241,000. The city's portion is \$120,500. The bid process for the system will begin as soon as Council passes the resolution and Paul is hopeful to have most of the infrastructure up by the end of the year. The AM Station portion will probably be next year. The unit is tested silently, once a month. Locations for the sirens have not been chosen, but will be placed by the company who receives the bid. The sirens are placed on a telephone pole-like stand and will be located on city property. The sirens run on a special type of battery and are not dependent on electricity. Mr. Moledor indicates that Ward 8 will be covered and that Akron is not pursuing any form of warning system for their residents. Mr. Moledor indicates there will be an educational promotion to the residents and the siren will have a very distinct and different sound than the current emergency vehicles.

The committee recommended bringing out Temp. Ord. B-51

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 7:17 p.m.