

Cuyahoga Falls City Council

Minutes of the Finance and Appropriations Committee Meeting

May 3, 2004

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

Mr. Flinn called the Finance Committee to order at 6:28 p.m. All members of Committee were present. The minutes from April 19, 2004 and April 26, 2004 Finance and Appropriations Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

Legislation this evening (second readings):

A-74	An Ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Safety to enter into a contract or contracts according to law for purchase of a vehicle for the Police Department, and declaring an emergency.
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Chief Conley indicates the department is interested in purchasing a vehicle for the special response team and the special equipment that the team needs. We looked at a vehicle that has storage and the front has a work area. It is an area that correlates the necessary needs for the team. After purchase of the vehicle, we will add additional storage bins for weapons, etc. This ordinance will give us a basic vehicle with onboard generator. We currently have a 1995 Van that we use. It is stacked with equipment and we must separate the equipment prior to utilizing the van. We have not had a special response team need since the Klein's Pharmacy incident. The vehicle is stored in our parking lot and will be equipped with an alarm. Captain Rivers indicates that since 1989 we have a mutual agreement with Barberton for response to special types of situations. We are currently putting together a tactical agreement with all communities. Should anything happen, we need comprehensive deployment throughout the county. Mary Ellen questions if a trailer could be used. The trailer is for a long-term site. This new vehicle will transport equipment and be more efficient in emergency times. The Community Policing Van has been out since January that it is driven 4-5 days per week on two shifts. This new vehicle could replace one of the purposes of the trailer. During a local incident, the police can use a local restaurant or facility vs. the trailer. Mr. Mader acknowledges this new van will be organized and built for the team's needs. When time is of the essence, this will be effective. We move 21 people during a special response team. Mrs. Hummel questions whether any other city has a vehicle like what is being requested. Chief Conley acknowledges there are other communities using modified/converted ambulances. Homeland security is not providing funds only mandates. The County has a large special task force and uses a converted ambulance. There is common mutual aid for law enforcement but there isn't a written agreement. Right now we would use Barberton first, Akron second, and Summit County Sheriff's third. Barberton has a converted van for their special response team. The new vehicle will contain Interior lights, built in generator, air conditioning and external outlets. We need shelving for weapons, chair, cabinets and exterior lighting. There will not be a light bar. The law enforcement trust fund will hopefully furnish the interior. Standardized storage in an emergency situation is imperative. This vehicle will not increase the time to an incident but provide secure environment for the equipment. Currently, 40% of our equipment is in the basement right now that adds time to our response of loading it into the van.

The committee recommends bringing out Temp. Ord. A-74

A-75	An Ordinance authorizing the Parks and Recreation Board to enter into a contract or contracts for the lease/purchase of fitness equipment for the Natatorium Recreation and Wellness Center, and declaring an emergency.
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Dick Pierson indicates we will lease the equipment through the RFP process. This has been done and we would like to change equipment out during the term of the lease. One company will do the strength equipment and another will do the cardio equipment. We have the option to buy the equipment at the end

of the lease. There will be equipment not accepted in trade and will be included in the auction of equipment in June. Mr. Gorbach thanks Mr. Pierson for accomplishing the parking lot in the time noted.

The committee recommends bringing out Temp. Ord. A-75

A-76	An Ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for installation of sanitary sewer in Munroe Falls Avenue from Portage Trail to Bailey Road in the City of Cuyahoga Falls, and declaring an emergency.
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Peter Bell indicates that this sewer is in bad shape. It is cracked and leaks like a sieve. We would like to fix this while we are accomplishing the area. Joe Brodzinski indicates there will be a substitute to fund this project. Doug indicates this project won't start until July. Mary Ellen questions the water lines and sewer lines. The video indicates that some lines are in decent shape, but there may be some water lines that need addressed. The street will be asphalt. Jerry James indicates that he is pleased to see the improvements.

Don Nelsch, North Haven Blvd., has a concern about the businesses and the access to them. He also wonders if the street will be widened. During the sewer work, Mr. Bell indicates there will be access. The street will not be widened, but will remain the same size.

The committee recommends bringing out Temp. Ord. A-76

Finance and Appropriations Committee Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.