

Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Finance and Appropriations Committee Meeting

September 17, 2018

Members: Tim Gorbach, Chair
Jerry James
Mary Ellen Pyke

Mr. Gorbach called the meeting to order at 7:51 p.m. All members were present.

Legislation Discussed

Temp. Ord. A-71

Temp. Ord. A-72

Temp. Ord. A-73

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. A-71

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.

Mr. Anthony Zumbo, City Engineer, stated that this contract was bid. This ordinance is essentially to remove trees. It was budgeted out of the General Fund, the SCMR Fund and the Capital Projects Fund. It's going to be used by several departments. The Building and Grounds Department handles the bulk of this, and they're doing it for the Street Department. The Parks and Recreation also uses it and so does Community Development. There is a slight increase in this budget, because they have been experiencing slightly more tree removals lately, probably directly related to the trees that we were removed being ash trees and emerald ash borer.

Mr. Gorbach stated that in looking at the estimated cost versus last year's cost, it is a 21-percent increase but, again, that is a budget number. In the bids, everything is dialed down insofar as pricing, so the City controls what the companies take down. They don't get a blank check to make their own decisions. The City has certainly removed a lot of trees. It's been well documented in the area on Front Street. The Emerald Ash Borer is not going away. Mrs. Pyke thanked Mr. Zumbo for removing those trees along Front Street. There was another tree that was marked today. She asked if the City is continually watching those trees. Mr. Zumbo stated that he is unaware of the tree that was marked today. He is sure that the City is targeting that area, since there are some trees that are going to need to be removed there. Mrs. Pyke stated that it looks like trees have shifted with the rains. She asked if the City had anyone look at that hill for maybe soil and water. Mr. Tony Demasi, City Engineer, stated that he has looked at that in the past. It's shallow rock. The rock is exposed, and so there is very little topsoil. Mrs. Pyke asked if the City owns all the way up to where the High Level Bridge is. Mr. Demasi stated that that is all City property. Mrs. Pyke asked who received the contract on Temporary Ordinance A-71. Mr. Zumbo stated that it is ProTree.

Finance and Appropriations Committee
September 19, 2018- Page 2

Mrs. Pyke moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-71 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. James. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Ord. A-72

An ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of Notes in the maximum principal amount of \$1,800,000, in anticipation of the issuance of Bonds, for the purpose of paying the costs of constructing waterlines in Graham Road, together with all appurtenances thereto, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Hoffman stated that the notes in the description are for construction of water lines on Graham Road. There were several different projects in the past. The City rolled these notes over for a couple of years with the anticipation of providing a rate study for water and sewer projects within the city. That rate study is going on now. As discussed at budget time last year, the plan was to roll these notes in the amount of \$1.8 million this year and then look at the Capital Improvement Plan as they move into the rate study project. These are just for one year. It is anticipated these will have a yield of about 2 percent, which is about the market rate today. Mr. Gorbach asked if the \$1.8 million was the same amount that was discussed in the budget last year for this year. Mr. Hoffman stated that it is the same amount.

Mr. James moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-72 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mrs. Pyke. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Ord. A-73

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for the demolition and removal of demolition debris from dangerous buildings located at 2463 12th Street and certifying the cost thereof to the County Fiscal Officer for collection in the manner provided by law, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Demasi stated that this ordinance permits the City to demolish the house and garage at 2463 12th Street. Unfortunately, there was a house fire at this location on March 13th, 2018. The Housing Division has been working with owner's son to make the repairs. The owner is in a nursing home. The owner's son doesn't have power of attorney, and there was no insurance on the property, so not much progress occurred. They went back and visited in April and May, and there was no progress. On May 22nd, the Housing Division asked Summit County to condemn the property. They did so on July 3rd. The City has waited the allotted time and didn't get a response from the owner, so estimates were received for the demolition. The estimate, including the asbestos survey, is \$8,800. If they find asbestos, it will a little more or maybe much more than that.

Mr. Gorbach asked if the building official that is listed in the ordinance is a Summit County official. Mr. Demasi stated that was correct. Mr. Gorbach stated that the condemnation order from the County states that the fire damage is so severe that the structural integrity of the building is beyond repair and there is danger to anyone entering into the property, so it seems, regardless

Finance and Appropriations Committee
September 19, 2018- Page 3

of the power of attorney issue and/or insurance, that Summit County feels that it couldn't be repaired in a manner that would be safe to occupy again. Mr. Demasi stated that the way he read that was the way to repair it would be to demolish it and rebuild a new house.

Mrs. Pyke moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-73 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. James. Motion passed (3-0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.