

**Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Public Affairs Committee**

October 4, 2021

Members: Russ Balthis, Chair
Rachel Loza
Jeff Iula

Mr. Balthis called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. All members were present.

The minutes of the September 20, 2021, Public Affairs Committee were approved as written.

Legislation Discussed:

Temp. Ord. B-82

Temp. Ord. B-83

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. B-82

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor, as Director of Safety, to sell to Source Products, Inc., certain used Fire Department equipment, and declaring an emergency.

Assistant Fire Chief Jack Breese presented Temporary Ordinance B-82 to Council. Source Products, Inc. is interested in purchasing used equipment that is no longer needed for use by the Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department. The Mayor, as Director of Safety, will be authorized to sell obsolete Fire Department equipment for the exchange of a \$3,000.00 account credit to Source Products, Inc., to be used towards the purchase of medical supplies or medical equipment, by the Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department described as follows:

- (1) 2010 Stryker Power Pro Stretcher Model # 6085
- (2) 2012 Stryker Power Pro Stretcher Model # 6085
- (3) 2013 Stryker Power Pro Stretcher Model # 6085

Mr. Balthis asked if the remaining cots are compatible with the new lift system. Assistant Chief Breese answered that they do.

Ms. Loza moved to bring out Temp. Ord. B-82 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Iula. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Ord. B-83

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Finance to enter into a contract or contracts, without competitive bidding, with Wichert Insurance Services, Inc. for the professional services necessary to manage the City's risk management and insurance program and for the purchase of public entity insurance coverages, and declaring an emergency.

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Mr. Bryan Hoffman, Finance Director, presented Temporary Ordinance B-83 to Council. The Director of Finance will be authorized to enter into a contract or contracts, without competitive bidding, with Wichert Insurance Services, Inc., for the professional services necessary to manage the City's risk management and insurance program, including purchase of comprehensive public entity insurance coverages, for a period of one year. The Director of Finance will be authorized and directed to make payment for same from funds properly appropriated to the various departments of the City for these purposes, according to an apportionment of costs as between the departments.

Mr. Hoffman stated that the City has used Wichert Insurance for as long as anyone can remember in the city, and they do an impressive job of marketing the City's insurance program to different carriers as well as helping to manage claims. The City's Law Department tends to save the City a lot of money because they do defend the City and prosecute claims in house. They have done well for the City of Cuyahoga Falls in the past and they hope to continue that program. The City's insurance program this year is similar to the past programs. There has been a slight increase in cost this year of approximately \$50,000. One of the largest factors in the increase is the property valuations. The City has added some buildings to its inventory, including the State of the Art training facility for the Police Department. The other main factor the boiler insurance has been moving to Travelers Insurance. They have electric diesel generators that help save money on capacity charges, so Travelers Insurance is providing a greater level of insurance for the City at a reduced deductible.

Mr. Balthis stated that it is important to remember that the Wichert Insurance Company is competitively bid in all of its different insurance policies. The Law Director, Ms. Janet Ciotola, monitors these expenditures closely.

Mr. Iula moved to bring out Temp. Ord. B-83 with a favorable recommendation, second by Ms. Loza. Motion passed (3-0).

The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.