

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

June 21, 2021

Members: Tim Gorbach, Chair
Mary Nichols-Rhodes
Jeff Iula

Mr. Gorbach called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. All members were present.

The minutes of the June 7, 2021, Finance Committee meeting were approved as written.

Legislation Discussed

Temp. Ord. B-42

Temp. Ord. B-43

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. B-42

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract with Thompson Electric, Inc. for the purchase and installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Second Street and Northland Avenue, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. John Konich, Director of IT Services, presented Temporary Ordinance B-42 to Council. The Director of Public Service will be authorized to enter into a contract with Thompson Electric Inc., for the purchase and installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Second Street and Northland Avenue. The Director of Finance will be authorized and directed to make payment for same from the Capital Projects Fund, line item Capital Outlay.

Mr. Konich stated that this ordinance is to increase the appropriation for this project. It originally came in at approximately \$43,000, and was supposed to be a temporary solution to get the light up and running quickly. They determined that it was more effective to do it all in one shot rather than do a temporary solution now and then a permanent solution later. The increase took the cost to \$52,000 which is over \$50,000. That cost covers underground mooring for the wiring, the pedestrian lights and the traffic lights.

Ms. Nichols-Rhodes moved to bring out Temp. Ord. B-42 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Iula. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Ord. B-43

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, without competitive bidding, with Go Sustainable Energy, LLC for the review of proposals to construct solar panels on municipal buildings, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Anthony Zumbo, Service Director, presented Temporary Ordinance B-43 to Council. Go Sustainable Energy, LLC has provided the City with professional services related to energy

efficient projects. The City is investigating the possibility of putting solar panels on its facilities and purchasing the generated power. Go Sustainable Energy, LLC helped the City issue a Solar Request for Proposals (RFP) on solar panels that would be engineered, constructed, operated, maintained, and possibly decommissioned by a solar vendor. Go Sustainable Energy, LLC will continue to act as a consultant for the Solar RFP through the rest of the process, including the evaluation of the proposals. Although no specific expenditure for Go Sustainable Energy's professional services has individually exceeded the competitive bidding cost threshold to date, collectively these expenditures will soon exceed the competitive bidding amount of \$50,000. The Director of Public Service will be authorized to enter into a contract or contracts, without competitive bidding, with Go Sustainable Energy, LLC for professional services related to energy efficient projects in a total amount not to exceed \$75,000 for the 2021 fiscal year. The Director of Finance will be authorized and directed to make payment for same from the Electric Fund, line item Other Operations.

Ms. Nichols-Rhodes stated that she is thrilled that the City is forward-thinking in looking to obtain more sustainable energy. Once they figure it all out, there might be some upgrading that may need to be done with electric. It is a good idea not to go too big, too fast and a step in a right direction.

Mr. Gorbach stated that a few members of Council had an opportunity to sit in a meeting regarding potential solar projects. The City is currently at a little more than 24 percent renewable power. It is good for the citizens to know that they are looking at energy sources for renewable power. There is a small amount of wind power and more hydro power, and now the City will be getting some solar. He is excited to move towards green energy.

Mr. Iula moved to bring out Temp. Ord. B-43 with a favorable recommendation, second by Ms. Nichols-Rhodes. Motion passed (3-0).

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.