

**Finance Committee Meeting  
October 30, 2012**

The **Finance Committee** met October 30, 2012, at 12:00 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room. Present were Chairperson Mark Ahner and Committee Members Jerry Partridge and Roxanna Brush. Committee Member Bill Melnik was absent. Also present were Councilperson Sue Galbraith, Mayor Chris Grenz, Fire Chief Dale Berg, City Planner Dianna Broadie, Treasurer John Moorehead, Human Resource/Payroll Officer Billie Burkhalter and Recorder City Clerk Becky Stanton.

**Request by Barrie Matthews to Purchase City Property:**

Chairperson Ahner explained Mr. Barrie Matthews has offered to purchase the lot adjacent to the Big Sky Smile Center. The description is West 35 feet of Lot 1, Legion Addition No. 2. City Planner Broadie did advertise the property for bids in the Miles City Star and received one bid from Mr. Matthews. He is offering to purchase it for \$5,000 plus closing costs. Chairperson Ahner said that it has no functional use and that Mr. Matthews has maintained the lot throughout the past years.

Attorney Dan Rice, who is representing Mr. Matthews, stated that they had the title company do a preliminary title search and did not find any express easements. Mr. Matthews would agree to grant an express easement for the roadway.

*\*\* Chairperson Ahner moved to recommend that the Council approve the offer to purchase the above property by BAM, LLC., a Montana limited liability company, of which Barrie and Anna Matthews are members. The purchaser would pay closing costs and title insurance, would reserve the existing roadway and any utility rights-of-way to the City, subject to review by City Attorney Huss. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Brush, and motion carried unanimously, 3-0.*

**Review of Resolution No. 3558 – An agreement with the Department of Environmental Quality for the City to review certain Water, Wastewater and Storm Water Systems in Subdivisions.**

Mayor Grenz stated that this agreement was initiated because of City Sanitarian Mike Rinaldi's qualifications. Mr. Rinaldi has met the Reviewer Qualifications as set out in ARM 17.36.116, which is explained under Section 5 of the agreement.

Chairperson Ahner explained that he had a concern under Section 6 of the Agreement, "Consideration/Payment", which was whether the fees will cover Mr. Rinaldi's cost to the City. City Planner Broadie has sent a question to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) about this. The fees are sent to DEQ and then they will

send the money to the City on a quarterly basis.

Chairperson Ahner brought attention to Section 10, "Required Insurance", and noted that a certificate of insurance is required. It was determined that the City Attorney will review this item.

\* \* *Chairperson Brush moved to recommend that the Council approve the Resolution, contingent upon City Attorney Huss' review. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Partridge; the motion carried unanimously, 3-0.*

### **Review of Resolution No. 3559 – Authorizing an Ambulance Billing Services Agreement between Miles City and Solestone Reimbursement Services**

Fire Chief Berg noted that City Attorney Huss has reviewed the contract and approved it. Chairperson Ahner noted that Solestone would invoice the City for 7% of the total net monthly collections. He asked if the original contract had 8%. Fire Chief Berg explained that the original contract was for two years and then he found out that the City could only do a contract for one year. Solestone agreed to do the first six months at 7% and then increase it to 8% the next twelve months, with a cap on the 8%. He suggested the City review the contract at the end of the first six months and determine if it is working for the City as planned. If it is, then the City can negotiate the 8%.

Councilperson Galbraith said under Section 13, "Remedies", that the only remedy for lack of performance is to terminate the contract. She felt that the City should have some remedy for the money lost due to lack of performance. Fire Chief Berg would note that with City Attorney Huss.

Chairperson Ahner brought up a comment from the City's auditors, Olness and Associates, which was that the Fire Department had to stay on top of this in order to maximize revenues. Fire Chief Berg noted that he is in the process of developing procedures and policies to do that.

City Clerk Stanton said she had a concern with the contract on Section 1j, "Description of Services". When Fire Chief Berg, Ambulance Billing Clerk Watts and she had visited on the phone with Solestone, they had agreed that the monthly financial reports would be provided to the City by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month instead of the 15<sup>th</sup>. Fire Chief Berg agreed that Solestone had approved that. He will let the City Attorney know this.

\* \* *Chairperson Ahner moved to recommend that the City Council approve the Resolution with one correction, which would be under Section 1j, to read 10 days instead of 15 days. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Brush; the motion carried unanimously, 3-0.*

**Request by City Treasurer for Miles City to provide health insurance for the Treasurer's position**

City Treasurer Moorehead stated that he is asking for the same health insurance coverage that the Mayor has received, and he asked for the Council as a whole to vote on this matter. They are both elected officials and he feels they should be treated the same as far as benefits.

There was extensive discussion.

*\*\* Chairperson Partridge moved to recommend that the Council approve the City paying for health insurance for the City Treasurer's position. The motion was not seconded, so the motion died.*

After more discussion, City Treasurer Moorehead requested the issue be brought before the City Council. He asked Mayor Grenz if he would allow the City Council as a whole to review this request. Mayor Grenz said he would be happy to put it on the next Council agenda.

**Request of Citizens**

There being no further business, Committee Member Brush moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Committee Member Partridge. The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
Chairperson Mark Ahner

  
City Clerk Becky Stanton