

Finance Committee Meeting October 1, 2014

The **Finance Committee** met Wednesday, October 1, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room. Present were Chairperson Sue Galbraith and Committee Members Sheena Martin and Dwayne Andrews. Committee Member John Hollowell was absent.

Also present were Councilperson Roxanna Brush, Firefighter Sarah Young, Utility Billing Clerk Patti Bishop, Swimming Pool Manager Tonya Chapweske, Public Works Director Allen Kelm, Public Utility Director Scott Gray, Grant Writer/Planner in Training Dawn Colton, Interim Fire Chief/Battalion Chief Cameron Duffin, and Recorder/City Clerk Lorrie Pearce. Mayor C.A. Grenz arrived later.

Request of Citizens

None

Approval of requesting bids on front end loader

* * *Committee Member Andrews moved to approve the letting of bid on a front end loader. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Martin. After a brief discussion the motion passed unanimously 3-0.*

Review bids on sweeper for Parks Department

Director Gray explained that the Park is in need of a new sweeper. One of the sweepers breaks down all the time, and the other sweeper is 15 years old. He said the Park has used sweepers from SmithCo before, and is not impressed by them. He recommended purchasing the Weidenmann Sweeper at a price of \$29,975 because it is PTO driven and you can haul more grass because it mulches and packs more material in the bag. Director Gray added that the purchase of the sweeper was in the budget for an amount of \$30,000.

* * *Committee Member Andrews moved to recommend to Council the approval to purchase the Weidenmann Sweeper for \$29,975. The motion was seconded by Chairperson Galbraith and passed unanimously 3-0.*

Review DOWL-HKM Contract for Water/Sewer Capacity Study

Director Kelm explained that the water/sewer study will be paid by three sources. \$50,000 will be paid by an EDA grant, \$35,000 will be paid by City money or in kind match, and \$15,000 will be paid by funds collected from Custer County. He added that the \$100,000 study will investigate the capacity of water and sewer in the areas where there is a lot of developing going on. The study will also tell the City if the transmission

line can get the water to and from these areas, and if not, what the City needs to do to complete the service. The cost for the study is in the budget.

- * * *Committee Member Andrews moved to recommend to Council approval of DOWL-HKM contract for Water/Sewer Capacity Study. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Martin and passed unanimously 3-0.*

Review Resolution No. 3748: A Resolution Approving A Consulting Agreement Between the City of Miles City and Land Solutions, LLC, A Montana Limited Liability Company, for Land Planning Services

- * * *Committee Member Andrews moved to recommend to Council approval of Resolution No. 3748. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Martin. After a brief discuss the motion passed unanimously 3-0.*

Review Ordinance No. 1277: An Ordinance Amending Ordinances 1073 And 1262 And Revising "Administration Rules Of The City of Miles City Water And Sewer Services, Accounts, Delinquencies And Termination"

Utility Clerk Bishop explained the changes:

- Added the notices and letters to the policy
- Not sending tenants copies of the last bill, will be sent to the Landlord
- Delinquent meaning was clarified
- Clarified payment types on contract
- Added the ACH payment

- * * *Committee Member Andrews moved to recommend to Council approval of Ordinance No. 1277 and to include the new ACH payment form in the packet. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Martin and passed unanimously 3-0.*

Review increase of wages for part paid firefighters

Interim Fire Chief/Battalion Chief Cameron Duffin explained that the department is rewriting the job descriptions for part paid firefighters. The change will utilize them in major incidents, and would be using 57% of that line item. He said the cost for the part time firefighters is already in the budget for fire and ambulance. He thought that the .10 they receive when confirmed is not enough to keep them.

Councilperson Brush asked if the part paid firefighter is a union position. Fire Chief/Battalion Chief Duffin answered no, and that's why the wages have been stagnant for so long.

Chairperson Galbraith asked how many part time firefighters the City has. Fire Chief/Battalion Chief Duffin said approximately 10. Chairperson Galbraith asked what the turnover was, and Fire Chief/Battalion Chief Duffin said that it varies. He said one

part time firefighter has been working for the City 17 years, and the City just hired a new one recently.

Councilperson Andrews said that he hated the timing, and thought the change should be completed and approved at budget time.

* * *Committee Member Martin moved to recommend to Council approval of the increase in wages for part paid firefighters. The motion was seconded by Chairperson Galbraith and passed with a vote of 2-1. Committee Member Andrews voted no.*

Review Health Insurance for City Treasurer

Chairperson Galbraith explained that at Council meeting while approving this year's budget, she gave bad information. When the issue came up to give the Mayor insurance, there was a motion to also cover the Treasurer. During that time, she stated that if the Treasurer's insurance was approved, the budget wouldn't be balanced, so the motion was removed. She said that there was a \$5,000 change in the budget that she didn't add into her calculation, so giving the Treasurer insurance at a cost of \$5,020 would not unbalance the budget. She thought the whole Council needed to know.

Mayor Grenz said that the position used to be full time. Then when a previous Treasurer retired, the position was approved by Council to work part time at a wage of \$10,000 a year. He added that the salary has doubled and Miles City is the only Class 2 City that has a Treasurer.

Committee Andrews said he was against it at this time. He felt it should have been approved during budget time.

* * *Chairperson Galbraith moved to recommend to Council approval of health insurance for the City Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Martin and, on roll call vote, passed by a vote of 2-1. Committee Member Andrews voted no.*

Discussion on purchasing swimming vouchers from donation received

Firefighter Young suggested that next year the City makes available free swimming lesson vouchers to anyone who is interested in learning to swim. She said she has several businesses that are ready to donate to the cause. She felt that prevention is more successful than rescue.


Director Kelm thought that a list of criteria's should be the first step in the process.

Director Kelm and Gray will work with Swimming Pool manager Chapweske and Firefighter Young to present a list of criteria's to the Finance Committee at a later date.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Committee Member Andrews moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chairperson Galbraith. The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:


Chairperson Susan Galbraith


City Clerk Lorrie Pearce