

Finance Committee Meeting

September 7, 2017

The Finance Committee met Thursday, September 7, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Conference room. Present were Committee Chairperson Susanne Galbraith and Committee Members Rick Huber, Kathy Wilcox and Dwayne Andrews.

Also present were: Public Utilities Director Allen Kelm, Historic Preservation/TIFD/Grant Writer Connie Muggli, Battalion Chief Brandon Stevens and City Clerk/Recorder Lorrie Pearce.

Committee Chairperson Galbraith called the meeting to order.

1. Request of Citizens-

Officer Muggli announced that the City was awarded a \$300,000 grant from FEMA. The money will be used to purchase one used four wheel drive ambulance and one new two wheel drive ambulance. The four wheel drive ambulance will be used for local responses and the two wheel drive ambulance will be used for trips to Billings. The two ambulances that are being replaced will need to be removed from the fleet and not used by the City of Miles City. In the grant \$19,756 is obligated to send three personnel to emergency medical training. Some of the money can be used to purchase much needed equipment.

Chairperson Galbraith said that the \$50,000 received from the Coal Grant can be used for the FEMA grant match, and the FEMA grant money received can be used for the Coal Grant match. There is \$13,700 in the capital improvement fund that could also be used.

Battalion Chief Stevens said with the purchase of the two and four wheel drive ambulance, will leave the City with three ambulances. The two ambulances that are being replaced will need to be removed from the fleet and not used by the City of Miles City.

Clerk Pearce wanted the committee to be aware of Resolution No. 4107 before the Council meeting. Battalion Chief Stevens explained that the ambulance was donated to the City for free and had been asked by a representative of the Federal Access Equipment Program to donate it to another entity. Prairie County will use it as a tool truck.

2. Review and Recommendation on Resolution No. 4104- A Resolution Authorizing Termination by the City of Miles City of the Agreement of June 10,2008 Between the City of Miles City and Custer County Water & Sewer District for the Maintenance of the Aye Addition Lift Station and Providing for Approval of, or in the Alternative of the Negotiation of, a New Agreement for Maintenance of the Aye, Hough Acres, and East Side Additions

*** Committee Member Wilcox moved to recommend to Council the approval of the Resolution, seconded by Committee Member Andrews.*

Committee Member Wilcox suggested adding the word ‘lift station’ to the end of the title.

Director Kelm explained the resolution is to add Hough Acres and East Side Additions to the maintenance program.

**** The motion passed 4-0**

3. Review and Recommendation on Resolution No. 4105- A Resolution Authorizing the City of Miles City to Enter Into a Lease Agreement With Sensus USA Inc, & Sensus Spectrum, LLC for Lease of Frequencies and Purchase of Equipment

**** Committee Member Huber moved to recommend to Council the approval of the Resolution, seconded by Committee Member Wilcox.**

Director Kelm explained the City has “M radios” which are being replaced by “R radios”. At the moment the City has the FCC license, but with the new radios Sensus will have the license through Spectrum and the City will become a user of that license. The \$23,000 upgrade will include 25 “R radios”, software upgrade and a handheld unit to read the meters.

**** The motion passed 4-0**

4. Review and Recommendation on Renewing the agreement with Custer County, Montana for the Joint Operation of an Airport at Frank Wiley Field

**** Committee Member Wilcox moved to recommend to Council to renew the agreement with Custer County, seconded by Committee Member Huber.**

Chairperson Galbraith explained that nothing changed in the agreement. It expired in April and needed to be renewed.

**** The motion passed 4-0**

5. Review and Recommendation to reimburse Custer County for taxes paid in fiscal year 2016/2017 for a total amount of \$ 4,116.48

**** Committee Member Andrews moved to recommend to Council to reimburse Custer County for taxes paid in FY16/17, seconded by Committee Member Huber.**

Chairperson Galbraith explained that at a Council meeting in July, it was approved by Council to exempt three lots from the Special Improvement Districts for the current tax year. Now they are asking the City to reimburse for fiscal year 16/17. If the City reimbursed them, it would cause problems with the budget because the City used that money for calculation of taxes to property owners. The districts would not be able to spend the money on repair needed in fiscal year 17-18. She also thought the County and City should have a resolution and or agreement that the County donates the land to the City.

**** The motion failed 4-0**