

Finance Committee Meeting April 9, 2020

The Finance Committee met Thursday, April 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. by remote means (Zoom). Present were Committee Members Austin Lott, John Uden, Brant Kassner and Curtis Reese.

Also present were: Public Works Director Scott Gray, Public Utilities Director Tom Speelmon, Planner in Training Ally Capps, Animal Control Officer Mark Winkley, Acting Fire Chief Eddy Kanduch, Police Chief Doug Colombik, Floodplain Administrator Samantha Malenovsky, Councilperson Rick Huber, Councilperson Ken Gardner and City Clerk/Recorder Lorrie Pearce.

Chairperson Lott called the meeting to order.

1. Request of Citizens and Public Comment:

2. Discussion and Recommendation on KLJ Task Order:

Director Gray and Speelmon explained to the Committee that the task order is for the next phase of the Darling project. The cost will be paid from various funds, and they felt there was enough money in the funds to cover the cost for this fiscal year.

*** Committee Member Uden moved to recommend to Council to approve the task order, seconded by Committee Member Kassner. The motion **passed** unanimously, 4-0*

3. Discuss and recommendation on approving adjusted ambulance amount on write offs and sent to collection

*** Committee Member Kassner moved to recommend to Council approval of the adjustments, seconded by Committee Member Reese. The motion **passed** unanimously, 4-0*

4. Discuss and recommendation on proceeding with the \$750,000 EDA grant for the flood project. City to provide 2 percent match (\$150,000) in Fiscal year 2021

Administrator Malenovsky explained that the title of discussion was not correct. The grant is for \$400,000 and it would cover the preliminary engineering report (PER) needed for the Yellowstone levy. The Army Corps has decided that the City would need to match a maximum of \$50,000 a year for the next two years (100,000). KLJ will work with the City on their cost since it is something that has never been done, which means there is not a lot of information completed on the issue.

She added there is about \$250,000 that has not been spent yet on the Section 204, that includes in kind matches.

Chairperson Lott felt that 2D mapping is not the direction that the City wants to go. He felt moving to a permanent solution would be best and that would be to proceed with the PER.

*** Committee Member Uden moved to recommend to Council to move forward with the grant and funding of the match, seconded by Committee Member Lott. The motion **passed**, 3-1, with Committee Member Kassner voting no*

5. Discussion and Recommendation on writing off \$1,303.00 from Ambulance Fund

*** Committee Member Kassner moved to recommend to Council approval to write off \$1,303.00, seconded by Committee Member Reese. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0*

6. Discuss and Recommendation on Animal Shelter veterinary fees

The discussion in whole was a \$1,400.00 charge on one feline. Officer Winkley felt that the City is getting a big discount from East Main and felt that East Main works with the City very well. He did not know that the invoice was so high, and thought that East Main was going to take some off the total because Dr. Lunde had decided to take in the feline. He will talk to her tomorrow to get it straightened out. He reported that animal control had taken in 177 animals last year. All of them went back to their owners except for 66, which were taken by other people.

The committee discussed putting a limit on the cost to save an animal, and if the City should go to other veterinarians for a quote.

*** Committee Member Lott moved to get more information and postpone discussion at a future meeting, seconded by Committee Member Reese. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0*

7. Discussion and Recommendation on Anticipated Budget Shortfalls Due to COVID-19

Items that were discussed are:

- Sick leave and Overtime. A grant was applied for assistance
- Park Fees- At least two big events have been cancelled
- Oasis- Too early to decide if the City will open the Oasis this year. It is looked at on a weekly basis, the Parks Department will start filling it up next week
- Gas Tax- Will probably be short because no one is driving long distances
- Property Taxes- Could be short if everyone does not pay them
- Fines- Will be short because officers are not writing as many fines as usual
- Animal Control Revenue- Will be short because officer is not responding to all calls
- BHS revenue- Will not receive because of cancellation

8. Adjournment

*** Committee Member Kassner moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Committee Member Reese and passed unanimously*

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.



Austin Lott, Committee Chairperson



Lorrie Pearce, Recorder