

Finance Committee Meeting April 21, 2020

The Finance Committee met Tuesday, April 21, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. by remote means (Zoom). Present were Committee Members Austin Lott, Brant Kassner and Curtis Reese. Committee Member John Uden was excused.

Also present were: Public Works Director Scott Gray, Public Utilities Director Tom Speelmon, Acting Fire Chief Eddy Kanduch, Mayor John Hollowell, COVID-19 Incident Commander Branden Stevens and City Clerk/Recorder Lorrie Pearce.

Chairperson Lott called the meeting to order.

1. Request of Citizens and Public Comment:

Commander Stevens updated the committee with the following:

- Because of the COVID 19, the fire and ambulance funds will be overspent. The ambulance fund is showing an increase in revenue which should help cover some of the expenses. He felt that the contractual allowance is one of the expenditures items that he has no control over, because it is an expense that writes off charges that were not collected.
- Fire Department has applied for a rural fire grant that has a ten percent match. The grant is approximately \$5,600, so the match would be around \$560 and will be in next years budget. He explained that the Safer grant that was discussed at the last finance meeting, which is to hire additional employees, is a match of 75% for the first 2 years and 35% for the third year.
- The Insurance Service Organization (ISO) will be evaluating Miles City on June 2nd. He is hoping that the City can go from a 4 to a 3 because of the Fire Chief on day shifts and training center. The problem is the City has a water tender that does not fulfill the pump capacity. The department has applied for a used water tender, but he has not heard anything on it.

Chairperson Lott said that the County may have a water tender that the City could use. Commander Stevens said he would look into it.

2. Review and Recommendation on Darling Addition Phase III Bids Received

The bids ranged from 2,882,964.10 to \$4,054,368, with Diamond J Construction coming in as the lowest bid. KLJ had worked with Diamond J on a similar size project and felt confident that they were qualified and recommended them for the project.

*** Committee Member Kassner moved to recommend to Council to approve the bid received*

from Diamond J Construction, seconded by Committee Member Lott. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Review and Recommendation to Mayor on approval for a Task Order from Interstate Engineering (Preliminary Engineering Report) PER

The first step for the PER is to expand the sewer system and install water service in the Industrial Park, install the main pipe under the Tongue River, replace nine blocks of sewer main on the North side of Miles City and replace approximately 16 blocks of the main sewer interceptor main that runs down Montana Avenue and Main Street to the Montana lift station. The cost of \$40,000 is based off the grant requirements, which could change once they have solid guidelines.

*** Committee Member Kassner moved to recommend to the Mayor to approve the task order, seconded by Committee Member Lott. The motion passed unanimously.*

3. Review and Recommendation on Ordinance No. 1339- An Ordinance Extending the Duration of Business Improvement District 101, Providing For a Board of Trustees and Executive Director and the Terms Thereof, Providing for the Funding of the District, Providing for the Duration of Such Extension of the District, and Providing an Effective Date Therefore

The Ordinance is to renew the District for another ten years. There are 5 hotels owners involved in the district and the City has received a letter of approval for the district that was signed by all of them. The City is the money holder for the tax collected and is paid to the Chamber of Commerce monthly.

*** Committee Member Kassner moved to recommend to Council to approve the Ordinance, seconded by Committee Member Lott. The motion passed unanimously.*

5. Approve Purchasing a Hanger Door for the Airport at an amount of \$51,338

The purchase needed to go to the finance committee for approval since it is over \$50,000. The purchase amount is in their budget.

*** Committee Member Kassner moved to approve the purchase, seconded by Committee Member Lott. The motion passed unanimously.*

6. Discuss FY21 Budget Calendar

The committee as a whole agreed with the budget calendar.

7. Discuss MMIA rates for FY2021

Clerk Pearce reported that she had received MMIA's Final Rates for FY21 and they

are as follows:

- Workers' Compensation had an overall decrease of 5.53 percent
- Liability had a 1.9 percent decrease from last year's rate
- Property had a 3.73 percent increase for auto physical damage and 13.96 percent increase for Contractor Equipment and Real and Personal Property from last year's rate

8. Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.



Austin Lott, Committee Chairperson



Lorrie Pearce, Recorder

