

City of Aurora, Ohio
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MEETING MINUTES
July 25 2016

The Committee of the Whole of the City of Aurora, Ohio met in Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, July 25, 2016 the purpose of holding a regular public meeting. Committee Chairman John Kudley, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Reva Barner
 Kathi Grandillo
 Harold Hatridge
 George Horvat
 Dennis Kovach
 John Kudley, Jr.
 Amy McDougald
 James Vaca
 Scott Wolf

Also Present: Ann Womer Benjamin, Mayor
 Dean DePiero, Law Director
 Timothy Clymer, Finance Director
 John Trew, Director of Public Services
 Denise Januska, Director, Division of Planning, Zoning and Building
 James Kraus, Director of Parks and Recreation
 Jack Burge, Director of Economic and Entrepreneurial Development
 Karen Aldredge, Chief of Staff
 David Barnes, Fire Chief
 Brian Byard, Police Chief
 Donna Hawks, Clerk of Council

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Approval of the July 11, 2016 meeting minutes

Ms. Barner moved; Mr. Hatridge seconded. The motion carried on Unanimous voice vote. Mr. Horvat and Mr. Wolf abstained.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

(Attached)

Ms. McDougald said 38% seemed low and she asked if it is realistic.

Mr. Clymer stated it is inclusive of all funds. He said there is a lot of capital projects included where much has not been spent on the project yet. He said looking more at an operating basis the General Fund is closer to the 50% mark.

MOTION: To accept the Finance Director's Report

Mr. Vaca moved; Mr. Wolf seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS**Renewal – Firefighter/Paramedic Tax Levy**

Chief Barnes asked for the committee's support to place the renewal levy on the November ballot. He said the levy generates about \$880,000 per year. He said it covers the salary of five firefighters/paramedics and all of the capital equipment.

MOTION: To forward to Council for consideration this evening

Mr. Vaca moved; Ms. McDougald seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Dell PowerEdge Server and Software Licensing Purchase

Mr. Kraus said upon reviewing the various infrastructures Mirifex thought it was a better idea to buy a virtual server. He said it is a much bigger server that can man multiple servers within it in a virtual environment. He said this would handle some other concerns there are with a few of the other servers the city has that are out of warranty and also have various software and other items on them that the city cannot get rid of. He said the recommendation is to purchase the server and software from Microsoft Exchange for the different users for a total of \$41,509.40. He said the funds are budgeted in the Capital Improvement line.

Mr. Wolf asked if it is a purchase just for the server or does it include setup and moving the data.

Mr. Kraus said it is his understanding it is all inclusive.

MOTION: To forward to Council

Mr. Kudley moved; Mr. Wolf seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Authorization to Auction Surplus Equipment

Mr. Kraus asked for approval to auction an old mower and a bed from a new truck that has been replaced with a flatbed.

Mr. Hatridge asked if a price can be set for an item.

Mr. Kraus said he is not certain if a minimum can be set.

Mr. Vaca asked if the site is similar to EBay.

Mr. Kraus said the site is called Govdeals.com. He said it is used by other municipalities and other institutions use it.

Mr. Hatridge asked if the web auctions include items that are confiscated by the police.

Chief Byard said he has not used this particular website for items other than tires. He said there is always an option to use it. He said most of the items he has that is unclaimed are bicycles and they usually donate them to the VOA.

Mr. Kraus said Mr. Clymer just informed him there is a reserve setting so a minimum can be set.

MOTION: To forward to Council

Mr. Kovach moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Employees Generally

Chief Byard said he is requesting a transfer of a part-time policeman to fulltime status to fill a vacated position.

MOTION: To Council for consideration this evening

Mr. Wolf moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

MISCELLANEOUS**Dana Heffner – First Energy**

Ms. Dana Heffner, Area Manager, First Energy, provided a brief presentation on the substation expansion on Greenmen Way Road. (See Attached) She said the project adds six new breakers and a control house. She said the project will start in October and at that time the underground work will be done. She said the above grade work will begin in June with expected completion in July, 2017.

Mr. Hatridge asked if the neighbors have been contacted. Ms. Heffner said typically only the neighbors whose property is adjacent to the project are contacted. Mr. Hatridge said it would be good P.R. to contact not only the schools but all of the people near the property.

Mr. Hatridge asked if more noise would be created for the residents. Mr. Justin Showalter, Project Manager, said the noise is comes from the transformers; First Energy is putting in breakers so there should not be any additional noise.

Mr. Hatridge indicated there are guidewires in the photo and he asked if there will be additional wires. Ms. Heffner said none will be added. Mr. Showalter said what you see in the photos is existing; the only thing rendered in the photos is the actual structure.

Mr. Hatridge asked how many structures are being added. Ms. Heffner replied the building and the steel structures behind it.

Mr. Hatridge said he is upset the residents were not contracted.

Mr. Horvat asked what is being done underneath. Mr. Showalter said below ground work includes installation of conduit, trenway, foundations, ground grid, and site grading in 2016. Mr. Horvat asked if the structure will change much. Mr. Showalter said the steel box structure and the control building are being added. Mr. Horvat asked how much space the structure will use. Mr. Showalter said .88 acres. Mr. Horvat asked if there is a way people in the area can be contacted before October. Mr. Showalter replied absolutely.

Ms. Barner asked how often something like this has to be done. Mr. Showalter explained it is a reliability upgrade. Ms. Heffner said there really is no timeframe; it has to do more with the performance of the circuit and the substation. Mr. Michael Demas, Manager, Project Management Transmission, explained how projects are looked at and determined for an upgrade. Mr. Demas said the substation was probably looked at over two years ago and now has a high enough ranking to be done.

Mr. Wolf said it is his understanding the system is a redundancy system. He asked if it is for Aurora or Aurora and surrounding communities. Mr. Showalter stated it is only for Aurora but goes to Mantua. Mr. Wolf asked if there will be room for any additional improvements down the road. Mr. Showalter said there is quite a bit of room remaining in the back of the substation if in the future there is a need to add another transformer. Mr. Wolf asked if it is anticipated that something similar will go in at the location on Treat Road. Mr. Showalter said that he has heard there is a possibility switches will be added at the location on Treat Road, but not before 2018 or 2019. Mr. Wolf asked if anything will be added around the substation. Mr. Showalter said a tighter weave fence so it cannot be climbed or anyone can stick their fingers through it.

Mr. Kovach asked if the two stations talk to each other. Mr. Showalter said they do. Mr. Kovach asked if the station can read where the outage located. Mr. Demas said it cannot really show you where the outage is.

Mr. Hatridge asked about the fencing. Mr. Showalter explained the fencing and also indicated there will be landscaping.

Mayor Womer Benjamin said Ms. Heffner met with her several months ago with a variety of things that are being looked at. She said two months ago they came back and said they need to go forward with the improvements. She said she told Ms. Heffner to contact the schools and to come before Council with their plans. She said speaking with the residents was a bit premature at that time.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn

Mr. Vaca moved; Mr. Kovach seconded. The motion carried on unanimous voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

John Kudley, Jr., Chairman

Donna Hawks, Clerk of Council