

CITY OF GROVE CITY, OHIO
COUNCIL MINUTES

October 13, 2020

Finance Committee Meeting

The meeting of the Council Finance Committee was called to order by Mr. Holt at 6:30 p.m. in the Virtual Webex meeting, per the Governor's Emergency Order.

Roll was called and the following members were present:

Roby Schottke Aaron Schlabach Christine Houk Randy Holt Ted Berry

1. Mr. Holt welcomed everyone and stated that this is the third meeting in preparation for the 2021 Budget and went through the Agenda. He explained that the public may submit questions in the Q&A box as we go through the meeting.
2. Mr. Holt recognized Mr. Turner, Dir. of Finance, who shared spreadsheets to show the current balance as of Oct. 1. He said the new projection for the end of the year balance is \$12,000,000.00. He said monthly revenues have been better than expected and income tax receipts are up 2% compared to last year at this time. He explained that preliminary work on the 2021 budget estimates that there would be \$4 million available for Capital Improvements, while retaining a 25% reserve in the General Fund, if all projects are correct. He shared Fund balances for the General Fund; Community Development Fund; General Recreation Fund and Street Fund.

Mr. Holt asked if there was any update on the Work of Home income tax. Mayor Stage said cities are in a wait and see posture, due to a lawsuit being filed on an organization and the feeling is that the outcome of that lawsuit will set the tone. He said the Ohio Legislature knows this is a problem and has introduced a Bill to "start the conversation". Mr. Turner stated that the income tax analysis anticipates collections of \$412,000.00 higher than last year. He shared various other taxes from the General Fund.

3. Mr. Holt moved to Capital Improvements.

Mr. Boso, City Admin., reviewed the Capital Fund and the 2020 budged projects. He went through the list and shared which projects have been completed, started, put out for bid, or not started. He explained that some projects have been started, but not all the funds have been encumbered yet. He explained that monies for these projects are in the Capital Improvement Fund and has no effect on the General Fund.

4. Mr. Holt moved to discussion of the 2021 Capital Improvements and Council's priority list.

Mr. Holt stated that one of the highest items on the Priority List is completing older projects. He shared a spreadsheet of all the Capital Project topics Council has discussed and their priority for each. He said he would like to give this to the Mayor to consider when putting together the proposed 2021 budget. He went through each item and the proposed cost, if known.

Mayor Stage stated that they have started preparing and want to keep this list in sync with the capital improvement material that they use as their guide. He said all the items on Council's priority list have been work on in some fashion. He said when Council receives the new Capital Improvement Project Report, they will see this list as a separate page.

Ms. Houk shared that she wants to see older projects taken up before adding any new projects. She shared some road projects (S.R. 104, Borror, Holton) that she feels are loose ends that need finished.

Mr. Berry commented that he believes street maintenance and the sidewalk project are a given, so he marked those lower on his priority list. He doesn't feel they should even be on the list. He said Beulah subdivision is a massive investment going on and it needs to be done right, so he prioritized that higher. He said he also feels the storm water modeling need to be a priority to stay ahead of the environmental issues. He said Breck Park need finished. This is a highly used park that still has no bike path, a statue with no lighting, landscaping, or gazebo.

Ms. Houk noted that Pinnacle Park needs to stay on the radar also.

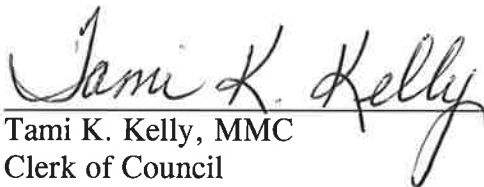
Mr. Boso noted that other projects have been bid this year and just not started. He said there are millions of dollars in projects going on in the community. He noted that with the Southwest Blvd. project, they are considering adding the improvement of the railroad tracks and CSX has agreed to pay for 50% of that cost.

Mr. Schottke commented that a Study for S.R.104 was to be completed by EMH&T, but he doesn't believe Council has received it yet. Mr. Keller, EMH&T, stated that this study has been funded but not started yet. They are working with the Development Dept. to get it finalized. Mr. Schottke asked about adding lanes at S.R.665/North Meadows Drive. Mr. Boso said that project is not funded. Mr. Schottke went through a list of items from last year that have not been funded or are on hold and feels these should be completed first. He also suggested considering grinding down trip hazards in the sidewalk program instead of full replacement to fix more areas. As for the Street Maintenance Program, he suggested a one-time only transfer out of this fund to complete Beulah Park, and then return to streets around the park. He said we need to finish what we start. Ms. Houk noted that she would have a hard time moving money from Street Maintenance because she feels street maintenance is one of the most important items – infrastructure needs taken care of.

Mr. Holt reminded everyone that the Appropriation Ordinance is due to Council on November 15. He said if there are any other suggestions, please get them to the Mayor.

5. After closing comments, a motion to adjourn was approved by unanimous consent.

Council adjourned at 7:57 p.m.


Tami K. Kelly, MMC
Clerk of Council


Randy Holt
Committee Chair