

FINANCE MEETING

DATE: 1-14-19

TOPICS PREPARED FROM DEPARTMENT MEETING:

I have asked the City Attorney to attend this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

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UTILITIES:

- Water Plant update
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PUBLIC WORKS:

- Holy Cross road update
- Inspections of rental apartments and remodeling projects
- Surplus equipment sale
- Ditch cleanout between Voss-Clare and New 50

POLICE:

- Dare bowling – Feb. 16- V& H
- Will be hiring new part time police
- FOP contract talks
- Conferences – Dare conference in June; Criminal Justice in Feb.; ILEAS Mar. 24 -26

RECREATION:

- New drag for South Park diamonds; called the Rascal – price \$3182.95

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:

- Health Ins. CPI and cost to employees
- Eligibility rules for retirees and dependents for health ins. - costs
- Part timers & supplemental insurance coverage
- Retail Recruitment proposals

CITY COLLECTOR:

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AMBULANCE:

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ZONING:

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MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Health Dept decision – no decision yet
- Library employees – are they City employees, What are our responsibilities to them?
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FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING * January 14, 2019

Minutes of the finance committee meeting of the Breese City Council held in City Hall on the above date.

The meeting commenced at 7:00 p.m.

Aldermen in attendance: Paul Steinman, Debbie Koetting, Bill Fischer, Kevin Timmermann, Jason Davinroy, Robert Berndsen, Carl Ratermann

Absent: Gary Usselmann

City Officials: Utility Plant Operations Manager Dale Detmer, Public Works Manager/Building Inspector Don Voss, City Collector Sandy Hemann, City Business Administrator Shelly Schadegg, City Attorney Joanne Stevenson, City Treasurer Bob Venhaus

Press: none

Visitors: Thomas Zurliene, Kelly Zurliene, Diane Holtgrave, Jean Steinman

Public Comment: none

1. Water Plant update - 2nd tank has been completed and will be put into service towards the end of this week.
2. Utility rates - Consumer index raised 1.3%. Ordinance calls for automatic price increases per the consumer index. Proposal to raise water and sewer by this rate, but no raise to electric rates - electric fund is doing well, but the other two could use the funds. Motion by Koetting seconded by Steinman to approve no raise to electric rates. Motion Carried by unanimous voice vote.
3. Holy Cross road update - no update at this time.
4. Inspections of rental apartments and remodeling projects - discussion amongst council to decide if we want to continue to explore inspections. Council agreed to start with a focus on rental property only at first. Discussions will continue.
5. Surplus equipment sale - Camera van has been switched over and is ready for sale. Old Meals on Wheels van will also be for sale. Will be up for approval at first meeting in February.
6. Ditch cleanout between Voss-Clare and New 50 - there is a drainage ditch in there and once the houses started to be built, it started to sink. Have had a lot of requests to clean out that ditch - the City has an easement - a letter will be sent to the property owners as equipment will have to go onto some properties.
7. Apartments by hospital - have a water and sewer line that runs underneath a parking lot. The city workers don't go back in there but the cell tower workers were out there and rutted up the parking lot. The request is that the City repairs and maintains that part of the parking lot. Still waiting on final request.
8. Library employees – are they City employees? What are our responsibilities to them? The City levees the taxes, the City pays the payroll - should they be treated as city employees? City Attorney Joanne Stevenson does not find anything in her research that states that the City cannot

treat employees of the library as city employees. Library board is in complete control of employees - hire, set pay rate, supervision, work hours, rules, etc. The library employees are essentially employees of the Library Board, which is essentially a part of the City. The City cannot have any control over Library employees. Kelly Zurliene states that there is no documentation anywhere that states how the library is to function and what the relationship between the City and the Library should be. Kelly understands that there are 39 full time employees of the city that that receive benefits and that there are 2 library employees that are not receiving the same benefits and feels discriminated against because they were not offered a second health insurance plan. Feels responsible as a leader to bring this up. Discussion among the Council concurs that the board can offer both plans if they choose to do so. City Attorney Joanne Stevenson encourages that all decisions just be made in writing. The Library Board will take this information and evaluate whether or not they will treat library employees equally to the other 39 employees.

9. Dare bowling – Feb. 16 at V& H.
10. Will be hiring new part time police as some of the current part-timers are not able to work as often
11. Police Chief Bob Fix seeking approval to attend Conferences – Dare conference in June; Criminal Justice in Feb.; ILEAS Mar. 24 -26
12. New drag for South Park diamonds; called the Rascal – price \$3182.95 Park Board approved the purchase. Will be on the agenda for tomorrow night's meeting.
13. Health Ins. CPI and cost to employees - recommendation is to not increase insurance cost for the year.
14. Eligibility rules for retirees and dependents for health ins. - statute states that retired employees can choose to stay on City insurance as long as they like. Spouses and Children, as long as covered on the day before retirement, may remain on City insurance as long as they like, even after the employee has died, until the spouse is remarried or the child is 26. This also applies to disabled employees.
15. Part timers & supplemental insurance coverage - no change to requirement.
16. Retail Recruitment proposals - working with the Chamber to see if they will also contribute to working with The Retail Coach. Seeking \$5,000 per year from Chamber. Recommendation is to seek 3-year plan. This can be taken out of TIF, as it is revitalization.
17. Health Dept. decision – no decision yet. Did establish 2 sub-committees. Will get together again next month to review reports.
18. FOP contract talks scheduled for this Wednesday at 10 am.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Non-verbatim minutes taken by:


Erin Wagone, City Clerk