

The Finance Committee of the Council for the Village of Monroeville met on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 6:00pm in the MMC Council chambers.

Present were: Mayor Melissa Fries-Seip, Fiscal Officer Bonnie Beck, Administrator Tom Gray, Council members Chris Raftery, Mark Rupp, Craig Franklin, Sue Rogers, Bob Whitacre and Sam Wiley, and Chief Gary Lyons.

Chris opened the meeting by asking Gary how it happened that the main entrance door to the PD was not complete. Gary said it was a result of miscommunication between RJ Beck and the contractor, and neither one did what was expected of them. It will take about \$1500 to complete the work, and he would like some direction on how to pay for it. Right now the officers can't go in the main entrance with their key fobs. There have been two court judgments that were given to Bonnie that have court fines due on them, maybe that money could be used. They've already spent (drug fines and Law Enforcement Trust Fund) money for the cameras and their own internal locksmith. He asked if there was any Gatso money, and Bonnie said there was. There will be a panic button installed that will lock both entrance doors in case there's a need for someone to be secured. Chris commented that she sees this as a safety issue, and Gary said that they need this. Bonnie asked if this matter was in the original building specs, and Bob asked if there was anything in writing. Tom said this was in the specs but it got beyond he and Gary, as neither one of the companies communicated with each other. The Mayor asked if we should have Jim Barney get involved, but Tom said it would still be an expenditure. Gary also stated that they needed another camera in addition to what they currently have, which would be advantageous for the front and the back of the building. These cameras could be paid for from the Drug Law Enforcement Fund. He would also like to buy a community bulletin board for \$500-\$550 from the Community Outreach Fund. He's hoping to have the Hooked on Fishing event this year, which runs around \$1500-\$1600 and is taken from that fund. The Mayor asked how that money was supposed to be used, and Gary replied that it's for the community and educating the community, which is what the bulletin board is for. Bob asked where the funds came from, and Gary replied it's from donations. Chris remarked that it sounds like that's the right fund to make the purchase. Gary said the replacement rifles will come from the DLEF, which will be purchased in April or May, and will substitute for the M16 rifles. The Mayor asked if we'll be getting rid of the other rifles, and Gary said they will be sent back to the military supply source where they came from. Bonnie said she knows nothing about rifles, so what are these rifles used for. Gary said they are used for close quarters and are adept at clearing buildings, such as if there's an active shooter at the school. They are light weight, and these will be new. The Mayor asked where they are stored, and Gary said they are locked in the cruiser and are released by a special button. Sam asked if there was any solution to the radio holders. Gary said there were different proposals by the officers, and it was decided that the officers will buy them from their uniform allowances so the Village isn't obligated. Sam asked if they were happy with the hybrid cruiser. Gary said they were, as the cruiser was quicker and had great gas mileage. One glitch is the engine light comes on, apparently because a purge valve needs to be replaced, which is under warranty.

Chris said that Gary had asked for a shift differential a while ago, and she wanted to talk about that as the raises will put the PD at a different level. Previously Council approved a 25-cents per hour increase for third shift. After some discussion it was determined that the second shift would receive a shift differential of 15 cents per hour, and the third shift differential would be bumped up to 40 cents more per hour. Legislation will be prepared. Bonnie presented information from her report, specifically noting the instability of the GF. She explained how transactions work for advances, noting that with several large projects meshing at the same time for advances in and out, it has created a strained GF balance. Because the Broad Street and meter replacement projects are not yet completed, and the Rt 20 waterline project is on the horizon, the fund will remain unstable for a while longer. The GF will be whole again once the projects are done and the advances are paid back to the GF. She said she spoke with Tom about moving forward with the sale of the former administration building so the proceeds could enhance the GF a little.

Right now it's being used for storage, but Tom said we can get those items stored elsewhere, and the records that are upstairs will be moved to the records room at the MMC. Discussion. It was determined that Council would discuss this at the next Council meeting to determine how they want to sell the building. Bonnie briefly went over the financials for the MMC. It was noted that the interest rate and loan amount changed in the final loan document. The original loan request was for \$3M – the building contract was approved for \$2,549,000 and the final loan amount was for \$2,300,000. This means that the Village will be paying for the last 2 phases of the project and any change orders that may be approved. The interest rate went up because we did not meet the federal standards for tax exemption under a US code. Mark suggested that the next newsletter should contain the information that the project was less than \$3M, and include some of the Gatso stats, too.

Gary stated that he and Jim Barney had a very positive meeting with the municipal judge, and they are optimistic that the cameras can be reactivated by April. He'd like to see another red light camera at 99 & 20, stating that when the COVID lifts the roadway will be busy. The use of the cameras is always about safety, and the fines should be helping out the Village. There's not much being done right now in the school zone, as it's mostly at the intersections with the red lights.

Discussion about re-opening everything with the COVID stats lessening. Sam asked about putting a sign at the back of the MMC building regarding the drive being one way to the window/drop box. He also asked about the condition of the old brick building at the bottom of the hill behind the water treatment plant. Tom assured him that funds for the possible demo/rebuild will be from the enterprise funds, not the GF.

Tom informed Council that he checked into the "no turn on red" sign at the Monroe St/Rt 20 intersection. If anything were to be changed we would have to do a traffic study first at a cost of \$7,000-\$10,000 and we would have to meet ODOT's criteria. For the time being he feels we should stand down. Gary said the PD will be watching the "no turn on red" area.

Council discussed the policies and applications for the laptops/tablets that were purchased. Bonnie shared a few things that Vince had suggested. Questions were asked that could not be answered. Bob said this really needs to be discussed. He said the main reason they were purchased was because it was thought they could be purchased with CARES Act money, but then found out they couldn't do that. He asked how badly were they needed. The Mayor said they are already here, and she thinks they will be useful. Discussion ensued. Bonnie was asked if she would see if Vince could come to the February 23rd work session to share information about the use of the equipment. The Mayor confirmed that Jim Barney thought the electronic equipment policy from S. Amherst was pretty straight forward, and she agreed. Council will need to determine what they want to do before a policy can be passed.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Bonnie Beck, MMC

Fiscal Officer