

A special meeting of the City Commission of The City of Springfield, Ohio, was held on Tuesday, November 13, 2018, in the Forum Conference Room of City Hall.

Roll Call was answered by Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and President Copeland.

FIRST READING

249-18 Authorizing the purchase and installation of Motorola APX Radios, MCC7500 Radio Consoles and Emergency CallWorks Telephony System for use by various City departments, from Motorola Solutions, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$2,178,841.63, through the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, pursuant to Ohio's Cooperative Purchasing Act in accordance with the provisions of Section 125.04 of the Ohio Revised Code.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Mr. O'Neill asked if the Motorola radios would be compatible with other agencies if there were to be a combined dispatch with the county. City Manager Bodenmiller stated they would be compatible.

MOTION

250-18 On a motion of Mr. Rue, seconded by Dr. Estrop, the commission agreed to invite (City Manager Candidates) Bryan Heck, Shannon Meadows and Michael Ciaravino to a public forum on November 28, 2018, to be followed by interviews with the Commission and that the Mayor communicate our thanks to the other applicants.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

2019 BUDGET DISCUSSION

138-18 City Manager Bodenmiller provided a General Fund overview. The budget document presented for the remainder of 2018 and for 2019 is presented with a \$386,420 operating surplus for 2019 with no use of carryover funds. The estimated reserve at the end of 2019 is 20 percent of 2019's budgeted expenditures which is greater than the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) recommended minimum goal of 16 percent and over the Commission goal of 10 percent. The budget meets the tax levy commitments and aligns with the City Commission's adopted Goals and Objectives. Mr. Bodenmiller reviewed existing staff levels and proposed staffing in 2019.

Dr. Estrop asked for a detailed listing of staffing for comparison.

Mr. Beckdahl reviewed the Income Tax receipts as budgeted in 2018 and projected for 2019. Additional levy income began in July 2017. The total revised income tax receipts for 2018 is \$39,200,000 due to the additional tax collected, a good economy, and new employers in the area. Mr. Beckdahl reminded commissioners that 90 percent of the income tax goes to the General Fund and 10 percent goes to the Permanent Improvement Fund.

Mr. Beckdahl stated that approximately 79 percent of the General Fund revenues come from Income Tax, 4 percent from Local Government Fund and State Shared Taxes, 4 percent from Services and Charges, 3 percent from Fines and Forfeitures, and other Various Revenues make up the remaining 10 percent. The General Fund expenditures are divided into 58 percent public safety, 11 percent Municipal Court, 9 percent Neighborhood Services, 2 percent National Trail Parks and Recreation District (NTPRD) and the Springfield City Area Transit (SCAT), and all others combined for 20 percent. Neighborhood Services includes demolitions and code enforcement outside of the low- to moderate-income neighborhoods.

Mr. Beckdahl reviewed the 2019 Preliminary Budget for General Fund revenues which are slightly higher than the 2018 revised budget. Miscellaneous revenues for 2018 was higher than usual due to the sale of the Myers Market and the former pool property. Dr. Estrop asked that a notation be included in the budget narrative comparing the current funding from the Local Government Fund to the much higher funding several years ago.

The General Fund expenditures for personal services were higher than 2018 due to overtime for Public Safety staff and changes made to CDBG Fund reimbursements. The 2019 proposed budget includes fully-funded positions for an entire year that may not be filled until later in the year. Insurance is budgeted with a 15 percent employee contribution. Contractual Services include demolition funding and expenses for a forensic chemist contract. Materials and Supplies include gasoline for additional police officers on the street and forensic lab supplies and expenses. The total revenues are estimated at \$45,707,430, expenditures of \$45,321,010. With the existing fund balance, the estimated balance for December 31, 2019, is \$9,087,494.

Mr. O'Neill asked about the \$200,000 in Transit Funding for the bus company. Mr. Beckdahl responded that ridership continues to be steady.

Mr. Beckdahl discussed the continued use of city staff for the collection of income tax instead of an outside contract such as the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA). The internal operation continues to cost less than an outside source with the benefit of staff on-site to assist the taxpayers.

Assistant City Manager and Economic Development Administrator Franzen gave an overview of economic development efforts and outlook for the city. Manufacturing continues to drive most of the income tax for the Springfield. Navistar continues to be a top employer for the area, and Honda is in the top 10 of employers for residents although both

are located outside of the city. Silfex Inc. could potentially have \$20 million in payroll when fully staffed. Mr. Franzen reviewed the other top employers located in the city, discussed the impact of the Springfield Beckley Municipal Airport, various downtown developments currently in progress and in the near future, and the proposed downtown parking garage.

Discussion included potential impact of steel prices on the manufacturing businesses and related tariffs, and details of the planned parking garage.

Police Chief Graf reviewed the requests for the Police Division which include facility improvements such as the ladies' locker room. The number of requested cruisers has increased due to more officers on the streets along with the standard replacement cycle. Older vehicles removed from service are than passed on to other departments for further use. Thirty new tasers are requested to replace aging stock.

Dr. Estrop asked Chief Graf if the Police Division has the equipment and personnel needed for operation, and Chief Graf replied the division is in a good position with their hiring and capital needs.

Mr. O'Neill asked how the recruitment of new officers has improved. Chief Graf stated that staff has done a better job of letting people know they are hiring using various media outlets. Mr. Bodenmiller added that staff morale has improved as more officers are hired to help reduce the workload. Deputy City Manager Heck spoke of a new video prepared to help with recruitment.

Mr. Beckdahl discussed the Police Levy Fund which is a 3 mil property tax plus a \$900,000 supplement from the General Fund. The total revenues of \$3,280,160 and expenditures of \$3,314,440 leaving an estimated fund balance of \$110,835 at the end of 2019 when added to the existing balance.

Mr. O'Neill asked how many officers are funded with the Police Levy Fund. Mr. Beckdahl stated that 24 officers and five staff members are funded with this levy fund.

Fire Chief Miller reviewed the Fire Division's budget for 2019. Chief Miller stated that recruiting challenges continue and the paramedic at hire requirement has been changed to certification within three years. The focus to hire local employees continues. Staffing continues to fluctuate with retirements, but eight to ten new hires are expected by the middle of 2019. New capital expenditures include two rescue units and other safety gear. Discussion included a replacement fire station for the current Selma Road location that cannot easily accommodate the apparatus in the small building.

Mrs. Chilton asked about disaster readiness. Chief Miller stated the Emergency Operations Plan is maintained by the Fire staff and they work closely with the Clark County Emergency Management staff. Discussion related to tornado sirens explained the current method of contacting citizens by telephone and cell phones works best.

Dr. Estrop asked Chief Miller if the Fire Division has the personnel and equipment needed for operation. Chief Miller statement that recruitment efforts, new equipment, and adequate funding has been helpful.

Mrs. Chilton asked about recruitment efforts for students at the Career Technology Center. Chief Miller stated that there would be several recruitment opportunities soon for area students.

Mr. Beckdahl reviewed the Fire Enhancement Fund which expects higher revenues in 2019 with a lower subsidy from the General Fund. There are 25 employees funded from this fund. Contracted services includes ambulance billing.

National Trail Parks and Recreation District Director Castillo reviewed the many programs and services provided to the residents of Springfield and Clark County by the parks staff along with the properties and amenities maintained. NTPRD is 72 percent funded by a tax levy along with program income, grants, city funding and Clark County funding. The National Trail Endowment is funding security cameras and lighting for various locations. Other partnerships also assist with programming funds. In the past 15 years, staff has been reduced from 47 to 17 people.

Discussion included Hollandia Garden's former bulb gardens, staff levels, the Splash Pad and street improvements in Snyder Park, operation of Splash Zone facility, and the improved cooperation between the NTPRD and the County Parks.

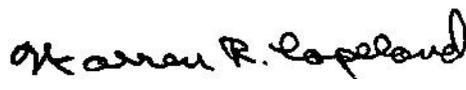
Mr. O'Neill asked about the \$200,000 in additional funding for NTPRD. Mrs. Castillo stated that it would be used for daily operations and deferred maintenance of facilities. Mrs. Castillo added that Clark County Commission's funding in 2016 was \$145,000, \$140,650 in 2017, \$100,000 in 2018, and possibility no funding for 2019.

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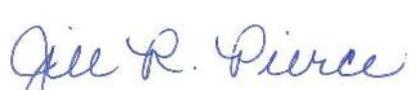
There being no further business, on motion of Mrs. Chilton, seconded by Mr. Rue, the meeting was adjourned.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.



PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COMMISSION



CLERK OF THE CITY COMMISSION