

CIRCLEVILLE FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES 11.28.2023

Circleville City Finance Committee convened in City Council Chambers, 127 South Court St, Circleville, OH. on Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Roll call. Present: Chair Michelle Blanton, Committee members Todd Brady and Katie Logan Hedges. Other Council members present: Barry Keller, Caryn Koch-Esterline, Tom Duvall. Invited Guests present: Mayor Don McIlroy, City Auditor Mark Bidwell, and Operations Manager Brian Frost.

Call Meeting to Order and Roll call.

Brady motioned to approve the November 7, 2023, minutes, Hedges seconded. Motion carried.

New Business

An Ordinance Creating The North Court Street Marshall Tax Increment Financing Incentive District Decaling Improvements To The Parcels Within The Incentive District To Be A Public Purpose And Exempt From Real Property Taxation; Requiring That Owners Of Those Parcels To Make Service Payment In Lieu Of Taxes; Establishing A Municipal Public Improvements Tax Increment Equivalent Fund For The Deposit Of Those Service Payment; And Specifying The Public Infrastructure Improvement To Be Made That Directly Benefit The Parcels.

Discussion: The Ordinance is being further reviewed by the administration.

MOTION-ROLL CALL-VOTE: Brady motioned to forward the ordinance to the next Finance meeting. Hedges seconded. Roll call (3 Yeas – 0 Nays) Motion carried.

An Ordinance Authorizing The Director Of Public Service To Apply For, Accept And Enter Into An Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) And Water Supply Revolving Load Account (WSRLA) Design Grant Agreement For The Engineering And Design Of Improvements To The Circleville Water Treatment Plant And Declaring An Emergency.

Discussion: Brian Frost spoke to the ordinance. OEPA needed the ordinance amended to add a revision to section 3. Was previously approved but needed amended to add section 3.

MOTION-ROLL CALL-VOTE. Hedges motioned to forward to the Council meeting on December 5, 2023, with a recommendation for passage. Brady seconded. Roll call (3 Yeas – 0 Nays) Motion carried.

An Ordinance Authorizing The Use Of Opioid Funds To Pickaway County Community Action (PICCA) And Declaring An Emergency.

Discussion: Mayor spoke regarding an RFP his office did. PICCA wants to purchase a vehicle for the purpose of laundry facilities to help the homeless populations. They requested what we have received to date (\$85k). Nick Pruitt stated the funds would be used for a mobile hygiene unit. The unit would also be available to anyone in the county in an emergency.

MOTION-ROLL CALL-VOTE. Brady motioned to forward to the Council meeting on December 5, 2023, with a recommendation for passage. Hedges seconded. Roll call (2 Yeas, 0 Nays ,1 Abstain by Blanton) Motion carried.

An Ordinance Authorizing The Use Of Opioid Funds To Pickaway Area Recovery Services (PARS) And Declaring An Emergency

Discussion: The organizations annually over the next 15 years are requesting the following amounts: \$13k to PARS, \$5k to PICCA and \$13k to PAAC. Bidwell spoke that the amount the city may receive could be more. Bidwell said that none of this money is guaranteed but he believes the minimum amount will be at least \$31k. Hedges questioned being locked into a contract with funds that are not guaranteed. The Mayor stated the funds are already settled and received.

MOTION-ROLL CALL-VOTE. Brady motioned to amend the ordinance in three different sections to state “as long as Opioid funds are available”. Amends the 3rd and 5th whereas and Section 1 Hedges seconded. Roll call. (3 Yeas – 0 Nays) Motion carried.

MOTION-ROLL CALL-VOTE. Brady motioned to forward to the Council meeting on December 5, 2023, with the amendments. Hedges seconded. (2 Yeas, 0 Nays ,1 Abstain by Blanton) Motion carried.

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An Ordinance Replacing The One-Half Percent (.50%) Income Tax Rate Increase Allocated For The Purpose Of Operating And Maintain The Safety Forces In The City Of Circleville, To Be Expended For The Safety Forces Prior To The Use Of The Funds Allocated To The General Fund, With A 0.04% Per Annum Income Tax For A Five Year Period, Effective From January 1, 2025 And Expiring December 31,2029, Directing The Pickaway County Board Of Election To Submit This Ordinance To The Elector Of The City Pursuant To Ohio Revised Code, Section 718.04 And Declaring An Emergency.

Discussion: Hedges spoke that this is critical, and herself and others involved reached out to the public for their input. The main feedback received is that the public didn't realize this wasn't a new tax or a decrease in tax. Brady stated he would support the Ordinance but would like the language to be more attractive. Keller reiterated we only have until December 20th to get this on the primary ballot. Koch Esterline expressed concerns that the levy just failed and doesn't want to rush into putting it right back on the ballot. Duvall also expressed concerns for leaving the ordinance as is without any changes. Tom Spring spoke and expressed his concerns regarding department scandals. Hedges spoke that she understands his concerns, but we should support our safety departments and not punish them for an isolated incident.

Blanton also spoke that if the levy doesn't pass then this could have budgetary effect on the city for over 2 million dollars.

MOTION-ROLL CALL-VOTE. Brady motioned to forward to the Council meeting on December 5, 2023, with a recommendation for 3 readings. Hedges seconded. Roll call (3 Yeas – 0 Nays) Motion carried.

Resolution To Submit To The Electors At A Primary Election To Be Held On March 19,2024, An Ordinance To Replace The One-Half Percent (.50%) Income Tax Rate Increase Allocated For The Purpose Of Operating And Maintaining The Safety Forces In The City Of Circleville, To Be Expended For The Safety Forces Prior To The Funds Allocated To The General Fund, With A 0.04% Per Annum Income Tax For A Five-Year Period To Commence January 1,2025 And Expiring December 31,2029, Directing The Pickaway County Board Of Elections To Submit The Tax Ordinance To The Electors Of The City Pursuant To Ohio Revised Code, Section 718.04 And Declaring An Emergency.

Discussion: Blanton stated this is a companion resolution to the previous ordinance. Section IV was added for clarification of what language should be added to the ballot.

MOTION-ROLL CALL-VOTE. Brady motioned to forward to the Council meeting on December 5, 2023. Hedges seconded. Roll call (3 Yeas – 0 Nays) Motion carried.

Old or Any Other Business

HOUSEKEEPING ORDINANCE

An Ordinance Amending The Annual Appropriation Ordinance In The General Fund 101, City Permissive Motor Vehicle Tax Fund 205, Capital Improvement .4% Income Tax Fund 206, Circleville Cable TV Fund 211, Safety Forces .5% Tax Fund 212, Safety Forces .1% Tax Fund 216 And The Safety Forces .5% Tax Fund 227, Of The City Of Circleville.

Discussion: Bidwell spoke that BWC gives a discount if paid in a larger lump sum. This amount has already been budgeted for next year. The bill has already come in and is due in December not January. Bidwell reduced several line items around to provide for the payment.

MOTION-ROLL CALL-VOTE. Hedges motioned to forward to the Council meeting on December 5, 2023, with a recommendation for passage. Brady seconded. Roll call (3 Yeas – 0 Nays) Motion carried.

Brady Motion to adjourn at 7:24, Hedges seconded. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by: Melissa Burns, Clerk.