

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date and Time: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 @ 5:15 pm., Council Chambers

Members Present: *In Person:* Lisa Rasmussen, Michael Martens, and Dawn Herbst; *By WebEx:* Sarah Watson, and Deb Ryan

Others Present: Leslie Kremer, Maryanne Groat, Anne Jacobson, Tracey Kujawa, Eric Lindman, Katie Rosenberg, Rick Rubow, Toni Vanderboom, Tom Neal, and Chuck Ghidorzi

In accordance with Chapter 19, Wisc. Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and sent to the Daily Herald in the proper manner. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Lisa Rasmussen.

Minutes of the previous meeting(s). (12/08/20)

Motion by Herbst, second by Watson to approve the minutes of the 12/08/20 meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and possible action approving development agreement with WOZ Inc.

Lisa Rasmussen stated a few months ago they approved some changes to be made to the development agreement for the redevelopment of the Wausau Center incorporating what the Mayor had negotiated. Maryanne Groat stated there were no changes made outside of what was agreed to in the Term Sheet.

Deb Ryan commented since the city no longer owns WOZ and quite a few of leaders in the area were not interested in this property and seem to have given up on alternative uses, she would prefer this to be strictly a loan with repayment when it is developed.

Motion by Martens, second by Herbst to approve the development agreement with WOZ Inc. Approved 4-1 (*Ryan was the dissenting vote.*)

Discussion and possible action regarding budget modification to transfer funds to the Parking, Recycling and Airport Funds

Groat explained Covid has impacted our operations in a variety of ways and our Parking Fund has been significantly impacted. The Police Department ceased enforcement during the Safer-at-Home Order because of concerns about people touching meters, etc. This created a deficit in our revenues for fines as compared to projections. She stated there has also been a pretty significant drop in parking revenues because when the 2020 budget was prepared the negotiations with WOZ and the mall had not been finalized. Revenues were in the budget from the existing parking agreement with the previous mall owners. She noted with many businesses being closed, Finance and Council authorized refunds to downtown businesses and employees. Some businesses have left their locations in the downtown resulting in a decline in occupancy in the ramps. Groat indicated the shortfall is projected to be approximately \$240,000 in revenue. Although the year isn't quite complete yet a \$250,000 transfer is requested for the Parking Fund to cover this and any final expenses that come in January related to December's activity.

Groat stated in the Recycling Fund they are trying to improve estimates for the cost of leaf pickup due to the changes regarding baling of the leaves and the repeat cycle of collection. All of those funds go to the Motor Pool Fund and then are used to help defray maintenance of the existing fleet and the purchase of new fleet. She requested a transfer of \$100,000 into the Recycling (Leaf Pickup/Yard Waste site).

Groat stated the Airport Fund is seeing a slight deficit this year. Every year there is an effort to increase the levy for the Airport Fund to turn this trend around. The request is for a small increase to the fund. She noted these budget modifications will go to Council on January 26, 2021.

Motion by Herbst, second by Martens to approve the budget modification. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and possible action regarding funding and sole source procurement of the Wausau Policing Task Force public inquiry and decision making process consulting services from WIPPS

Rasmussen stated community engagement is a big part of the Wausau Policing Task Force. The proposal is to facilitate community discussions through Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service (WIPPS).

Motion by Watson, second by Herbst to approve the sole source. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and possible action on terminating Inspection Services Agreement with the Town of Stettin

Rasmussen stated this and the next three items are housekeeping items. Approval will close the loop on the contracts and properly terminates them, even though they are old, some of them from the mid 1990's. She noted this inspection service with Town of Stettin hasn't been performed in over 10 years.

Motion by Martens, second by Watson to approve the termination. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and possible action on terminating Inspection Services Agreement with the City of Schofield

Motion by Watson, second by Martens to approve the termination. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and possible action on terminating Inspection Services Agreement with the Village of Rothschild

Motion by Herbst, second by Martens to approve the termination. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and possible action on terminating Fire Department Mutual Aid Agreement with the Rib Mountain Fire Department

Rasmussen noted there is no longer a Rib Mountain Fire Department, it is now called South Area Fire and Emergency Response District (SAFER).

Motion by Herbst, second by Martens to approve the termination. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and possible action on approving Towing Services Agreement with Joe Rader Towing LLC

Rasmussen stated the RFP was sent out for articulated towing services and after review of the proposals the recommendation is for Joe Rader Towing.

Motion by Martens, second by Herbst to approve the agreement. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and Possible Action Reclassifying the Building Maintenance Coordinator Position to Facilities Manager

Groat stated the reason this is before Finance is because there is a fiscal impact, although it is hard to predict exactly what it is at this time because it will depend on the hire and where they land in the pay scale. This is a new position in a higher pay scale than the existing one and insurance may be different.

Motion by Martens, second by Herbst to approve the reclass for a Facilities Manager. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and Possible Action Reclassifying the Business Development Specialist position as Economic Development Manager

Rasmussen explained the reclass is recommended by HR Committee because the person in the current position is performing many more tasks than was described for this position.

Ryan felt Public Access should be under the Mayor's Office because in the future she saw the channel moving more toward public service information. Toni Vanderboom, HR Director, stated we are expanding city wide communication responsibilities for the Community Development Department. Mayor Rosenberg felt Public Access will be better served by having a manager that is able to be more responsive. She felt this was a good step for Public Access, as Sean Fitzgerald has public access experience as well as marketing.

Motion by Herbst, second by Martens to approve the reclassification of Business Development Specialist to Economic Development Manager. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and Possible Action Addressing Pay Compression between Union and Non-Represented Supervisory Staff

Rasmussen stated this periodically happens in the pay matrix where certain employees are eligible for overtime and employees in the supervisory role are not, and employees start to make more than the supervisor. Or an overlap can also happen and certain grades become compressed causing difficult recruiting people.

Motion by Martens, second by Watson to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

Adjourn

Motion by Martens, second by Watson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:48 pm.