

Meeting Minutes

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

October 9, 2000 AT 7:35 P.M.

CITY WATER DEPARTMENT Present: Chairman Barr, Ald. Rackow, Phillips, Nealis, and Pazdernik

Also Present: Comptroller-Treasurer Schlice; Mayor Wescott; City Attorney Molepske; Clerk Zdroik; Interim Admin. Asst. Marciniak; Directors Gardner; Schrader; Assessor Kuehn; Administrator Disher; Capt. Daubert; Design Engineer Yauch; Ald. Kedrowski, Walther; Sevenich, Molski, Seiser; Finance Clerk Freeberg; Gene Kemmeter (Gazette); Scott Krueger (WIZD); Reid Rocheleau

ITEMS

1. Assessor s Report.

2. Izaak Walton Agreement Renewal.

3. Close Out Library Construction Fund.

4. Forest Cemetery.

a. Lot Pricing.

b. Grave Marking.

5. Tax Collections.

a. Report on Credit Card Option for 1999-2000.

b. Internet Credit Card Access.

c. Electronic Fund Transfer for Tax Collection.

6. Additional Pollworkers for November 7th Election.

7. Adjournment.

ITEM #1 - ASSESSOR S REPORT

Motion made by Ald. Phillips, seconded by Ald. Rackow to approve the report of the Assessor and place it on file.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.

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ITEM #2 - IZAAK WALTON AGREEMENT RENEWAL

Comptroller-Treasurer Schlice stated that the City had approved this ten years ago and according to the contract if one or the other parties wish to renew the contract they just have to inform the other party. We did receive a request in writing for a formal renewal and their Board had approved it.

Motion made by Ald. Rackow, seconded by Ald. Pazdernik to approve the Izaak Walton Agreement Renewal.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.

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ITEM #3-CLOSE OUT LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION FUND

Comptroller-Treasurer Schlice stated that this was discussed at the budget hearing last week. There has been no activity in the account for three years. It is borrowed funds, therefore it has to be returned against debt service. This was also reviewed at the audit time also. He stated the recommendation is to close out the fund and apply the \$188,575 to debt service.

Motion made by Ald. Rackow, seconded by Ald. Pazdernik to approve closing out the library construction fund and applying the \$188,575 to debt service.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.

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ITEM #4-FOREST CEMETERY

A. LOT PRICING B. GRAVE MARKING

Comptroller-Treasurer Schlice explained there are two parts to this item. The first one is lot pricing. He stated that he has done some comparison pricing for lots on the surrounding area cemeteries and has found that we are low. We currently charge \$225 per single space and the other cemeteries are charging \$350. He stated that if the first part of the request is approved, he would like to use the money from the increase in the lot price to buy grave markers. There are a lot of headstones in the cemetery that have deteriorated making it difficult to read the stones. The markers would be something on the order of a brass plate about 6" x 12" that would have the persons name and death date engraved on it. They would be put in so that they do not interfere with the maintenance of the cemetery. He stated that the prices that he has been quoted so far are running about \$200 a piece, but he is still looking into it. He is calculating about 20 markers a year with the money that is anticipated from the lot sales. We would do the badly deteriorated ones in the Forest Cemetery first and then he would like to do the Union Cemetery.

Ald. Nealis questioned if we could remove the old headstones.

Comptroller-Treasurer Schlice replied that we would need approval from the State Historical Society and we do not have any intentions to remove any of the stones.

Motion made by Ald. Nealis, seconded by Ald. Phillips to increase the price of a single space in the Forest Cemetery from \$225 to \$350.

Motion made by Ald. Nealis, seconded by Ald. Pazdernik to approve the purchasing of grave markers.

Ald. Phillips stated some attempt should be made to remove the old, deteriorating stones.

Comptroller-Treasurer Schlice stated that it is a cataloged cemetery and legally we cannot remove the stones. When the stones fall down, we lie them flat and cement them in.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.
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ITEM #5-TAX COLLECTIONS

- A. REPORT ON CREDIT CARD OPTION FOR 1999-2000
- B. INTERNET CREDIT CARD ACCESS
- C. ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFER FOR TAX COLLECTION

Comptroller-Treasurer Schlice stated that last year the committee requested an update on how the credit card system worked with regards to the tax collections. He stated that the Visa and Mastercard had to be called in, we could not take those over the counter, but we could take Discover over the counter. This was based on the credit card companies rules. There were some bugs in it, but those have been worked out. We expected participation to be low since it is a new program, but we did have approximately twenty five people take advantage of this feature. We anticipate participation will increase as people are made more aware of it.

He stated that credit card access was only available over the phone last year for Mastercard and Visa, but this year they are introducing a new program over the Internet that is of no cost to the City. People would be able to access the information and access their form over the Internet on a secured site. We would be putting a link on our web page so people can go to our web page and get to it that way. The information will be going out in the City Newsletter.

He also stated that he is going to implement a system where taxpayers can do an electronic transfer to pay their taxes. We are currently doing that with the retirees for health insurance. The taxpayer would give us their information, such as bank, account # and when they want the taxes paid and we would then run a pre-note on it to make sure everything works. We would then process it on the date they chose. We would need to have the authorization from the taxpayers at least thirty days prior to the date they want their taxes paid. This type of payment option will benefit the "snowbirds," those who leave for the winter months, and anyone else who doesn't want to worry about paying their taxes on time. It costs less process an electronic transfer payment than for a check. Authorization would be needed for each year.

He also commented that the night deposit box that was installed last year for tax payments has also been utilized. The payments that have been in the box have been approximately 50% County and 50% City. This is another convenience for the taxpayers that appears to be working.

No action needed as this was just a report on the progress.
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ITEM #6-ADDITIONAL POLLWORKERS FOR NOVEMBER 7TH ELECTION

City Clerk Zdroik stated that most of the wards have five pollworkers, with the exception of Wards 8 and 12, they have seven. She would like to increase the number of pollworkers by two in each of the polling places in the City. The monetary impact of the request would be \$1,650, which is in the 2000 City Elections budget. She stated that it is her aim to make it easier for the voters of the community and this would allow more workers to be able to assist them.

Motion made by Ald. Rackow, seconded by Ald. Phillips to approve the additional pollworkers for the November 7th election.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.

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Adjournment at 7:50 p.m.

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