



FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2024, AT 5:30 PM

MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 106 JONES STREET, WATERTOWN, WI 53094

Members present: Mayor McFarland, Alderpersons Bartz, Davis, Lampe, and Moldenhauer

Others present: Finance Director Stevens, Attorney Chesebro, Assistant Engineer Beyer, Street Operations Manager Winkelman (video), Park/Rec Director Butteris (video), Lisa Schwartz

1. Call to order. Mayor McFarland called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.
2. Ald. Lampe, seconded by Ald. Bartz, motioned to approve the **minutes from the January 8 meeting**. Unanimously approved.
3. Park/Rec Director Butteris updated the committee that the **review of the job description for the arborist position** was graded the same (grade H) as the assistant city forester.
4. Finance Director Stevens presented the recommendation to **lease approximately 20 acres of agricultural land** near the airport to the sole bidder, Rosy-Lane Holsteins, at the offer of \$220/acre (\$4,440 for plot). Ald. Davis, supported by Ald. Lampe, approved moving forward with this lease offering. Unanimously approved.
5. Ald. Davis provided a memo of explanation for the **Special Event ordinance's related application fee and extraordinary services fee schedule** with some suggested modifications from the Public Safety & Welfare Committee's recommendations. The Finance Committee came to consensus on a few items (increase application fee from \$25 to \$50 for the first application submitted by an applicant and a \$35 fee for any subsequent applications within the calendar year, apply a 15% administrative fee to total costs of the extraordinary services and equipment with a waiver for nonprofit organizations), and asked for other adjustments to be made on the fee schedule for a future approval.
6. Finance Director Stevens presented an **estimate of the General Fund [01] income statement for 2023**. The budget was established to decrease fund balance by \$820,522; the initial calculations appear to be show the year may end at a break-even or possibly a net increase.
7. Ald. Bartz, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer, motioned to convene into **closed session** per Wis. Stat. Sec. 19.85(1)(C) to Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee subject to the jurisdiction or authority of governing body. **(A.B.)**. Unanimously approved via roll call vote.
8. The meeting reconvened to open session.
9. Ald. Lampe, seconded by Ald. Davis, moved to **hire Andrew Beyer as Director of Public Works** in accordance with closed session decisions. Unanimously approved.
10. Ald. Lampe, seconded by Ald. Bartz, motioned to convene into **closed session** per Wis. Stat. Sec. 19.85(1)(e) to Deliberate or negotiate the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session (**SW neighborhood development of Watertown Health Foundation property**). Unanimously approved via roll call vote.
11. The meeting reconvened to open session.

12. Ald. Moldenhauer, seconded by Ald. Bartz, motioned to convene into **closed session** per Wis. Stat. Sec. 19.85(1)(g) to confer with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved (**P. Byers v. City, J. Shaffer v. City and D. Veierstahler v. City**). Unanimously approved via roll call vote.
13. The meeting reconvened to open session.
14. Adjournment. Ald. Bartz moved to adjourn at 7:28 p.m., seconded by Ald. Davis, and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Stevens, Finance Director

Note: These minutes are uncorrected, and any corrections made thereto will be noted in the proceedings at which these minutes are approved.