

MINUTES
FINANCE COMMITTEE
Wednesday, September 9, 2015
City Hall, Room 604
Immediately following Personnel which begins at 4:30 p.m.

MEMBERS: Alders Tom De Wane, Andy Nicholson, Tom Sladek and Guy Zima

OTHERS PRESENT: Ald Scannell, Dawn Foeller, Diana Ellenbecker, Fire Chief Litton, Police Chief Lewis, Rick Jensen, Mike Hronek and others.

1. Roll Call. All present except Ald. Andy Nicholson who arrived at 6:05 p.m. Ald. Guy Zima left at 7:03 p.m.

Director Foeller asked if agenda item 6 could be moved up to follow agenda item 4.

2. Approval of the Agenda.

Motion to amend the agenda to have item 6 directly follow item 4 made by Ald. Tom DeWane; seconded by Ald. Tom Sladek. All in favor; motion carried.

3. Approval of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of August 4, 2015.

Motion to approve by Ald. Tom DeWane; seconded by Ald. Tom Sladek.

4. Report of the Purchasing Manager:
 - a. Request approval to purchase a new Type III Ambulance from Jefferson Fire for \$187,836.

Fire Chief Litton addressed the committee. He explained that in 2013 they bid out this same exact ambulance which was received in 2014. They have experienced very little maintenance issues with this ambulance, they have received outstanding customer service, and it has delivered a much more comfortable ride for patients. Chief Litton explained they have had issues with other manufacturers in the past. He further explained that standardizing equipment is highly beneficial to the mechanics and the department. Chief Litton highlighted the reasons for the single source purchase was based on their excellent experience with their existing equipment and again the patient satisfaction and outstanding customer service. He would like to emphasize that this price was negotiated and the best price was offered to the City as the best price offered in the country.

Ald. Guy Zima expressed his concerns with regard to single source purchases. He

would like to see it put out for bid for other manufacturers and the City be open to other bids.

Ald. Tom Sladek also expressed his concerns with doing business as sole source; however stated that he could support going forth with a sole source purchase due to Chief Litton's articulation of the advantages of going with this product. Ald. Tom Sladek cautioned as to the future going forth with higher priced items in the name of standardization.

Ald. Tom DeWane stated that he would not approve a lesser product to save a couple thousand dollars; when it comes to this type of equipment he believes in paying for the best product out there; high satisfaction with a product is a huge factor.

Ald. Guy Zima spoke on a historical event/scandal as to single source purchase within the City of Green Bay. Based on that history, measures were put into place so as to not have history repeat itself. He cautions proceeding in this manner with sole sourcing.

Motion made to refer this item back to Purchasing for an RFP to purchase a new Type III ambulance made by Ald. Tom DeWane; seconded by Ald. Tom Sladek.

5. Request by Personnel Committee to review finances, report and recommendation, with possible action, on a program for a Gang Task Force, along with the resources necessary for that program.

Chief Lewis addressed the committee. Chief Lewis stated he was asked to explore the Gang Task Force issue. At the Common Council meeting on August 18, 2015, he expressed concern that at his department meetings there was divided opinion as to the best utilization of funds. He would also like to clear up some comments that were brought up in that Council meeting, as well. Comments were made that there were 13 officers assigned to the Gang Task Force, whereas in fact, that currently there are 21 officers performing duties associated with the Gang Task Force. There was a comment that there were 28 gangs in the area. Chief Lewis clarified that since 2009, 28 gangs have been identified; some of them have only passed through or have been disbanded. The report was not to state that there are 28 currently operating gangs in the area. Chief Lewis stated crime stats are the lowest since 2011. Chief Lewis discussed this issue with the District Attorney; he indicated he is not seeing crimes that fall under the gang statutes. They are, however, seeing criminal drug violations being referred by the Drug Task Force. Furthermore, the District Attorney sees a value in the gathering of gang intelligence; as to what groups are working together. Chief Lewis discussed the issue of part-time vs. full-time officers assigned to the Gang Task Force area. He stated with the 21 officers in place currently and trained in the Gang Task Force area, all hours and shifts are covered. Chief Lewis did mention the focus would be different with four full-time officers dedicated to this area. Chief Lewis spoke of alternative options that may be a better utilization of funding including 1) replace police building 2) body cameras 3) increase training 4) replacement of the mobile command vehicle 5) fill existing positions/review hiring process/revamp.

Ald. Tom DeWane acknowledged the building space needs that Chief Lewis brought up.

Ald. Guy Zima stated that he believed that some of the comments made by Chief Lewis at the Common Council meeting on August 18, 2015 were not correct. Chief Lewis specifically questioned Ald. Zima as to what comments he felt were not correct. Ald. Zima stated that some of them were already addressed. Ald. Zima emphasized that it is the intent of this committee, as policy makers, to respond and offer more help in the area of Gang Task Force to protect the citizens in the City of Green Bay; more task force the better. Ald. Zima ensued a discussion between verbiage of gang crime vs. gang related.

Chief Lewis states he is coming at this issue taking in the full effect of budgetary constraints and what he believes is the best utilization and appropriation of funds.

Ald. Zima requests information as to where the crime statistics come from, how they are collected and analyzed.

Ald. Andy Nicholson stated that Chief Molitor and his staff brought forth a plan and presentation as how to deal with gang activity in the City identifying there was a gang problem in the City.

Ald. Nicholson specifically questioned Chief Lewis if he was stating there was not a gang problem in the City.

Chief Lewis responded by stating that the information reported does not hit on crimes involving gangs. Chief Lewis stated he is not being confrontational, but stating that the issues that need to be addressed go further than just adding more officers; he is stating that by addressing the issues mentioned above and the best utilization of funds would be to invest in the needs of the existing 192 officers, i.e. body cameras, tazers, office space, thus making them more efficient and more effective in all areas.

Discussion ensued for a length of time as to whether there is indeed gang related issues in the City and if there is a need for added officers dedicated to the Gang Task Force area.

It is noted that Ald. Guy Zima left the meeting at 7:03 p.m. before a motion was made and vote took place on this item.

Discussion continued with both Ald. Andy Nicholson and Ald. Tom DeWane continuing to ask questions of Chief Lewis regarding funding of police projects and crime statistics. Ald. Tom Sladek stated that he wanted to make sure all sides were represented; it is his belief that there has been some medaling efforts on the part of members of this committee. Ald. Tom Sladek stated it is his belief that the committee's involvement in the redesign of supervision/management within the Police Department could be viewed as medaling and furthermore stated this committee should not be involved in that

aspect. Ald. Andy Nicholson attempted redirection of Ald. Tom Sladek stating the discussion is about the Gang Task Force. Ald. Tom Sladek stated he makes this comment in response to the Committee Chair, Ald. Guy Zima's, statements that there appears to be opinions and views out there that some may see this committee being too involved with managing the Police Department and that some see it as medaling.

Motion to receive and place on file made by Ald. Tom Sladek. It is noted that Ald. Andy Nicholson stated he would not acknowledge that motion and opened the floor for another motion.

Motion to approve four new officers into the Police Department and move to the Joint Finance Committee in October, 2015 made by Ald. Tom DeWane; seconded by Ald. Ald. Andy Nicholson. (Vote: 2-1 Alders DeWane and Nicholson=yes/Ald. Sladek=no)

6. Request by Ald. Guy Zima, on behalf of Scott Vanidestine, that the City consider purchasing Tough Book laptops for all squads in the Police Department. (This item was taken out of order and followed item 4 on the agenda).

IT Director, Mike Hronek, addressed the committee. He explained that these units were recently replaced with Data911 terminals in the squad cars and will not be up for replacement until the 2017 budget cycle. Mike Hronek explained that we had purchased and used the Panasonic Tough Books in the past in the Police Department, DPW and Fire Department. The City encountered a lot of maintenance issues with that product. Mike Hronek explained they have found a much better product for a better price and have had much less maintenance issues; which are the Data911's. However they are now going with the GTech product, which are two-thirds the cost of the Panasonic Tough Books. Mike Hronek stated they would continue to test new products and new technology to be ready for the 2017 budget process.

A question was raised as to whether or not the Data911 units enable police officers to take the units out of their police vehicles to which Mr. Hronek stated that the police officers use their vehicle as their office and are not taken out of their squad car. Director Foeller brought up security issues that were part of the Department of Justice audit completed two years ago and the double security required by DOJ.

It is noted that Ald. Andy Nicholson arrived at 6:05 p.m.

Police Chief Lewis addressed the committee. The computers in the squads have access to Federal data bases and therefore require double backup security requirements. Chief Lewis mentioned there is a definite cost issue involved when adding the ability to remove the equipment from the squads. This may be taken into consideration when nearing the 2017 budget.

Motion to open to the floor for discussion made by Ald. Andy Nicholson; seconded by Ald. Tom DeWane.

Scott Vanidestine, 2410 Hampton Avenue, took the floor to address the committee. Mr. Vanidestine stated he had the opportunity to go out on a ride-along with a police officer. During the ride-along, he witnessed the officer's computer shut down three times; this was in one eight-hour shift. Citations would not print out, the officer had to send them to another officer to print; that officer then had to deliver them. Mr. Vanidestine stated this was a misuse of officer's time. Mr. Vanidestine provided the committee with documentation for review as to pricing on the Panasonic Tough Books.

Lt. Paul Eble was present and also spoke as to the issues with the laptops in the squads. Lt. Eble is aware of shutdowns happening on the Data911 units, however, the Data911 units have been more reliable than past equipment, whereby, if any part of the Toughbook failed, the entire unit would have to be removed, repaired and replaced. In some cases sent to Panasonic to handle the repair. With the Data911 units, they have separate components (screen, CPU, mouse) that if one component goes down, it can be replaced relatively quickly. Lt. Eble stated that in preparation of the 2017 budget cycle, the Police department will do a thorough analysis of products in the market place as technology is changing so quickly.

Motion to refer to staff for a report by Ald. Andy Nicholson; seconded by Ald. Tom Sladek.

7. Report by the Finance Director.

Director Foeller stated that just prior to this meeting, she participated in a conference call with the League of Municipalities along with other finance directors around the state to understand the state budget impact on the City and confirm constraints municipalities will face in preparing their 2016 budget.

Director Foeller handed out a summary of highlights of the 2015-2017 State budget and constraints that committee will see with the 2016 budget which was placed in each of the Aldermen's mail box.

As in past years, the City has two constraints we have met. The first being the expenditure restraint program (ERP) and the second being the levy limit.

The ERP program is voluntary, however, by qualifying, the City has been receiving around \$1.7M annually. The ERP program solely focuses on general fund expenses only and does not take into account revenues. Director Foeller has tentatively calculated the value by which the City's general fund budget can increase and using July 2015 CPI, it will be limited to right around \$750,000. This amount is subject to change since there are two more months to go but wanted to make the committee aware of this constraint. The ERP program is all or nothing, if you go over by \$1, you will lose the entire \$1.7M.

The levy limit program is a mandatory program established by the State which limits a municipality to increase its levy over the amount it levied in the prior year by the percentage increases in net new construction from the prior year.

A motion to receive and place on file the report of the Finance Director made by Ald. Tom DeWane; seconded by Ald. Sladek.

A motion to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. made by Ald. Tom DeWane; seconded by Ald. Sladek.

2015 Contingency Fund
\$92,220

- 1) **THIS MEETING IS AUDIO TAPED:** THE AUDIO OF THIS MEETING & MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE ON LINE AT WWW.CI.GREEN-BAY.WI.US.
- 2) **ACCESSIBILITY:** Any person wishing to attend who, because of a disability, requires special accommodation should contact the City Safety Manager at 448-3125 at least 48 hours before the scheduled meeting time so that arrangements can be made.
- 3) **QUORUM:** Please take notice that it is possible that additional members of the Council may attend this committee meeting resulting in a majority or quorum of the Common Council. This may constitute a meeting of the Common Council for purposes of discussion and information gathering relative to this agenda.
- 4) **REPRESENTATION:** The party requesting the communication, or their representative, should be present at this meeting.