

**COMMON COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 7, 2021**

The City of Noblesville Council Finance Committee met pursuant to public notice in room A213 at City Hall on Thursday, October 7, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 8:16 a.m. with Mike Davis, Greg O'Connor, and Megan Wiles present. Darren Peterson was absent.

Also present were City Clerk Evelyn Lees, Budget/Finance Analyst Sam Beres, Chief Accountant Heather Trexler, and Administrative Assistant Jacqueline Thompson. Chief Financial Officer and Controller Jeff Spalding arrived at 8:19 a.m.

Claims Docket Review

After discussion, the committee recommended approval of the claims.

Mr. Spalding briefly explained a process change for the committee to ask questions about claims before the meeting that he hopes will streamline providing answers.

Summary of Routine Appropriation Transfers per RC-2-21 – 3rd Quarter

Mr. Beres explained the quarterly report. He stated the transfers for the quarter approached the threshold of \$125,000.00, but most of the amount was due to two items. He stated costs for telephones, Adobe software licenses, and copier leases were moved from individual departments to the IT Department. He stated the other large transfer was connected to midyear salary adjustments approved by the Council.

Mr. Spalding explained by appropriating otherwise unappropriated money into non-departmental contingency, unexpected expenses can be funded through an appropriation transfer. He stated if the money was not appropriated to contingency, unexpected expenses would have to be funded through the additional appropriation process. He reminded the committee that all appropriations die on December 31 of each year.

Summary of Routine Appropriation of Grant Proceeds per RC-3-21 – 3rd Quarter

Mr. Spalding stated no grant proceeds were appropriated by his office during the third quarter. He stated a grant from the FBI reimbursing a police officer for service was received, but since the officer has already been paid, the grant was receipted to the General Fund, thereby reducing the City's reliance on tax dollars. He stated the process is good for the taxpayers. He stated the City also received an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) distribution in the third quarter which the Council had already appropriated through a separate action.

State Board of Accounts (SBOA) Mandated Chart of Accounts

Mr. Spalding stated the SBOA had established Chart of Accounts numbers several years ago, but as of January 1, 2022, units of government in the state are mandated to use them. He stated the

City will have to change its fund codes. He noted it would be possible to keep using our current codes internally and change them for reports to the State, but the City will most likely just change the codes. He stated the fund numbers will be entirely different than the ones in use now.

Mr. O'Connor asked what the purpose of the change is. Mr. Spalding replied the ultimate reason is to provide comparable information between government units. He stated while the change is implemented with good intentions, he is skeptical as to whether it will work. He stated there is too much difference in internal practice within units to provide good data. He stated the SBOA may be trying to provide more structure to help small units with limited government accounting expertise. He stated he has suggested to the SBOA that fiscal officers should be required to have certification to insure a basic knowledge of accounting processes. Mr. O'Connor asked if the change to the Chart of Accounts will help or hurt if the City changes accounting systems in the near future. Mr. Spalding replied it will be irrelevant to any change of that nature.

Fiscal and Debt Actions on Council Meeting Agenda – October 12

- *Ordinance #70-09-21 – Elimination of Promotional Fund*
- *Miscellaneous – Summary of 3rd Quarter Appropriation Transfers per RC-2-21*
- *Miscellaneous – Summary of 3rd Quarter Appropriation of Grant Proceeds per RC-3-21*

These items will appear on the Council agenda. New items were discussed earlier in the meeting.

Review of Agenda Addendum

There were no changes since the last meeting.

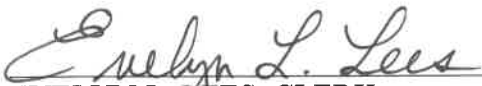
Other Business at Discretion of Chairman

Mr. Spalding stated he will meet with the IT Department on Monday concerning the City's pursuit for an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) platform to automate and integrate numerous business processes across departments, and that effort may lead to the selection of a new accounting system for the City. He stated the IT Department will help write a Request for Proposals (RFP) for soliciting ERP vendors. He stated representatives from Sondhi Solutions are meeting with all departments to understand their business processes, which will help determine what provisions and specifications to include in the RFP.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.



MIKE DAVIS, COMMITTEE CHAIR



EVELYN L. LEES, CLERK
CITY OF NOBLESVILLE