



MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2020, 4:30 PM

AMENDED

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING PERSONNEL

Special Telephonic Meeting of the Finance Committee

To listen to the meeting go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/CityOfGreenBay>

A. ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION.

I. This item contains documents which provide call in information and instructions for the Zoom Meeting.

B. ROLL CALL.

Present: Barbara Dorff, Bill Galvin, Veronica Corpus-Dax, Kathy Lefebvre

Also present: Ald. Mark Steuer, Police Chief Andrew Smith, Fire Chief David Litton, Chief of Staff Celestine Jeffreys, Finance Director Diana Ellenbecker and Assistant Finance Director Pam Manley.

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Moved by Ald. Veronica Corpus-Dax, seconded by Ald. Kathy Lefebvre to approve. Motion carried.
Yes- Barbara Dorff, Bill Galvin, Kathy Lefebvre, Veronica Corpus-Dax, No- None, Abstain- None

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

I. Approval of the Finance Committee minutes from the February 25, 2020 meeting.

Moved by Ald. Kathy Lefebvre, seconded by Ald. Veronica Corpus-Dax to approve. Motion carried.
Yes- Barbara Dorff, Bill Galvin, Kathy Lefebvre, Veronica Corpus-Dax, No- None, Abstain- None

E. REGULAR BUSINESS.

I. Request approval to purchase Sierra Wireless Modems with 4 years of Airlink Complete service

for the Green Bay Police Department Vehicles from Island Tech Service, LLC for \$32,490.

Moved by Ald. Veronica Corpus-Dax, seconded by Ald. Bill Galvin to approve. Motion carried.
Yes- Barbara Dorff, Bill Galvin, Kathy Lefebvre, Veronica Corpus-Dax, No- None, Abstain- None

2. Request by Ald. Johnson: To review the City's capitalization policy and recommend necessary changes as it relates to minimum bonding thresholds in an effort to stem the City's growing debt.

Moved by Ald. Bill Galvin, seconded by Ald. Kathy Lefebvre to refer to staff. Motion carried.
Yes- Barbara Dorff, Bill Galvin, Kathy Lefebvre, Veronica Corpus-Dax, No- None, Abstain- None

F. INFORMATIONAL.

1. 2019 Contingency Account:
\$53,526.33

2. 2020 Contingency Account:
\$150,000.00

3. The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday April 7, 2020 at 4:30 PM

G. ADJOURNMENT.

Moved by Ald. Bill Galvin, seconded by Ald. Kathy Lefebvre to adjourn. Motion carried.
Yes- Barbara Dorff, Bill Galvin, Kathy Lefebvre, Veronica Corpus-Dax, No- None, Abstain- None

H. VERBATIM MINUTES.

Chief of Staff Celestine Jeffreys: If you would please identify yourself before you speak. I do have your names written here on the Zoom list, but it will just help for the recording and for everyone's edification. Thank you.

Male Speaker 1: Unless you do it at home.

Finance Director Diana Ellenbecker: Okay. Alder Dorff, you may begin.

Barbara Dorff: Okay. It looks like we're recording.

Celestine: Yes.

Barbara: Okay. This is Alder Dorff, Chair of the Finance Committee. I'm calling the finance meeting for Monday, March 23 to order, and I will do roll call. Alder Galvin? Alder Galvin?

Bill Galvin: Here. Alder Galvin is here.

Barbara: Alder Corpus-Dax?

Veronica Corpus-Dax: Present.

Barbara: Alder Lefebvre?

Kathy Lefebvre: Present.

Barbara: Okay. We're all accounted for. I want to [unintelligible 00:00:56] a motion for approval of the agenda.

Veronica: Alder Corpus-Dax, so moved.

Kathy: Alder Lefebvre, second.

Barbara: Okay. Any discussion? Hearing none. All those in favor?

Kathy: Aye.

Veronica: Aye.

Barbara: Opposed? Motion carried. Alder [unintelligible 00:01:15] the approval of the minutes. Motion for approval of the minutes?

Kathy: Alder Lefebvre, so moved.

Veronica: Alder Corpus-Dax, seconded.

Barbara: Okay. Moved by Alder Lefebvre, seconded by Alder Corpus-Dax. All those in favor?

Speakers: Aye.

Barbara: Opposed? Motion carried. Letter E, number one. Regular business. Request approval to purchase Sierra Wireless Modems with four years of AirLink Complete service for the Green Bay Police Department vehicles from Island Tech Service, LLC for \$32,490. Are there any questions, alders?

Kathy: Alder Lefebvre [crosstalk].

Barbara: Alder Galvin, did you have a question?

Bill: No. I was saying I have no questions.

Barbara: Okay.

Kathy: Alder Lefebvre has no questions.

Veronica: Alder Corpus-Dax has no further questions.

Barbara: Okay. Can I get a motion for approval then?

Veronica: So moved.

Bill: Second.

Barbara: Moved by Alder Dax, seconded by Alder Galvin. To approve, all those in favor?

Speakers: Aye.

Barbara: Opposed? Motion carried. All right. Thank you, Staff. I guess we don't even need you, but thanks for being there.

[laughter]

I can see a request by Alder Johnson to review the City's capitalization policy and recommend necessary changes as it relates to minimum bonding thresholds in an effort to stem the City's growing debt. Alder Johnson, I guess, could not be here. He did call me. His purpose for this is basically to repurchase staff. He is concerned about bonding for smaller amounts. That's [unintelligible 00:03:07] \$15,000. That would be for new growth. He also has not had time to really review the-- In the packet, there's the policy [unintelligible 00:03:22]. The policy is in the packet. Somebody help. The name of that policy?

Diana: It is the City's Debt Policy.

Bill: Yes, Service Debt.

Barbara: Debt Service Policy?

Bill: Right.

Barbara: Yes, I'm just trying to think [laughs]. Yes, the Debt Service Policy. Maybe I would just ask staff, does that already cover what Alder Johnson was asking for? Director Ellenbecker?

Diana: Yes, this is Director Ellenbecker. I did attach a current Debt Service Policy in our packet because that is what the city--

Barbara: Are you hearing me? Can anybody hear me?

Veronica: I'm hearing you.

Kathy: I can hear you.

Assistant Finance Director Pam Manley: In and out of the room, but I can answer. This is Pam Manley, Treasurer. The current policy that Alderman Johnson is requesting us to review does include what we bond for and when we're allowed to bond for it. I am in agreement with him that we should not be bonding for some of the smaller items, but unfortunately, that's how our budget has led us in the past few years. It does spell out making sure that it covers the useful life.

We're not bonding for something longer than the useful life of an item. Making sure we're not bonding for purely office supplies and small-dollar items. If you want us to refer it back to staff, we can review it, and we can make any recommendations back at a future meeting.

Barbara: I'm thinking that Alder Johnson [unintelligible 00:05:13] represent himself. I know he wasn't able to be here tonight. I think I understand what he's saying. Pam, I think you have a very good point about this. We talk about it at council committee or would you like us to wait till the next meeting in April that [unintelligible 00:05:37] the committee [unintelligible 00:05:38]?

Diana: This is Director Ellenbecker. Can you hear me now?

Barbara: There you are. Yes, I can hear you.

Diana: Okay. I apologize. You couldn't hear me the first time. Yes, thank you, Pam, for stepping in. Yes, I did include the debt policy. This is what currently that we follow. I would recommend, as you said, refer to staff, and then I would also ask that we just take this up, and it would be part of the communication when we bring the 2025 [unintelligible 00:06:05] forward.

Barbara: Okay. You requested [unintelligible 00:06:12] refer this to Staff?

Diana: Yes.

Barbara: Is that what I heard you say?

Diana: Yes.

Barbara: Okay. Yes, there's something wrong with your speakers. I had a very, very difficult time [unintelligible 00:06:26] motion to refer to staff?
[crosstalk]

Barbara: Hold on. Alder Galvin.

Bill: Yes. I read through that policy a couple of times this afternoon. After reading it, I do have some questions about some of the items that we have been bonding for. As part of this recommendation to Staff, I would ask them to take this policy, apply it to our last budget in bonding from what we're currently at and see items that should have been, I believe, bonded for, now in hindsight. I think we need to address that, like Pam said, items we needed because of the corner we painted ourselves into. We didn't see much way out of it., but moving forward, we have to draw a line, and if we have a policy, we're either going to have to change it or follow it. Thank you.

Kathy: This is Alder Lefebvre.

Barbara: [unintelligible 00:07:30]. Go ahead, Alder Lefebvre. Go ahead [crosstalk].

Kathy: Yes, Alder Galvin now jumped in, and he said exactly what I was-- When I read through this policy, and I couldn't believe that we weren't following on some of these items that we had bonded before. It might be on our bonding list here. I definitely feel that, if we have a policy like this, we have to follow it. Thank you.

Barbara: [unintelligible 00:07:54]. I read through the policy too. I felt it was recommendations, but I didn't understand the policy that it was written in stone that that's the way every single thing has to be. I thought there was some wiggle room. I believe that with this policy, a lot of wiggle room which means there are times that you just simply [unintelligible 00:08:17]. I certainly think this could be an item we could talk about more. How would you like to do that? Could the committee tell me, would they like to talk about this more at the next meeting or talk about it more right now or what to do?

Bill: I guess I'd like to ask staff, like I asked, have them take a look at our last bonding, and then apply the policy to it, see if they can point out where there were discrepancies, listen to any suggestions they might have on either altering the policy or altering the bond or budget for these items. I think, moving forward, we'll be better informed and better able to make some decisions and comments.

Barbara: Okay. I think I will give one example, the \$15,000 for windows. This policy, as I read through it, about the bond for things that have that long-term lifetime. Windows have a long-term lifetime. It's a small item, 15,000. I just don't think that was against the policy. It would be nice if we'd take it out of our regular budget. If we had to bond for it, I don't think that one's going against the policy, but I agree with you, Alder Galvin, it would be good to talk about this more.

Bill: Exactly. I've done this probably ad nauseam. The squad cars for the Police Department, and God, they need them. They need a few that they can get into and trust that they're not going to be injured or killed because the cars aren't up to standards. To bond for a squad car that's maybe four or five years life in it and we're taking out loans that are longer than that, I think flies in the face of our policy. Those are things that we definitely need, but maybe we could find some different ways of keeping a fleet up to date and ready to go.

Barbara: Thank you. [crosstalk]

Kathy: This is Alder Lefevbre. Sorry. I was going to say I concur with the Alder Gavin exactly.

Barbara: Alder Corpus-Dax, would you like to make some comments? Alder Corpus-Dax, are you there? Can everybody hear me?

Diane: I can hear you.

Bill: Alder Gavin can hear you.

Barbara: Okay. I'll try to see if I can text Alder Corpus-Dax, instead of calling her.

Diane: I think she's there.

Barbara: She just said to me that she can hear, she doesn't know that her mic stopped working. [inaudible 00:11:20]. Okay. I think her mic stopped working but we're not going to finish talking about this. We're referring staff, is that correct?

Bill: Right. That would be my recommendation. Refer to the staff, having their comparisons and workup for any changes and I think we would need all changes the way we find. Just what [unintelligible 00:11:53] that meeting.

Barbara: I want to say I'll second that motion. Right? Okay. [unintelligible 00:12:04] all those in favor?

Diane Aye.

Barbara: Aye. Opposed? I'm not sure that Alder Corpus-Dax can propose and I'm not sure what to do about that.

Diane: She should be able to hear.

Barbara: [crosstalk]. Okay, this will work.

Diane: Yes. She should be able to VoIP.

Pam: If she use a civic phone.

Barbara: How? It's not showing up on her [unintelligible 00:12:37].

Veronica: Hear me now? Hello.

[crosstalk]

Barbara: Yes. Alder Corpus-Dax?

Veronica: Yes.

Barbara: Okay.

Veronica: We all voted. Are you ironing them out?

Barbara: Yes. [unintelligible 00:12:48].

Veronica: Okay. All right. What concerns me now [unintelligible 00:12:51] and information now, we had \$53,526.33. That's 2019 contingency fund. In 2020 contingency account we have \$150,000. On record, do you have anything that you want to add?

Diane: No. Not at this time.

Barbara: Okay. All right. The next Finance Community will be held Tuesday, April 7th. Now, I was available then and I am. There are certainly [unintelligible 00:13:28]. I'm not sure that

this **[unintelligible 00:13:31]**. How does the community feel if you want to come? Do you want us to work on **[inaudible 00:13:40]** on April 7th?

Bill: Alder Galvin is okay with holding it in April 7th.

Kathy: Alder Lefebvre's okay holding it on April 7th.

Veronica: Alder Corpus-Dax is fine holding it on April 7th.

Barbara: Okay. All right. Then we will have our next meeting on Tuesday 7th at 4:30 PM. Can I hear a motion for adjournment?

Bill: Motion to adjourn?

Kathy: Alder Lefebvre seconds.

Barbara: Thank you. Motion to adjourn by Alder Galvin, seconded by Alder Lefebvre. All those in favor? Aye.

Speakers: Aye.

Barbara: Motion carries, we're adjourned.

Pam: Thank you.

[00:14:23] [END OF AUDIO]