

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF MARCH 19, 2009 – 5:30 P.M.**

Attendees: Councilman Hardman, Councilman France, City Administrator Harrill, Councilman Conley, City Clerk Stinson, Deputy Clerk Welch, Executive Assistant Willis, Budget/Financial Analyst Wood

Review Bills

Committee reviewed the monthly bills in detail and Councilman Hardman made the motion to approve the payment of the bills. Councilman France seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of New City Budget

City Administrator Harrill gave an overview of the 2009/2010 budget. The budget has a wide variety of projects that improve city services for our citizens. Highlights include the relocation of GW Lane, completion of airport T-hangers, work on two MoDot enhancements grants and Safe Route to School grants and continuing utility infrastructure improvements. The City is financially sound and the budget is balanced. Bruce reported that he will be meeting with MoDot next Thursday to talk about the CW Lane project. The new hanger will be starting soon at the airport but probably will not be completed this year. Councilman France made the motion to recommend approval of the budget to the City Council. Councilman Hardman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Salary Schedule

Bruce stated that he is recommending and has included in the budget a 3% cost of living raise and a 3% raise after receiving a successful evaluation. This is a good raise for the times we are in. Councilman France made the motion to approve the salary schedule and Councilman Hardman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Hardman stated that she had research the salaries of Mayors and found that most were making at least \$300; some even \$1,000 in third class cities of our size. She made the motion to recommend to the City Council that they approve raising the Mayor's pay to \$300 per month starting in 2012. You can't raise the pay of a sitting Mayor. Councilman France seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Hammock asked that the City Administrator's pay be increased to \$72,500 per year. Councilman Hardman stated that Bruce has done a lot for the City and she made the motion to recommend to the City Council that they approve the ordinance setting the City Administrator's pay at \$72,500. Councilman France seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Changes to Personnel Manual

Bruce reported that are two changes he would like to see made to the personnel manual. The first is to change several job titles from non-exempt to exempt. This means these positions would no longer earn any overtime or comp time. Currently we just have three employees that are exempt; this would increase the employees to ten. The other change will be to the sick leave

pool. Employees would be able to donate 40 hours to the pool and applicants can apply for up to 80 hours for uncomplicated maternity leave. It would also allow other City staff, as approved by the City Administrator, to serve on the Health Leave Pool committee. Several employees have benefited from the health leave pool, which has had a positive impact on taking care of our employees. Councilman Hardman made the motion to recommend approval to the City Council of the changes to our personnel manual. Councilman France seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Contract with Stifel, Nicolaus & Co. and Gilmore & Bell

We will be working on several economic projects and are in the need for someone to handle our investment banking services. We have worked with Carl Ramey on other projects. We will also need to sign an agreement with Gilmore & Bell for legal services relating to development and redevelopment services. We have worked with them before on all our MAMU lease/purchases. Councilman Hardman made the motion to recommend to the City Council that we accept the contract with Stifel, Nicolaus and Company for investment banking services and the contract with Gilmore & Bell for legal services. Councilman France seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

Liability insurance bids are due in on March 26th at 3:00 p.m. We are also looking at different cell phone companies to see if we can bring down our monthly cost.

We are also in discussions with our health insurance company. We understood we had just changed our deductible from \$2,000 to \$4,000 but our coverage changed at the same time. We will be giving Mr. Muxlow information for him to contact their attorney. We expected our agent to know about any changes and he stated that he didn't. We will probably start looking at other companies.

We will need to hold a Special City Council meeting to accept the final amended budget for 2008/2009. It is set for March 31st at 5:30.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.