London City Council

Personnel, Budget and Finance Committee - Meeting Minutes

20 S. Walnut Street, London, Ohio 43140

September 11, 2023 at 6:00pm

Call to Order by Councilman Stahl at 6:00pm

Roll Call – Present –Chair Councilman Peters, Councilman Stahl, Councilman Eades

City Officials/guests in attendance: Sue Mosier – Treasurer, Amy Marsh – Taxation, Rex Castle – Safety Service Director, Kenna Combs – Auditor, Kris Miller – Council Clerk, Tommy Boyd

Minutes – Approval of August 7, 2023 minutes, approved by 3 voice votes

Auditor's Update

- August books are closed
- Overall (MTD) – Revenue $ 1,736,370.68
  Expenses $ 1,836,723.15
  Overall (YTD) – Revenue $ 15,197,352.81
  Expenses $ 14,130,655.08

Kenna Combs - Noted most of the lines are running high. Hopeful that we can move within and not need to increase appropriations. I'd like to wait and see how it shakes out. Amy Rees resigned, working on her vacation payout. Fire Department is where we'll need to increase appropriations, but not right now. Used fire levy fund to pay $26,000 for fire payroll run.

Councilman Eades – Asked about county doing revisions on property taxes and how do we think this will wash out for the city.

Kenna Combs – Most of our revenue is from income tax. Until I see the report, I really can't say what will come.

Councilman Eades, Kenna and Rex discussed levees may have to be recalculated. They moved on to study line-item questions regarding the sludge screw press and decided to wait for Councilman Peters to arrive.

Councilman Eades – Another topic. I sent an email to Kenna earlier about this. Last year, BPU came to Council for the sludge screw press with an expected cost of $1.6 mil. The city's part would be $800,000, we could swing it. Steve Lelonek was at the Public Service minute last week and he pointed out that collections from the corrections institute are down and that

would necessitate us to get a loan for our part, $800,000, but he's now only requesting $635,000 for our part now. $749,000 collected, $117,000 down from corrections.

Rex – Originally it was going to cost $1.6 mil, Richard commented the bid came in at $1.4 mil. OWC half is $749,003.11. We've paid out $89,742. That's why it's lower then the $800,000 proposed.

Councilman Eades – According to one report, General fund is $326,000, receipts are up $521,000, and expenses are up $753,000. This looks good. I'll wait for Josh to get here to provide reasons why.

Department heads update:

Taxation: Amy Marsh August report:

General Fund - $35,950.14, month – down 42.7%, YTD – is up 2.8%, September should look better.

Fire Department - $170,942.54, month – down 6.49%, YTD – is up 2.3%

Treasurer: Sue Mosier – Nothing to report

Street Dept – Bill Long Increase appropriations request under new business

Police Department: Under new business

Old business:

None

New business:

- Increase appropriations – Police Donation $1000.00 (Kronk & Scaggs)
  Motion to send to Council by Councilman Stahl, 2nd Councilman Eades. Sponsored by John Stahl
- Totaled Police Cruiser $39,317.17 – Insurance has sent a letter stating they are paying $39,317.17 for the totaled cruiser. Chief Nicols would like to replace the cruiser; which will be another $25,000 with the insurance money.
  Motion to send to Council by Councilman Eades, 2nd Councilman Stahl. Sponsored by Greg Eades. Emergency.
- Increase appropriations $63,919.90 (Sheffield & Oxley Paving Project)
  Motion to send to Council by Councilman Eades, 2nd Councilman Stahl. Sponsored by John Stahl. Emergency.
- Demolition and clean up at 138 Mound St Property
  Motion to send to Council by Councilman Stahl, 2nd Councilman Eades. Sponsored by John Stahl. Emergency.

- City Hall Paving Project – Patch seal & strip. Small paving around storage and gas house. Request $49,289.

  Motion to send to Council by Councilman Eades, 2nd Councilman Stahl. Sponsored by Greg Eades. Emergency.

- BPU Projects
  - Sewer project $13 mil
  - Supplemental design loan approval
  - Advertise for bids
  - Sewer repair, E. Lincoln & Riley
  - Sludge press
- Increase Appropriations – Water Dept.
  - Operating - $50,000
  - Chemicals - $50,000
  - Maintenance & Equipment - $100,000
  - Water meters - $25,000

  Motion to send to Council by Councilman Stahl, 2nd Councilman Eades. Sponsored by Greg Eades. Emergency.

Councilman Eades – Discussed the sludge screw press and got Josh up to spend with his concerns; which Councilman Eades brought up earlier in this meeting. I don't know how we can't pay the $800,000.

Rex – Kenna and I have been watching the sewer fund and watch it diminished very quickly. Down $134,000 on collections in May. It continues to drop, so I contacted BPU. We're going to be down on billings a half a million to $600,000. The fund is diminishing because he's almost $90,000 and paying for repairs. We're afraid to take the $600,000 out of the fund to pay for this project, we may be in a bad situation in the fund balance.

Councilman Eades – What was the ~~cover~~ carry (KM) over from last year?

Rex - $1.6 mil, almost $1.7 mil

Kenna – We are $600,000 less than this time last year. Right now, we are at $908,000, but we were at $1.5 mil this time last year.

Rex – When we noticed this difference, we asked him what's going on. We saw natural gas used is so high. I called Richard to find out why. Jerry turned off the methane gas and have been use all natural gas. Talked to Richard and he turned the methane gas back on.

Bill – He said it wasn't producing right.

Rex – It's working right now.

Councilman Eades – It seems like there is a lot of unscheduled repairs. At this point it doesn't seem the prison is that much down on collections.

Rex – We are looking at all the expenses to find any gaps or opportunities.

Councilman Eades – The only way we're going to get this done is to go down to $300,000?

Rex – Yes.

Councilman Eades – We need clarification for Council. Catch Josh up on motions passed earlier in the meeting.

Next meeting 10/10/2023 at 6:00pm

Adjourn at 7:10pm