

Financial Process Committee

July 26, 2021

The Financial Process Committee meeting was called to order at 6:20 p.m. by Chairperson Toni Harper. Member Troy Tripp was present, as were Mayor Anthony Taylor and Fiscal Officer Lydia Coakley. There were no visitors present.

Check numbers 45355-45361 were reviewed.

Lydia reported that Dan Rutherford has requested reimbursement for the \$50 shutoff fee incurred when his water was turned off for late payment. He paid his bill but was late in doing so. Lydia waived the late fee, but was not comfortable waiving the shutoff fee without approval from Council. This will be brought to Council at our August meeting for resolution.

The question of how much additional our insurance would cost if we have our own police department was discussed. A quote from the insurance company - to add law enforcement liability with one part-time officer - would be approximately \$550 annually. BUT this does not include insuring a police vehicle or equipment. We will ask Councilman Kelly Brown for a more detailed breakdown of the projected funds that will be needed to fund a police department, including health insurance costs for a full-time officer, increased costs for heating/cooling/phone/utilities, etc. for the building that will house police offices, cost to purchase/rent a cruiser, gasoline and repairs for the cruiser, extraordinary office supplies such as printing traffic tickets and other citations, uniforms, etc. We feel this projection is necessary to show voters what the actual costs of having a police department will be and exactly where their tax money will go.

Although we were offered insurance to cover bonding for all village employees and officers (where Lydia and maybe Frank are the only ones currently bonded), we were too late in responding and the offer expired. The committee suggests bringing this up next year in April or May, so that Council has time to make a decision. Also, the committee had asked whether our insurance included coverage against a cyber attack. This has been a world-wide problem lately. It does, but the \$605 we pay only covers us to \$25,000. We can get \$1,000,000 coverage (\$2,500 deductible) for \$1400. The idea was tabled until next year.

The bill from Crown that is past due was presented. We were first billed in January for two gates for the water plant that were ordered by Mayor Henwood. Because of COVID-19, they were delayed. When Mayor Taylor went to pick them up, he was told they'd already been given to Mayor Henwood. Mike said they had needed additions because they didn't fit. The additional side pieces were made and delivered. The problem with the bill is that it is for "2 gates," and we only have one. Mayor Henwood said he thinks the bill is actually for the side pieces. Mayor Taylor will try to contact a supervisor at Crown to have the bill redone so it can be paid.

Due to the increased prices of materials, Mayor Taylor noted that the loan we will request for the improvements to the water treatment plant will not be adequate to cover costs. We have two choices: increase the loan amount or take the additional money from the Sewer Fund. Lydia stated that the sewer fund would be sufficient, so the committee agreed to that plan.

Mrs. Harper had been contacted by a resident who questioned why the American Legion was told they couldn't use the bucket truck to hang the Veterans' banners because of insurance. Both Mayor Taylor and Lydia were surprised to hear this because neither had been asked by anyone in the Legion. Mayor Taylor stated that the village employees would be glad to put up and take down the banners if the request were made. The resident also asked about why the village was lending the bucket truck to Pleasantville. Although it was explained that it was a "mutual aid" thing, he wanted to know what mutual aid we receive in return. Mayor Taylor made a list. Mrs. Harper will call the resident and let him know.

The time of future meetings was changed to 4:30 p.m. Lydia will have this put on the website and posted in several places in the Village.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.