



MINUTES
Committee on Ways and Means
Monday, March 14, 2022 @ 4:00 p.m.
City Council Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Spadafore called the meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Council Member Peter Spadafore, Chair
Council Member Jeremy Garza, Vice Chair
Council Member Carol Wood, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager
Lisa Hagen, OCA
Jim Smiertka, OCA – arrived at 4:44 p.m.
Joe Abood, OCA - left the meeting at 4:54 p.m.
Dan Danke, Public Service
Andy Kilpatrick, Public Service
Jake Brower, Finance
Brett Kaschinske, Parks and Recreation
Eric Brewer, Council Internal Auditor
Desiree Kirkland, Finance Director

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER GARZA TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 28, 2022 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Public Comment

No public comment at this time; no public present.

Discussion/Action:

RESOLUTION – Grant Application; Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

Mr. Kaschinske referenced the presentation in the packet, noting that two are acquisition grants and two are development grants, and the applications are due April 1st with the written approvals of Council as part of the application. With acquisition grants, there is an appraisal, and the State pays for 75%. Mr. Kaschinske then started the presentation with the E. Cavanaugh where they will remove three structures along with the driveway approach. Council Member Wood asked if this was part of the Parks Master Plan and Mr. Kaschinske it was, as part of properties are contiguous with properties of the river trail, and the DNR Grants team approached parks on this

area as well. Therefore since they are part of, there is no need to amend the master plan. Council Member Garza asked the price, and Mr. Kaschinske stated they are applying for \$300,000 but do not think it will cost that much. They are asking for more, because if they ask for less than what it comes in at, then the City would have to cover the cost of the difference. Council Member Garza asked if there was a City match, and Mr. Kaschinske confirmed there was and the more the City matches the more points the City will get in their application process. The match funds will come from the parks millage, and Mr. Brower confirmed the funds were available. The next portion of the presentation was the Clifford Park outside courts and the install of a new pickle ball court. Council Member Wood asked for future maintenance plans of the courts, noting there needs to be money aside for improvements. Council Member Garza asked for the reasoning on pickle ball courts and if they did any outreach to the neighborhood. Mr. Kaschinske explained their reasoning on the choice. He then moved to the next project which is the Burchard Park and Brenke Fish Ladder. Council Member Wood referenced an article recently where the Army Core Engineers were discussing removing the damn as it is currently built, and asked if it would effect this proposed project. Mr. Kaschinske stated there are options for the fish ladder to remain, and if the damn is removed they will still need some type of rock wall in the area. They have been aware of the discussions on the dame, but again it if is removed he did not see that it would effect this project. The Committee spoke briefly on the proposed lighting which was confirmed as event lighting, not LED safety lighting. Council Member Garza asked if this was planned or just became a discussion because of the talks on the damn, and Mr. Kaschinske confirmed it has been in discussion before the recent talks. Council Member Spadafore asked if there were fees to use the area, and it was confirmed, along with confirming it is part of the Parks Master Plan.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER GARZA TO APPROVE THE GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOUCES TRUST FUND PROJECTS. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Grant Application; Michigan Department of Transportation Local Bridge Program
Mr. Danke explained that in this application the City shares 25% of the costs and the rest is picked up by MDOT, therefore the resolution speaks to design and engineering. This year they were allowed 4 applications from 5 in previous years, and because of preventative projects they are allowed to bundle projects together, which is why Kalamazoo and Beech are under the same project. He concluded by noting this is application for the 2025 year.

It was noted that the resolution had changed since referral, and the Committee had the new resolution in front of them. The changes were new figures for E Elm St over Red Cedar River to: Estimated Construction Cost - \$4,246,000; Match \$212,300; Engineering \$1,061,500 and the total of \$1,273,800.

Council Member Garza asked if there was funding for storm water, and Mr. Kilpatrick acknowledged there is and they are always watching for those opportunities. Council Member Spadafore asked if they can use ARPA funds and Mr. Brower stated those are for necessary expenses/services.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPOTATION LOCAL BRIDGE PROGRAM AS PRESENTED TODAY. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

PLACE ON FILE – Sole Source; Public Service Department for Detroit Pump and Mfg. Co as vendor for the purchase of parts and freight to Rebuild Worthington South Return Pump #23
Mr. Kilpatrick acknowledged that there are a number of sole source vendors doing work because they specialize in the equipment that is needed. Council Member Wood asked who the contractor

was on this project and Mr. Kilpatrick stated that they buy the parts and City staff does the work, but if there is electrical work they hire H & R Electric because of the scale of the project and they specialize in the big motors and high voltage. Council Member Garza asked when the McPhee Electric contract was up, and Mr. Kilpatrick stated he would check. Council Member Wood then asked the practice to monitor that the people working on the job are licensed. Mr. Kilpatrick confirmed the contract does specify if specific licenses are required and at that time the licenses are verified. Sometimes they do have journeyman on site, but he would confirm verification is done annually.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO PLACE ON FILE. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Council Member Wood asked them to come back with information on their policy on licensing verification. Ms. Boak was asked to follow up.

DISCUSSION – Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Overview

Council Member Spadafore explained to the Committee he requested this as an informational update since there appears to be a lot of funds recently or in the future coming in from the State. Mr. Brower noted for the Committee that the overall amount in the FY2022 budget was \$23.7 million for capital projects across the City out of the \$230,000,000 city wide budget. Some items are a constant rate; sidewalks, road millage, millage for cemeteries, golf courses, parks, and the dedicated for \$300,000 for City wide maintenance, which gets carried forward if there is a balance. In the GF itself there is \$175,000 for scheduled maintenance and 650,000 for unscheduled maintenance. Council Member Spadafore admitted the initial interest was for a discussion on the fleet, but after reviewing the last 2 budget CIP there are other areas to address, and asked if there are other ways to ensure there are funds, because it appears the City in the past the City puts money where the problems are, instead of funds in a cycle. Council Member Wood stated with her experience on Council, there was supposed to be funds set aside to purchase vehicles as needed, but they are always trying to catch up instead of progressing moving forward. Council Member Spadafore suggested have the Chief Strategy Officer speak to the Committee on a strategy and what other communities are doing. Council Member Wood referred to the City of Grand Rapids where they have a “due on sale” inspection on sidewalks that involve the buyer and seller of the property that could be an option to look at.

Mr. Brower confirmed his office has had discussions with Public Service, and in the upcoming budget Council will see the allocation of fleet going up, not just annual cost of car, but expected accident rate and life cycle. In addition they are looking at IT on computer replacement. Council Member Spadafore asked for further research on ARPA dollars used for the GF funds. He concluded the discussion by stating he would speak to the Internal Auditor on the current Grand Rapids ordinance.

OTHER

No other discussion.

ADJOURN

Adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee March 28, 2022