

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 25, 2010 – 5:00 p.m.

City Hall, Hall of Fame Room

Present:

Alderspersons Steve Tone, Paul Lawrence, Ross Scovotti and Eric Olstad.

Others Present:

Finance Director/Treasurer Laurie Sullivan, Mayor Donna Olson, City Attorney Matt Dregne, Chamber Director Dave Phillips, Tourism Director Erica Diehl and Utilities Director Bob Kardasz.

Call to order:

Finance Chair Tone called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes:

Motion by Olstad, seconded by Lawrence to approve the May 11th, 2010 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Communications:

None.

April 2010 Claims:

Moved by Lawrence, seconded by Olstad to recommend Council approve the April Claims as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

April 2010 Treasurer's Report:

Moved by Lawrence, seconded by Olstad to recommend Council approve the April 2010 Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried 4 – 0.

Discussion Regarding Chamber Financial Status:

Chamber Director Dave Phillips explained the role that room taxes play in the Chamber and Tourism budgets. Delinquent room taxes have caused the Chamber and Tourism budgets to run at a deficit. The Chamber Board is currently considering how to reduce expenses and generate new revenue sources. Chamber Director Phillips stated that if it were not for the delinquent room taxes, the Chamber would not be in a deficit situation. The Committee discussed the possibility of advancing the delinquent taxes to the Chamber and seeking legal action to collect from the owners of the hotel. Alderperson Scovotti is concerned that Visitor Services is in a precarious position especially if room tax revenues are expected to decrease for 2011. Scovotti stated that the Chamber plays a large role in the City's Economic Development plans and is the organization charged with ED marketing and Sales. Alderperson Lawrence reminded the committee that in the past, the City budget included funding for the Chamber of Commerce. The Committee would like the Chamber to bring a proposed budget for 2011 and a

forecast of the revenue shortfall for the current fiscal period to the next Finance meeting.

****The Meeting May Close per State Statute 19.85(1) (e) Deliberating or Negotiating the Purchasing of Public Funds, or Conducting other Specified Public Business, Whenever Competitive or Bargaining Reasons Require a Closed Session, Then Reopen for the Regular Course of Business re: Offer to Purchase 314 W. Main Street:**

****The Meeting May Close Per State Statute 19.85(1)(g) to Confer with Legal Counsel for the Governmental Body Who is Rendering Oral or Written Advice Concerning strategy to be Adopted by the Body with Respect to Litigation in Which is is of is Likely to Become Involved, RE: Comfort Inn:**

Moved by Scovotti, seconded by Lawrence to close the meeting per State Statute 19.85 (1)(e) deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session then reopen for the regular course of business re: Offer to Purchase 314 W. Main Street and 19.85 (1)(g) to Confer with Legal Counsel for the Governmental Body Who is Rendering Oral or Written Advice Concerning strategy to be Adopted by the Body with Respect to Litigation in Which is of is Likely to Become Involved, RE: Comfort Inn. Motion carried 4 – 0.

Moved by Scovotti, seconded by Lawrence to reopen the meeting for the regular course of business. Carried 4 – 0.

Future agenda items: Chamber Budget.

Adjourn:

Motion by Olstad, seconded by Scovotti to adjourn at 6:55pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Sullivan, Director
Finance & Economic Development