

## FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 19, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Berbee at 4:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Mark Reams, Henk Berbee.  
J.R. Rausch - excused

**Others Present:** Jenny Chavarria, Tim Aslaner, Mike Andrako, Taylor Evans with Journal Tribune

**Reorganization:** Mr. Reams nominated Mr. Berbee to chair the committee and there as an affirmative voice vote to approve the nomination.

**Approval of Consent Item- Partners Park Fees:** Mr. Berbee made a motion to add a consent item to discuss Partners Park fees, seconded by Mr. Reams. The consent item was approved.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes for the meeting on January 15, 2015 were approved as presented.

### AGENDA:

**Monthly Budget Review and Accept January Financials:** Ms. Chavarria said January was a good month with \$1.6 million in revenue, which is almost \$100,000 more than what we received last year. Expenditures are normal for only the one month.

She said if you look at Sewer revenue for this time last year, it seems lower. Last year, we had issues receiving payments from December, 2013, and that is why January 2014 was higher than normal. She said typical month is around \$700,000-\$750,000 for monthly fees. She said the same thing is happening with the Water revenues.

Mr. Berbee moved to accept January's financials, seconded by Mr. Reams. The financials were approved.

**Capital Reserve Fund:** Ms. Chavarria said we have established the Capital Reserve Fund. We were going to hold off funding until we saw the revenues for 2014. She said to get this fund fully funded we would need just over \$4 million. The two biggest areas are Streets and Fire because they have the more expensive equipment. She said there is some money available to start funding and she thinks it is going to take a couple years to get fully funded. She was thinking of moving a million dollars to start. Income tax was a million dollars more. Once fully funded, we would have to transfer \$600,000 per year from the General Fund to make the depreciation payment. Mr. Berbee said he would like an answer to give citizens who ask why we did not use the money toward sewer and water. Ms. Chavarria said she would say that those are separate funds that need to be supported by charges to those funds. She added if you look at any other financially stable community they have these reserve funds. They have equipment replacement funds, economic development funds, they have these funds established. She thinks Marysville is finally in a position that it is able to have these funds to sustain themselves in the future.

Ms. Chavarria said we already knew this was going to be a priority in the fall, which is why she brought this forward right now. We have even discussed putting the \$1,000,000.00 in and there would still be some money left over for street paving. Mr. Reams asked how much? Ms. Chavarria said probably a couple hundred thousand. Mr. Reams said that is where he would like to be a little more firm, setting amounts on how much you will submit to street paving. Ms. Chavarria said we have to wait until Mr. Andrako develops the list of streets they would like paved to see if there is extra money. Mr. Reams asked if we have to fund this today, could we do this all together. Ms. Chavarria said yes you can do it all together, if that is the way that you want to handle it. Mr. Reams said is concerned about the amount and how it fits in with our other priorities. Mr. Andrako said with street paving it can be geared around an amount that is available, you can fit the streets in that match that amount. Mr. Reams said or vice versa, we say we are going to spend \$300,000 on street paving, we can go down the list until we get to that number. Mr. Berbee questioned, if street paving could be taken out of this fund? Ms. Chavarria said no, that is not what it was created for.

**Union County Historical Society:** Mr. Berbee said a number of years ago, we had someone come in from the Union County Historical Society asking for support. In the meantime, a year ago, Superintendent Sheppard made a recommendation to them because we currently list them as four separate properties. Each property is paying for their own utilities, which runs about \$60.00-\$70.00. They could have pulled them together and made one meter, but they opted not to do that. So last year, the Historical Society spent a lot of time looking for some historical data for our current building, that you can now see downstairs. The City Administration went to the Historical Society and said we want to look back at this building and anyone coming in be able to see some historical information on how this building came to be. We never reimbursed them for the hours they spent working on it. That is why Council took it upon themselves. Council told the Historical Society put in writing the amount of time it took for them to lookup the historical data for our current building and then send Council a bill for \$750.00. We can take that amount out of Council's funds.

Now they are sending us a new request for money. Mr. Reams said in the past we gave them the \$750.00 for work that they did, now they are asking for it as a portion of their insurance payment. Mr. Reams said that is not what we did before and he does not feel we should get into the business of paying people's bills. Ms. Chavarria said last year, we even told them it was a onetime payment. Mr. Berbee said after receiving this letter and thinking about it, one thing that came to mind was what would be considered Marysville property that they are storing and what would be our cost to store it ourselves.

Mr. Aslaner asked how many times have we given money to the Historical Society. Mr. Reams said it was one time last year. Mr. Aslaner said then we have not made a commitment it was one payment last year. Ms. Chavarria said in the letter it even said a onetime payment. Mr. Aslaner said it was in exchange for a particular service, right? Ms. Chavarria agreed. Ms. Aslaner said they were asking for us to contribute money in the

past, but now it has moved on into an invoice. Mr. Aslaner suggested we have a talk with the Historical Society to see what they are asking for. He said this request is kind of vague. Mr. Aslaner said he could reach out to them to see if a representative could come to the next meeting? Mr. Berbee said it would have to be April 16<sup>th</sup> as Mr. Reams will be out of town.

**Consent Item- Partners Park fees/Amend 529.07:** Mr. Andrako handed out copies of the revisions to Chapter 110 and Section 529.07. Mr. Andrako said we just amended Chapter 110 for the pool fees, but we are now wanting to amend it to add a fee schedule for the pavilion at Partners Park. He said we added a “residents” and “non-residents” fee, see attached. Mr. Andrako said because of the types of events that will be taking place there, we did a survey with the donors to see if they would want to serve alcohol at their events, and the answer was yes. Mr. Andrako said they looked at the Metro parks fee structure for serving alcohol during private events at their facilities. Mr. Andrako said the fee to serve alcohol would be \$250.00 plus a refundable \$250.00 deposit. Mr. Andrako said besides the permit the City will require an off-duty officer to be present during the duration of the event.

Mr. Andrako said another place that we are looking to revise will be Section 529.07, where it states that an open container is not allowed in a public place. We changed that to say in any other public place including municipal parks except on the premise of Partners Park when a lawful permit is issued by the City of Marysville pursuant to Chapter 110 or during a City sponsored event in which beer or wine was lawfully purchased. Mr. Andrako said maybe in the permit is where we would put the rate for the officers and minimum hours required which is 3. The closing time of the park would be 10:00 p.m, and we are considering having them stop serving at 9:00 p.m. Mr. Andrako said the only thing they can rent is the pavilion. The splash pad, gazebo and the garden will be opened to the public at all times. Mr. Reams suggested that we add on the agreement that the pavilion is located near the fire department and at any time they can be called out and the City is not responsible for any noise.

Mr. Reams said he is worried about the parking. Mr. Andrako said they are just reserving the pavilion, not the parking. Mr. Andrako said the fee is twice as much as any other parks that we have. Mr. Reams said but they would be taking up parking that could be used for downtown. Mr. Andrako said that is the problem you run into with having a park downtown. Mr. Reams suggested raising the hourly rates to accommodate for the parking that will be taken. Mr. Berbee asked what most of the inquiries to rent the pavilion have been. Ms. Michalak said we have had everything from reunions to company picnics, and she said she has not booked a wedding yet, and those requests are mostly on weekend dates.

Mr. Berbee asked how you are going to be charging the partners during the time they are making their installment payments? Mr. Andrako said we have given them the nonprofit organization price, which is a reduced cost. The agreements that they signed as far as the

donations, did not list anything about them getting free use of the area. We understand without their support it would not be there, but at the same time we do have operating

costs or additional costs. The money that they donated paid for the brick and mortar that is located in Partners Park. Mr. Berbee asked have you thought about waiving the fee during the time that they are making their payments and then after they have paid off their agreed donation, they would fall back into the nonprofit category. Mr. Berbee said he wants to stay good partners with the partners. Mr. Andrako said we can add that to the ordinance, and right now we are working on a sign to give each partner appreciation for their donation.

Mr. Aslaner said he spoke with Mayor Gore prior to the meeting. Mayor Gore is in favor of waiving the fee during the time that the installment payments are being made. Ms. Chavarria said but if they are serving alcohol then they need to pay the costs associated with that. Mr. Reams said we can limit it to four hours a year, so it is not like every Friday night, we are going to have something at the pavilion. Mr. Berbee said to give a token of appreciation for their sponsorship by waiving the fees while they are making the installments. Mr. Aslaner said we could limit it to one event per year. Mr. Berbee agreed with the idea of one event per year, and asked if that is something that can be monitored. Ms. Michalak said yes, they would be able to monitor it. Mr. Andrako said we will modify the language for the ordinance. Mr. Reams made the request that someone monitor the parking situation, and after a few events if we are having trouble with the parking then we can look at making some adjustments.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.