

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date and Time: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 @ 5:00 pm., Board Room

Members Present: Nagle (C), Oberbeck, Brezinski, Nutting, Winters

Others Present: Tipple, Loy, Stratz, Werth, Groat, Jacobson, Hardel, Giese, Mielke, Gisselman, Kellbach, Abitz, Goede, Jim O'Connell, Tom Weaver.

In accordance with Chapter 19, Wisc. Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and sent to the Daily Herald in the proper manner. It was noted that there was a quorum present and the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Nagle.

Public Comment on matters appearing on the agenda.

None.

Consider recommendations from Room Tax Committee Task Force regarding Room Tax and Room Tax Allocations

Tom Weaver, Task Force member, reported the committee felt that the process of collection of room tax dollars on a quarterly basis could be improved upon. The committee recommended going to a monthly collection basis. He noted their research found that a range of municipalities give some money back to those properties that collect room taxes as an administrative fee, therefore the committee was recommending allow them to retain 1%. Groat commented the committee suggested that if at some point the city would want to consider changing allocations to individual grantees, that it be implemented slowly versus a dramatic change.

Groat stated room tax is allocated twice a year, in August and February, noting the requests are due February 28th. She stated when the 2014 budget was prepared there weren't any commitments made for specific allocations because we were awaiting the recommendations of the task force. She suggested Finance Committee hold a special meeting to review the requests and prepare the 2014 full budget. She stated if they choose to go monthly remittance and allow the hotels to keep 1%, it would require an ordinance change and they may want to consider holding a public hearing to allow the hotels to respond.

Oberbeck suggested putting together a group that does a more thorough evaluation of requests rather than the Finance Committee, similar to the Citizens Advisory for CDBG. He felt it would be a good idea to have more people involved throughout the community to spend more time analyzing. Nagle suggested discussing this process at a future meeting for the 2015 budget year. Oberbeck stated the idea could be discussed at the public hearing as well.

Motion by Brezinski, second by Nutting to approve monthly remittance of room tax to the city and allow hotels to keep 1% as an administrative fee. Motion carried 5-0.

Groat noted the Special Finance Committee meeting to review the applications will be on Tuesday, March 4, 2014, at 5:00 pm., in the Board Room.

Discussion and possible action on Request for Proposal for non-dog stray animals.

Anne Jacobson presented and reviewed a draft RFP, noting the areas highlighted in yellow are open to interpretation or direction from the committee as they see fit. She indicated she followed the Procurement Policy under Professional Services. She stated if they approve the RFP it will be released tomorrow, the proposals will be due the following Friday at noon. According to policy they will be opened by the Board of Public Works and sent to a selection committee for review and recommendation to the Finance Committee and then to Council on March 25, 2014. She stated this will allow enough time to get the contract executed before March 31st to ensure that we get the portions from the county to subsidize the Everest Metro jurisdiction as well as the city. Groat noted this is a

project that has not been budgeted for, so budgeting for the funds is going to be an important component of the process.

Oberbeck felt that having a chip placed in animals that are adopted should be a part of the service that is provided and requested that this be put in the RFP. Jacobson indicated she would add it to the RFP.

Motion by Winters, second by Brezinski to approve the RFP for non-dog stray animals as presented and to have staff review, select and make the recommendation to Finance Committee. Motion carried 5-0.

Consider Purchase of 401 S. 1st Avenue, Wausau WI

Werth indicated it was necessary to move into closed session to discuss the negotiations for purchase.

Due to time constraints there was a motion by Brezinski, second by Nutting to recess the Finance Committee until after the Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Finance resumed at approximately 9:30 pm.

CLOSED SESSION pursuant to 19.85(1)(e) of the Wisconsin Statutes for deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session for negotiating the purchase of properties. (401 S. 1st Avenue)

Motion by Brezinski, second by Oberbeck to convene into closed session. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Brezinski, Winters, Oberbeck, Nutting, Nagle. Noes: 0. Motion carried 5-0.

Reconvened back into open session to take action on closed session item.

Motion by Brezinski, second by Oberbeck to authorize staff to negotiate the acquisition of 401 S. 1st Ave. Motion carried 5-0.

Adjourn

Motion by Brezinski, second by Nutting to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.