

JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE and HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEES

Date and Time: Wednesday, November 9, 2016 @ 5:00 pm., Council Chambers

Finance Members Present: Rasmussen (C), Smith, Kellbach, Gehin, and Nutting

HR Members Present: Wagner (C), Gisselman, McElhaney, Neal, and Smith

Others Present: Groat, Barnes, Hardel, Giese, Jacobson, Kujawa, Krohn, Schock, Mielke, Peckham, Lindman, Klein, Splinter, Duncanson

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 there was a quorum present of both committees and the meeting was called to order by Finance Chairperson Rasmussen and HR Chairperson Wagner.

JOINT ITEM: Discussion and possible action regarding resolution authorizing the Wausau Police Department to accept a Victim of Crime Act Grant of \$186,439 to establish a Victim Response Team and pursue additional local grant funding to fund the remaining program balance, establish a budget as presented within the 2017 Other Grants Fund and approving two new FTE positions needed to establish the Victim Response Team

Captain Matt Barnes stated we have regularly seen a void in what our officers felt was a need for mental health treatment or care for victims, instead of just collecting their information and suggesting they talk to someone. He explained that VOCA, or the Victims of Crime Act, is a federal fund of billions of dollars that comes from fines from oil companies for oil spills. The police department recognizes the need for immediate mental health care for victims of crime and to do that we need a therapist. To support this team, we also felt that we needed an officer to work with them and this was proposed through a long grant process. He indicated we were awarded the grant and VOCA was very excited about this new idea that no other police departments in the country has looked at. This may really set the precedent for what other departments can strive to do.

Barnes stated from an HR standpoint it is two positions; from a funding standpoint, we will provide them office space, computers, phones, etc., and a percentage of his time to come up with \$23,500 worth of match. He pointed out the one thing VOCA can't do is fund police officers conducting normal police duties, which means we would have to decline \$30,000 in funding that he was confident we could make up with foundation funding.

Neal questioned what the ongoing fiscal picture would look like for continuing the program beyond the first year. Barnes explained with VOCA each year is individually approved on a three year competitive cycle, so we are approved for this year and if we accomplish what we say and report it, we get the grant for next year and the following and then we have to compete for the grant again. He noted there is a history of long term funding for programs like this.

HR Committee vote:

Motion by Neal, second by Smith to approve two new FTE position to establish the Victim Response Team. Motion carried 5-0.

Adjourn – HR Committee

Motion by Neal, second by Gisselman to adjourn the HR Committee. Motion carried unanimously. HR adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Finance Committee

Motion by Kellbach, second by Gehin to approve the acceptance of the VOCA grant; pursue addition local grant funding; and establish a budget within the 2017 Other Grants Fund. Motion carried 5-0.

Minutes of previous meeting(s) (10/25/16)

Motion by Nutting, second by Kellbach to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 10/25/16. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and possible action regarding budget modification for firearms - Wausau Police Department

Barnes stated the police department is in need of a significant amount of new rifles. In an effort to have all of our long guns consistent with each other, we want to replace some and some will be sold and traded in. He indicated between that purchase with optics for those rifles, as well as our need to purchase new hand guns this year that we

did not budget for, the total cost of those two items is \$49,200. He stated they were estimating an approximate \$100,000 budget surplus after this transfer.

Motion by Nutting, second by Smith to approve the budget modification for firearms. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and possible action regarding public depository resolution to reflect the new Assistant Finance Director

Groat stated this is housekeeping item to change the name of the Assistant Finance Director from retired Richard Whalen to the newly hired Robert Splinter, to allow us to get the signature cards changed at the various banks.

Motion by Nutting, second by Gehin to approve the change to the depository resolution. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and possible action regarding the 2017 Fee Schedule

Groat stated as part of the budget process we ask all of the departments to look at their fee schedules and make recommendations for improvements, increases, or new revenue sources. She indicated some of the major changes took place in the Fire Department with their EMS billing, as we had not increased the rates in about five years. The EMS Coordinator did a fairly significant survey of what other communities with charging, along with reaching out to our EMS bill company. She noted they are also asking for their inspection fees to change, because of having to do many re-inspections. Groat noted the new schedule goes into effect on January 1st.

Chief Kujawa pointed out the lift assist on the fee schedule states no change, however, she was recommending a \$75 change. Currently it states \$200 after two lift assists and she requested it be changed to \$275.

Motion by Kellbach, second by Gehin to approve the 2017 Fee Schedule, to include the correction as presented by Chief Kujawa. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and possible action regarding the 2017 Budget

Groat stated we have received tentative rates from the school district and the technical college and we will be seeing decreases in those rates. She indicated we were still waiting for the school credit, but assuming that the school credit that we get from the State of Wisconsin would stay the same, the school tax rate would go down approximately \$0.60-\$0.67, depending on which school it is. Our taxes are increasing \$0.24, so the net will be about a \$0.40 decrease to the resident.

CLOSED SESSION pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(e) of the Wisconsin Statutes for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, regarding Wausau Center Mall redevelopment strategy

Motion by Nutting, second by Gehin to convene in closed session. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Kellbach, Gehin, Smith, Nutting and Rasmussen. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Action regarding legal options available following termination of VGSI assessment software contract.

Discussion in closed session.

CLOSED SESSION pursuant to 19.85(1)(e) of the Wisconsin Statutes for conferring 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 it is or is likely to become involved, related to legal options available following termination of VGSI assessment software contract.

Motion by Nutting, second by Kellbach to convene in closed session. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Kellbach, Gehin, Smith, Nutting and Rasmussen. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn – Finance Committee

Meeting adjourned in closed session at 6:20 pm.