

May 8, 2023 Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting Summary

This provides a summary of the May 8, 2023 Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting. The meeting started at 4:35 p.m. and ended at 5:20 p.m.

Members Present: Councilman Larry Prues, Councilwoman Mary Allen, Committee Chair, Fiscal Officer Joel Gilpin, Fire/EMS Chief Tim Feldkamp, Police Chief Eric Williams, and Interim Administrator, Bob Lindhorst.

Absent: Mayor Ewing due to illness and Councilman Dennis Dalton, due to vacation

Guests: Councilman Ryan Woodruff, Councilman Richard Feldkamp, Resident and employee, Curtis Boggs

Discussion Topics:

There were discussions in the normal four broad areas: Finance, Village Administration, Police Department, and the Fire & EMS Department.

Finance – Fiscal Officer Joel Gilpin

1. Interest earned from StarOhio for April was \$4, 267.51
2. Joel provided an update on our appropriations vs. revenue to-date and we're trending on track for this point in the year
3. Joel provided a copy of the OH01 Lighting service agreement between the Village and Duke Energy. While it contained some cost information, Duke still has to finish completing the estimates for replacing the majority of the streetlights with LED fixtures. The estimates we've received to this point are for decorative lighting only and don't include the standard streetlights.
4. Joel contacted RiverHills Bank for an estimate on a rate for a potential loan for the fire truck grant match. The current rate would be approximately 6.35%.
5. The Tax Budget is due July 14th to the county auditor. We will need to schedule a public meeting for 6:45 before the regular Council Meeting. The Committee is suggesting July 11, 2023 at 6:45 p.m. to meet the required timing.
6. There was much discussion about increasing employee salaries. Per information we received from both the Police Chief and the Fire & EMS Chief, are employees are tremendously underpaid. Councilman Prues suggested that with Bob Lindhorst assuming the Interim Village Administrator role along with his existing responsibilities, the Village is saving money – and that we could use that money to give employees a raise.

***The Committee has reviewed all checks and electronic payments for the month April 2023.**

Motion: Motion to pay the bills.

Village Administration – Interim Village Administrator Bob Lindhorst

Bob didn't have any comments.

Police Department – Police Chief, Eric Williams

1. Chief Williams has had several resignations. He will bring the names to council during the next Personnel & Finance Meeting for Council to ultimately accept.
2. The Committee thanked Chief Williams for his thorough Budget Planning document.

Fire/EMS Department – Fire/EMS Chief Tim Feldkamp

1. Chief Feldkamp has one personnel change to reclassify Miranda Sims from full-time to part-time paying into Social Security. Her pay rate would change from \$17.50 to \$15.15 an hour. She will stay on her current probation. This change will be effective May 19, 2023.

Motion: Motion to reclassify Miranda Sims from full-time to part-time effective May 19, 2023. Her rate of pay will change from \$17.50 to \$15.15 per hour. She will remain on her current probation.

2. Chief Feldkamp is interviewing to replace Miranda's full-time position.
3. The Committee thanked Chief Feldkamp for his thorough Budget Planning document.

Miscellaneous Discussion:

There was extensive discussion again this month about the need to put a tax levy on the November ballot. Joel has contacted the Board of Elections and we must provide them the necessary information by August 9, 2023, to have it on the November 2023 ballot. The Committee has agreed to have an additional Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting on Monday, May 22, 2023 4:30 – 5:30 to discuss planning and next steps.

Councilman Prues stated he would draft a communication about why a tax levy was needed.

Councilwoman Allen stated she would draft a list of questions that residents will likely want answered during town hall discussions.

Guest comments:

All comments were related to salary increases and the potential tax levies for the Police Department and Fire/EMS Department.