

# PORT CLINTON CITY COUNCIL

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

### Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2016

1. CALL TO ORDER – Mr. Below called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Present were committee members Gabe Below (Chair), Lisa Sarty, and Beth Gilman, Auditor Cole Hatfield, Mayor Hugh Wheeler, Rick Noderer, Larry Holman, and Councilman Joel Freedman.
2. AUDITOR’S REPORTS
  - a. Mr. Hatfield reviewed and discussed the latest financial reports: (1) Fund Comparison December 2015, (2) Check Report December 2015, (3) Revenue Comparison December 2015, (4) Overtime Comparison December 2015, and (5) Expense Comparison December 2015.
  - b. Mr. Hatfield noted that encumbrances were zeroed at the end of the year, and that the general fund revenue ended at 96% of projected.
3. FIRE LEVY
  - a. Mr. Hatfield discussed the fire levy ordinance which will be prepared for the November general election. The levy represents a \$300,000-400,000 impact and allows the Fire Department to be self-sufficient.
4. UNION NEGOTIATIONS
  - a. Mr. Hatfield shared the results of the FOP arbitration, which produced a 1.5% increase in wages over the next three years.
  - b. There will also be approximately \$12,000 in retro pay for FOP and a one-time bonus of \$300 for Teamsters.
5. APPROPRIATIONS
  - a. Mr. Hatfield stated that he is awaiting certification from the County Auditor.
  - b. Mr. Hatfield is also discussing with the Mayor, Safety-Service Director, and department heads priorities and budget requests for 2016.
  - c. Mr. Hatfield noted that one employee would be reallocated out of the cemetery fund into the sewer fund.
  - d. Mr. Hatfield stated that personnel wage ordinances covering 2016-2018 will need to be passed and will be presented at the next council meeting.
  - e. Mr. Holman asked if summer personnel is allocated out of the general fund. Mr. Hatfield replied that numerous funds contribute to those wages.
6. TOP FISCAL THREATS & OPPORTUNITIES
  - a. Mr. Below opened discussion about the top concerns and opportunities for city finances.
  - b. Mr. Hatfield discussed #1, the impact of Ohio House Bill 5 (income tax changes), which could be an opportunity of threat depending how changes enacted by the State of Ohio will impact city revenue.

- c. Mr. Hatfield spoke about #2, health insurance premiums which are likely to increase when renewed in May. Appropriations will include a 15% increase.
- d. Mr. Hatfield indicated #3 as dock and bed taxes which are a concern.
- e. Mr. Hatfield indicated #4 as delinquent tax collection through the Ohio Attorney General program (Ordinance 25-15), which should increase recovery of lost revenue.
- f. Mr. Hatfield indicated #5 as the fire levy.

7. OPEN TOPIC

- a. Mr. Hatfield discussed the new city garage purchase which is awaiting a closing date. The project will be funded through a \$650,000 bond, using \$350,000 for the purchase and the remaining \$300,000 for renovations to the property.
- b. Mr. Hatfield noted that the new independent annual audit would begin in February.

8. ADJOURNMENT – With no further discussion, Mrs. Sarty made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Gilman. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Submitted by

Gabe W. Below, Chair

February 23, 2016