

## CITY OF AMHERST, OHIO

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Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held September 16, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. Present were Chairman Dembinski, Ms. Harmych, Mr. Heberling, Mr. Janik, Mr. Winiarski, Mr. Nahorn, Mr. Wachholz, President of Council Wasilk, Mayor Costilow, Safety/Service Director Jeffreys, Assistant Law Director Ward, Auditor Phillips, and Treasurer Ramsey. Also present was Building Inspector Macartney. Mr. Nahorn motioned to excuse Law Director Pecora as he had a letter on file. Seconded by Mr. Heberling. Voice vote 7-0 to excuse Mr. Pecora.

A-24-39 Re-appropriate funds in the Building Department to cover the cost of repairing vehicle; emergency

Auditor Phillips explained the reason for this request. Mayor Costilow vouched for the need and explained further. Mr. Janik asked the number of miles on the vehicle. Mr. Macartney said there were about 45,000.

Mr. Janik motioned to send this to the floor of council with the emergency. Seconded by Mr. Wachholz. Voice vote 7-0 to send to the floor of council with the emergency.

A-24-40 Authorization to allow the Mayor to use funds from the water Improvement Fund; emergency

Mayor Costilow explained the reason for this request. We have done a lot of improvements but need additional materials through the end of the year. Mr. Winiarski asked about the services listed and Mayor explained that was in preparation for an EPA lead mandate. He said rather than increasing water rates, and tapping into our reserve, we are trying to build the balance back up. The motion was made to take this to the floor of Council. Then Mr. Winiarski asked about the 120Water on the last page and Mayor explained that this was requested by the Water Department. Mr. Janik had motioned to take this to the floor of Council with the emergency. Seconded by Mr. Heberling. Vote 7-0 to take to the floor of Council with emergency.

A-24-41 Increase appropriations for CHIP Housing Program to repay program income to Lorain; emergency.

Auditor Phillips explained the reason for the request. She explained the money the monies are coming from Account 283-1900-41950. Mayor Costilow explained the CHIP program. Mr. Winiarski thanked the county and Mrs. Phillips for the information. Mr. Janik motioned to send this to the floor of council with the emergency. Seconded by Mr. Nahorn. Voice vote 7-0 to send to the floor of council with the emergency.

A-24-44 Authorization to enter into an agreement with Thompson Hine LLP to represent the City to develop a Residential Improvement District related to the N. Dewey Rd. Improvement

Mayor Costilow explained in depth the reason for the request. The residents were questioning the condition of the road. We had talked about being able to make some improvements to the area, but when he began to add everything all up, those improvements will be in the neighborhood of 1.6 million dollars. He studies this and there are some programs out there, similar to TIFF, incentive programs, that people will pay their taxes, but some of the taxes will be redirected to improvements that will directly improve this neighborhood. He found this company that are experts in this field; with financing and bonding. They will help us with collecting money for these projects. He spoke further. Mr. Nahorn thanked him for looking into this as that road definitely needs improvements. He asked if we have worked with this company in the past. Mayor Costilow said we have not, but they come highly recommended and he felt they were very knowledgeable. Mr. Winiarski pointed out that the date on this letter was 2014. The number 1075 jumped out at him as it prevents the school from participating in the negotiations and he is against that. Mayor Costilow said that is only if you do the 20/75 and that's not the full TIFF. Mayor Costilow explained that there is provision for schools to participate.

Mr. Janik motioned to send this to the floor of council.  
Seconded by Mr. Nahorn. Voice vote 6-1 to send to the floor of  
council with Mr. Winiarski voting no.

Mr. Wachholz motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Nahorn. Voice vote 7-0  
to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:19 P. M.

Brian Dembinski, Chairman  
Finance Committee