# COMMON COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

The City of Noblesville Council Finance Committee met on Thursday, September 19, 2019. Megan Wiles called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. with Greg O'Connor and Rick Taylor present. Christopher Jensen was absent.

Also present were City Clerk Evelyn Lees, Controller Jeff Spalding, Street Commissioner Patty Johnson, Human Resources Director Holly Ramon, Budget/Finance Analyst Sam Beres, and Chief Accountant Heather Trexler. Parks Director Brandon Bennett arrived at 9:10 a.m.

#### **New OFA Staff Member**

Mr. Spalding introduced Mr. Beres to the committee. He stated Mr. Beres has a strong background in government finance. Mr. Spalding stated in time Mr. Beres will be the main staff member working with OpenGov.

#### Preview of September 24 Budget Overview

Mr. Spalding presented the 2016 budget book, which was several inches thick. He stated the book contains much data but very little information. He stated his goal is to produce a budget book with summaries of each department's budgets that will be much smaller and easier to understand. He explained the budget used to include only departmental operating budgets, and that has been expanded during his tenure. He noted the process is not yet complete and is still in transition, but there has been good progress. He demonstrated some of the reporting features in OpenGov.

Mr. Spalding distributed the 2020 Civil City Budget – Proposed, Overview/Highlights as of September 19, 2019, and a draft of the City's Fiscal Plan revised September 18, 2019. He reviewed the Overview/Highlights, and Ms. Ramon answered questions concerning salaries. There was a discussion concerning wise use of cash reserves.

Ms. Ramon left the meeting.

Mr. Spalding stated he and Ms. Ramon are still working on totals for health insurance.

#### Fiscal (and Related) Actions on Council Meeting Agenda – September 24th

• *Transfer #TA-13-19* 

Mr. Spalding stated this transfer will allow the Street Department to purchase a new leaf vacuum. He noted \$12,000.00 is covered by the current budget. He stated normally the vacuum would be purchased through the capital equipment lease program, but the lease is very difficult to amend this late in the year. Ms. Johnson noted that only one leaf vacuum is available for purchase, and it may no longer be available if there is a delay. She stated she has included a pull-

behind leaf vacuum in the 2020 budget, but she would rather purchase another one like the one being purchased now. She stated this model only requires one person to operate it and is much less dangerous for her employees to use. She noted there are several injuries each year to employees operating the vacuum on the pull-behind model. She stated a machine purchased next year could be included in the 2020 capital equipment lease. The committee supported the transfer to purchase the leaf vacuum.

## **Claims Docket Review**

The committee recommended approval of the claims.

## Review of Agenda Addendum

Mr. Spalding stated he will meet with Policy Analytics tomorrow.

### Other Business at Discretion of the Chair

Mr. O'Connor asked if Mr. Bennett has final totals regarding recommended improvements to the golf courses. Mr. Bennett stated he is still working on estimates, but he will have totals to present at the October 10<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

MEGAN G. WILES, COMMITTEE CHAIR

EVELYN L. LEES, CITY CLERK