

**COMMON COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 21, 2024**

The City of Noblesville Council Finance Committee met pursuant to public notice in room A213 at City Hall on Thursday, November 21, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 8:15 a.m. with Mike Davis, Dave Johnson, and Aaron Smith present. Megan Wiles attended electronically via phone, due to technical difficulties with Microsoft Teams.

Also present were City Clerk Evelyn Lees, Deputy Mayor Matt Light, City Attorney Jonathan Hughes, Street Commissioner Patty Johnson, Parks and Recreation Administrative Manager Wendy StremLaw, Chief Financial Officer and Controller Jeff Spalding, Deputy Financial Officer Tom MacDonald, Deputy Controller Caitlin Kesner, and Executive Assistant Cindy Frye.

Mr. Johnson, Mr. Smith, and Ms. Wiles are also members of the Downtown District Council Committee, but no items pertaining to that committee were on the agenda or discussed, and they did not attend this meeting in their capacity as members of the other committee.

Claims Docket Review

Ms. Kesner stated there would be no docket for the November 26 meeting, because there would be another meeting the following week on December 3. She stated it was best to have one docket at the December 3 meeting.

Amendment to the 2025 Salary Ordinance

Ms. Johnson spoke on behalf of Human Resources Director Holly Ramon. Ms. Johnson stated the employee salary ordinance must be amended because the original ordinance omitted the pay rate for temporary snowplow drivers. She stated funding for the drivers was included in the budget. Mr. Spalding stated his office is working on a process with Human Resources to prevent this type of omission in the future. He stated they were focused on full-time employees in the budget and forgot to add the temporary employees. Mr. Johnson asked if the City has other seasonal employees. Ms. Johnson replied yes, there are other seasonal employees, but they would be paid at a different rate than the snowplow drivers. The committee agreed to recommend approval of Ordinance #57-09-24A.

Fiscal Action(s): Additional Appropriation – ARPA Funding Reallocation

Mr. MacDonald stated there are three Council meetings left in the year, so he is working on all necessary adjustments to be presented at the next meeting. He stated appropriation transfers will follow at the December 3 meeting. He stated this additional appropriation is in the American Rescue Plan (ARPA) Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Plan Fund. He stated the remaining balance in the fund was required to be obligated by December 31, 2024. He stated the funding was originally intended for the Logan Street Trail, but that project was taking longer than intended. He stated it was decided to shift the funding to the Downtown Streetscape project. Mr. Light stated the scope of the Logan Street Trail was not finished yet, but work had already been done

for the Streetscape. He stated the Logan Street Trail will still be constructed, but in 2025. The committee agreed to recommend approval of Ordinance #69-11-24.

Fiscal Action(s): Additional Appropriation – Investment Fees

Mr. MacDonald stated money in the 2016 LOIT for Roads Fund was invested, but the investment fees were inadvertently omitted from the budget. He stated an additional appropriation was needed to correct the error. The committee agreed to recommend approval of Ordinance #70-11-24.

Fiscal Action(s): Additional Appropriation – Golf Operations

Mr. MacDonald stated 2024 was a good year for golf. He stated an additional appropriation is needed to cover the extra expenses associated with the additional revenue. He stated golf revenue is \$800,000.00 above what was in the Fiscal Plan. He stated the same thing happened last year. Ms. Stremlaw stated she has five years of data now. She stated the golf expenses have been steadily increasing. She stated in the past budgets were not influenced by trends. Mr. Johnson asked if the extra revenue had kept up with expenses. Ms. Stremlaw replied it is the reverse of ten years ago. She stated the recreation programs used to subsidize golf. She stated now golf subsidizes recreation programs. She stated she was working to accurately budget expenses. Mr. Johnson asked if the City's investments in the golf courses had helped. Ms. Stremlaw replied, yes, they have helped quite a bit.

Mr. Light stated the golf pro's contract was going to be adjusted in January to comply with new federal labor rules, but the rules were recently invalidated by a judge in Texas. He stated he would bring an update to the meeting next week. He stated it may not be necessary to adjust the contract. The committee agreed to recommend approval of Ordinance #71-11-24.

Review of Agenda Addendum

Mr. Spalding stated Ordinance #60-10-24 was adopted, but it would come before the Council again to be ratified. He stated because the ordinance is connected to bond issuance, the City needs to make sure all laws are followed.

Other Business at Discretion of Chairman

Mr. Light asked if the City had received a decision concerning the maximum levy appeal. Mr. Spalding replied he had not heard anything yet, but he does not typically receive a decision until early December.

Mr. Davis reminded the committee the next meeting would be next Wednesday.

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Fiscal & Debt Actions on Council Meeting Agenda – November 26

- *Ordinance #60-10-24 – Appropriation of Bonds Proceeds for Capital Improvements Short-term GO Bond of 2024, Series A [Ratification]*
- *Ordinance #69-11-24 – Additional Appropriation for ARPA Funding Reallocation (ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund)*
- *Ordinance #70-11-24 – Additional Appropriation for Investment Fees (2016 LOIT for Roads Fund)*
- *Ordinance #71-11-24 – Additional Appropriation for Golf Operations (Park Programs Fund)*

The list of actions was provided for information only.

The meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m.



MIKE DAVIS, COMMITTEE CHAIR



EVELYN L. LEES, CLERK
CITY OF NOBLESVILLE

