

## CITY OF WAUWATOSA

MEMORIAL CIVIC CENTER  
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### BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 24, 2004

Committee Room #2

PRESENT: Alds. Casey, Grimm, Jenkins, McCarthy, Stepaniak, Subotich -6

EXCUSED: Alds. Bruderle -Baran, Matthews

ALSO PRESENT: T. Wontorek, City Admin.; R. Braier, Finance Dir.; A. Kesner, City Attorney; B. Aldana, Asst. City Attorney; K. Isleb, City Assessor; R. Lenski, Deputy Assessor; W. Wehrley, City Engineer; T. Kucharski, Parks & Forestry Supt.; N. Kreuser, Health Officer; L. Nielsen, Public Health Nurse Supv.

Ald. Stepaniak as Chair called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

#### **Proposed Memorandum of Understanding with Local 305 reclassifying 6 positions from Laborer I to Laborer II in the operations division**

Mr. Wehrley explained Mr. Kappel's plan to streamline the operations division by phasing out the Laborer I positions by reclassifying them to Laborer II. The only significant difference between a Laborer I and Laborer II position is the requirement to have a commercial driver's license (CDL). A CDL is required to operate heavy equipment such as snowplows and garbage trucks. Of the six Laborer I positions, two have indicated they are not interested in obtaining CDLs. Their pay will be frozen at the Laborer I rate with only the percentage increase. Mr. Wehrley explained there is no budgetary impact this year due to the savings created by an existing vacancy.

Ald. Jenkins pointed out the Employee Relations Committee unanimously recommended approval.

Moved by Ald. Jenkins, seconded by Ald. McCarthy to recommend approval --

Ald. Grimm asked what would happen if a Laborer II lost his CDL. Mr. Wehrley explained that a CDL is a requirement of the position and if a Laborer II lost his CDL he would be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

Vote on the motion was Ayes: 6

#### **Proposed membership fee increase for the Hart Park Senior Center**

Mr. Kucharski reported the Senior Center Advisory Board recommends increasing the annual membership fee by \$3 to generate additional flexible funds to promote their activities. Mr. Kucharski said Parks has allocated \$6,800 for promotion and this money is used in the production and mailing of the newsletter. The increased revenue is estimated to be \$2,022 for 674 members. The \$3 increase will mean that annual fees will be \$10 for Wauwatosa residents age 62 and over; \$15 for Wauwatosa residents 60-62, and \$21 for non-Wauwatosa residents.

Moved by Ald. McCarthy, seconded by Ald. Grimm to recommend approval of the rate increase -6

**Proposed resolution authorizing borrowing for 2004 public works projects, call of \$300,000 from 1995 promissory notes, and refinancing of the 1994 police station addition bonds and 1997 promissory notes**

Mr. Braier explained the request is for authorization to proceed with 1) borrowing \$2.3 million to fund the 2004 capital projects, 2) refinancing of some maturities at a lower interest rate resulting in a savings of \$191,000; and 3) refinancing the 1994 police station addition bonds and 1997 promissory notes. He said Paul Thompson of Hutchison, Shockey, Erley & Co., the city's financial advisor, was present to answer questions. He gave the timetable for the proposed sale and said he is requesting a special Budget & Finance Committee meeting on the sale date of March 16th prior to the Common Council meeting. Responding to a question from the committee, Mr. Braier said he did not anticipate any change in the City's Aaa rating at this time.

Moved by Ald. McCarthy, seconded by Ald. Jenkins to recommend approval -6

**Fund transfer request from the Reserve for Contingencies to obtain appraisals of formerly exempt properties**

Ms. Isleb gave a summary of a recent State Supreme Court decision known as "Columbus Park." She explained that the court ruled that certain properties that were exempt could no be considered tax exempt. She said this case could potentially affect some major properties in the city such as St. Camillus/San Camillo and Luther Manor. Property owners are required to reapply for tax exemption. Ms. Isleb said she felt her office will need outside appraisal help to appraise these specialized properties that have multiple uses; i.e. Luther Manor has 7 distinct uses within the facility. Because of the time frame for the appraisals, there is no time for her or her staff to develop expertise in this area. There is also the issue of credibility if the cases should go to court. The appraiser Ms. Isleb is proposing to hire has helped her office several times in the past and has the necessary expertise. She requested a transfer of \$58,500 from the Reserve for Contingencies.

Responding to a question from Ald. Jenkins, Ms. Isleb said there is no way of knowing at this time how much of these properties will be taxable. There is an effort underway to enact retroactive legislation. Mr. Kesner pointed out that what the Columbus Park case did was to make leased space in a facility such as this tax exempt only if the use would be exempt if the lessee owned it themselves. The various uses now have to be looked at separately.

Ald. Jenkins pointed out that in fairness to people living in their own homes and paying taxes it was only fair that these properties should also pay taxes on uses not exempt. Ald. McCarthy asked if Ms. Isleb would be working with the independent appraiser and gaining training and expertise. Ms. Isleb agreed that this would be the case. She pointed out that the appraiser would be retained only if necessary.

Moved by Ald. McCarthy, seconded by Ald. Casey to recommend approval of the fund transfer of \$58,500 from the Reserve for Contingencies for the purpose of doing appraisals of formerly tax exempt properties --

Responding to a question about Pilots, Ms. Isleb explained these were Payments In Lieu of Taxes that some entities paid to the city, but no to other taxing authorities such as the school district. Ald. Casey pointed out that Pilots are nominal at best and felt it was only fair to tax those uses that were taxable under the law.

Vote on the motion was Ayes: 6

**Proposed Bioterrorism Consortium workforce development opportunities**

Ms. Kreuser explained that a requirement of the Bioterrorism Consortium Grant for 2004 is that public health staff complete training. The various health departments were asked to submit their training requests, which totaled \$150,000, to a subcommittee for approval. Ms. Kreuser said the request is to use these bioterrorism consortium grant funds set aside for education.

Moved by Ald. Casey, seconded by Ald. Grimm to recommend approval -6

**Proposed Bioterrorism Consortium dispensing site purchases**

Ms. Kreuser reported that the request is to set up and stock with supplies 15 dispensing sites at various locations that have the capacity to do mass immunizations. The sites will operate in a similar manner to the city’s own emergency operations center. The Bioterrorism Consortium Grant will fund the entire cost estimated at \$38,000. Authorization is requested to use these fund to set up the 15 area sites.

Moved by Ald. McCarthy, seconded by Ald. Casey to recommend approval -6

**Request for waiver from low bid supplier for influenza vaccine**

Ms. Kreuser reported that in past years her department has had problems with the low bid contractor to supply influenza vaccine. Last year the contractor changed distributors and delivery was late. Another supplier was found at the last minute. There was also a problem in obtaining vaccine for children under the age of four. Ms. Kreuser requested a waiver from the competitive bidding process for purchase influenza vaccine. The cost will be approximately \$2,000 higher than the low bidder.

Ald. McCarthy asked if this waiver was discussed with the City Attorney. Ms. Kreuser said she spoke with the state regional office regarding the supplier, but apparently they are exempt from any accountability. Responding to a question about demand for this service and cost to residents, Ms. Nielsen said the Health Department vaccinates about 2,000 people annually. Although the Visiting Nurse Association and Covenant Health Care offer area-wide flu clinics, they do not service high risk groups such as housebound individuals. Ms. Nielsen said her department bills Medicare and Medicaid for the vaccines, and provide receipts to people to submit to their private health insurance.

Mr. Braier clarified the competitive bidding process is a requirement by local ordinance and the Council may authorize an exemption. Mr. Wontorek said the City Attorney pointed out that a permanent waiver would require action by an amendment to the ordinance. An annual waiver could be accomplished by resolution.

Moved by Ald. Casey, seconded by Ald. McCarthy to recommend approval of waiver from low bid supplier for 2004 -6

**Vouchers**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>	<b><u>FOR</u></b>
W. Mainus	\$ 90.35	Building - 2/19/04 - Waukesha Plumbing recertification
A. Eldredge	\$ 101.63	Health - 2/3/04 - Milwaukee Lead Symposium

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FOR</u>
B. Weber	\$1,496.43	Police - 10/21-26/03 - Philadelphia, PA International Assn of Chiefs of Police Conf.
J. Schwab, D. Wheaton, W. Bayliss	\$ 135.00	Building - 2/11/04 - Milwaukee UDC Const. Recertification
W. Mainus	\$ 55.00	Building - 2/12/04 - Milwaukee Recertification
J. Schwab	\$ 65.00	Building - 2/12/04 - Milwaukee Comm Building Code Recertification
D. Wheaton, F. Knapp	\$ 160.00	Building - 1/23/04 - Menomonee Falls UDC Electrical Recertification
S. Alioto	\$ 25.93	Police - 2/9-11/04 - MATC Patrol in-service
J. Morrison	\$ 25.93	Police - 2/9-11/04 - MATC Patrol in-service
D. Breitlow	\$ 26.39	Police - 2/9-11/04 - MATC Patrol in-service
D. Redman, M. Anton, J. Hevey	\$ 45.00	Fire - 2/11/04 - Wauwatosa Monthly mtg. of Training Officers Assn.
S. Presnal, D. Wheaton	\$ 60.00	Building - 2/19/04 - Milwaukee Cont. Educ. Plumbing Insp. UDC License
T. Kucharski + 8 arborists	\$ 270.00	Forestry - 2/11/04 - Waukesha UW 2004 Landscaping & Grounds Maint.
T. Kastner	\$ 25.15	Police - 2/9-11/04 - MATC Patrol in-service
P. Allen, B. Dess, T. Kucharski	\$ 180.00	Parks - 2/18/04 - Waukesha Midwest Perennial Conference

Moved by Ald. Casey, seconded by Ald. McCarthy to  
recommend that the vouchers be allowed and paid -6

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk  
City of Wauwatosa

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