



CITY OF WAUWATOSA

MEMORIAL CIVIC CENTER
7725 WEST NORTH AVENUE
Telephone: (414) 479-8917
Fax: (414) 479-8989

BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, May 3, 2005

Committee Room #2

PRESENT: Alds. Bruderle-Baran, Casey, Grimm, Herzog, Jenkins, Maher, Stepaniak -7

ABSENT: Ald. Purins

ALSO PRESENT: Alds. Kopischke, Birschel; T. Wontorek, City Admin.; A. Kesner, City Attorney;
M. Mulroy, Library Dir.; R. Braier, Finance Dir.; D. Redman, Fire Chief

Ald. Bruderle-Baran as Chair called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

Request to purchase fire rescue vehicle

Chief Redman reported the requested vehicle will be 90% funded from a federal FEMA grant previously approved. They received 5 bids all over the budgeted amount. The request is to remove the radio equipment from the bid price so that the vehicle would be for the budgeted amount. Radio equipment could then either be purchased separately or moved from a less critical vehicle.

Moved by Ald. Casey, seconded by Ald Stepaniak to recommend approval of the purchase -7

The matter of whether the city should remain in the Milwaukee Federated Library System

Mr. Wontorek gave a brief update and stated that some progress has been made since the previous meeting. The West Allis Common Council also meets tonight, but there is nothing on their agenda regarding this issue. The Greenfield library board has reluctantly agreed to stay with MCFLS but are looking for additional funding from the city. The City of Milwaukee has increased their offer for each of 3 years, but this offer is tied to all the suburban municipalities signing a 3 year contract.

The library board recommended the city withdraw from MCFLS because of funding. The city would need about \$170,000 to bring it up to the current year's level. If the increase cannot be found from other sources, the cost to taxpayers would be about \$.05 per thousand of assessed value. The city is currently exploring the possibility of Community Development Block Grant funds for library expenses. Other communities are also exploring this option.

Deborah Mamerow, 6004 W. Washington Blvd., said she was disappointed the city would even consider withdrawing from MCFLS. She is a frequent borrower from the Milwaukee library. She felt the downtown Milwaukee library is a resource with research capabilities that Wauwatosa residents cannot do without. She questioned why the committee would have to go in closed session. Mr. Kesner pointed out that the open meetings law allows a closed session for items regarding negotiations involving city funds.

Eugene Nickel, 555 Robertson Street, expressed his support of the library board's recommendation.

Ald. Birschel reported on a listening session he attended in Sussex regarding this issue.

Moved by Ald. Casey, seconded by Ald. Stepaniak to convene in closed session per Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive bargaining reasons require a closed session; and reserving the right to reconvene into open session. -7

The committee convened in closed session at 6:58 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk
City of Wauwatosa

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