



**CITY OF WAUWATOSA**  
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## **BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2008  
Committee Room #2

**PRESENT:** Alds. Maher, Ewerdt, Purins, Jay – 8:07, Walsh, Organ, Donegan, Krol – 8

**ALSO PRESENT:** J. Archambo, City Administrator; A. Kesner, City Atty.;  
B. Aldana, HR Dir./Asst. City Atty.; R. Braier, Finance Dir.;  
W. Kappel, Public Works Dir.; D. Redman, Fire Chief

Ald. Maher as Chair called the meeting to order at 8:02 p.m.

### **Adoption of revised ALS and BLS fees**

The committee reviewed a memo from the Fire Chief requesting adoption of revised ambulance fees and consideration of adjustments for basic life support service fees. Chief Redman said in January 2007 the paramedic services billing was transferred from the County to each municipality. The paramedic services contract requires that each municipality adopt the same rates. The rates are reviewed by the Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs (MCAFC) and the recommendations are sent to the Intergovernmental Cooperation Council (ICC). The requested revised rates were endorsed by the ICC.

The Chief said comparable rates for Basic Life Support Services (BLS) were also discussed with MCAFC. The comparison found that some communities are charging higher fees than Wauwatosa, however, our base rates are in line with average rates. A suggestion was made that the mileage rate, and oxygen and supplies rate should match the recommended paramedic rate as shown on the spreadsheet.

Moved by Ald. Ewerdt, seconded by Ald. Purins to recommend adoption of the paramedic fees for service as recommended by the MCAFC, and to recommend that the BLS mileage be revised from \$12 to \$14 per mile, BLS supplies be revised from \$40 to \$50 and the fee for oxygen and supplies be revised from \$20 to \$75 – Ayes: 8

### **Change of Purpose and carryover of funds**

The Public Works Director discussed with the committee the request for a change of purpose and a carryover of funds in the amount of \$17,500 to fund a Geographic Information System (G.I.S.) street light pole inventory. If approved the monies would be carried over into 2009.

Mr. Kappel said during the Budget Committee meetings in September he asked that this item be added to his budget. The Budget Committee suggested he look into another way of funding this. This is money that would be left in the budget and he proposed to carry it over into 2009 for the light pole inventory. Mr. Kappel explained that he would like to hire two students next summer to do this inventory which would include the type of pole, the number on the pole and the type of bulb. Placing this information on a GIS layer would help facilitate the maintenance of the street lighting system.

Ald. Donegan asked what the primary benefit of this database would be. Mr. Kappel responded that an inventory of the city's assets would be the biggest benefit as there is not a full database on the light poles. Mr. Archambo said that he supports this expenditure as it is an asset management system, and we currently don't

know what we are missing or where are inefficient until a database is put together. He felt that it would also help to know what stock of lights to have on hand. This would be a tool to become more efficient. Mr. Kappel noted that every light pole has there own unique number and this information is needed. Ald. Purins asked if this is a project that an intern could do at no cost. Mr. Kappel said that most interns now are paid interns.

Ald. Maher said he couldn't support this, but thought an inventory could be incrementally built over time when work is done on the lights. Ald. Krol said he didn't feel that the value of the database would merit the cost.

Moved by Ald. Ewerdt, seconded by Ald. Purins  
to recommend denial of the request for change of purpose  
and carryover of funds for a GIS based light pole inventory  
in the amount of \$17,500 – Ayes: 7 Noes: 1 (Walsh)

### **Fund carryover requests for year-end 2008**

The committee reviewed a memo from the Finance Director regarding carryover requests for 2009. Mr. Braier said that in previous years carryover requests used to come to this committee individually, now it is uniform and listed as one agenda item with a summary for projects or items to be purchased identified. These items were budgeted in 2008 and the projects have not yet been accomplished.

Mr. Archambo said in one way or another, these funds have previously been approved by the council.

Chief Redman noted that the extrication tool in the amount of \$6,000 was requested in the 2008 budget. The expectation was that the city would wait to see what grant funds would be received toward the purchase. The Chief said there is no official word on the grant but believes a partial amount will be awarded and put toward this item.

Ald. Ewerdt asked if all of these items listed for potential carryover are in the operating budget. Mr. Braier said they are both in the operating and capital budget. Mr. Braier noted that for the bonded items the money must be spent within two years and these funds are analyzed monthly.

The committee discussed the Volunteer Recognition Event and Intern Wages. Mr. Archambo said that this is a new mayor initiative. The mayor has made an effort throughout the year to forgo some conferences and trainings to accumulate funds to put on an event for volunteers. He said the second piece is to have a mayoral intern for up to 16 hours a week. Ald. Ewerdt asked if this was approved last year and if not, why this wasn't brought to the committee as a change of purpose. Mr. Archambo said that it is at the mayor's discretion to move funds around within her department. These funds could not be carried over without approval. Two criteria for budget items that need council approval are anything in excess of \$25,000 or for a change of purpose.

Mr. Braier reported that all the budget transfers are listed on page 9 of the budget summary in your packet.

Moved by Ald. Purins, seconded by Ald. Organ that  
the items listed be carried over into the 2009 budget – Ayes: 8

### **\*Litigation expenses Covenant v. City of Wauwatosa**

Moved by Ald. Purins, seconded by Ald. Donegan to  
recommend approval the request for allocation from the  
Reserve for Contingencies in the amount of \$23,721.08  
for additional litigation expenses in the matter of  
Covenant Healthcare System, Inc. v. City of Wauwautosa - Ayes: 8

Vouchers

VOUCHERS 12/09/08

<b>Name</b>	<b>Dept.</b>	<b>Reason and location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Michael J. Kreiter	Public Works Operations	APWA Fall Conference - Eau Claire	11/5 - 11/7/08	598.23
Scott Johannes	Health - Preparedness Consortium	Understanding Employee Differences Course - Sun Prairie	12/2 - 12/3/8	162.70
Jeanette Kowalik	Health - Preparedness Consortium	2008 WI Tobacco Prevention & Control Conference	11/18 - 11/19/08	272.40

Moved by Ald. Walsh, seconded by Ald. Donegan  
that the vouchers be allowed and paid – Ayes: 8

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk  
City of Wauwatosa

mks