

CITY OF WAUWATOSA

MEMORIAL CIVIC CENTER
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BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, September 30, 2003
Committee Room #1

PRESENT: Aids. Bruderle-Baran, Casey, Grimm, Jenkins, Matthews, McCarthy, Stepaniak, Subotich – 8

ALSO PRESENT: T. Wontorek, City Admin.; R. Braier, Finance Dir.; W. Kappel, Public Works Dir.; Chief D. Redman, Fire; Chief B. Weber, Police; Capt. J. Reit, Police; M. Mulroy, Library Director; J. Wojcehowicz, Water Supt.

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

Vacancies in detective and sergeant positions in the police department

Chief Weber said the detective and sergeant positions are existing vacancies that are important to the department. Filling these positions will not require the department to hire extra people.

Ald. McCarthy asked how the vacancies came about. Chief Weber responded that the detective and one of the captains retired. They promoted a sergeant to the vacant captain position which left the sergeant position open.

Moved by Ald. McCarthy, seconded by Ald. Grimm to recommend approval to fill the vacancies in the detective and sergeant position – 8

Vacancy in reclassified municipal clerk II/fire education coordinator position in the fire department

Chief Redman said the proposal is to combine the duties of the part time fire education coordinator with the vacant municipal clerk I position. They would like to reclassify the new position as a municipal clerk II so that the fire education duties can be maintained. There would be a savings because the position will be vacant for about 3 months and they have adjusted the 2004 budget to cover the job reclassification.

Ald. Jenkins said the Employee Relations Committee voted 5-0 to recommend approval of an exception to the hiring freeze in order to fill the newly created and reclassified fire education coordinator/municipal clerk II position.

Moved by Ald. Jenkins, seconded by Ald. Casey to recommend approval of the exception to the hiring freeze to fill the newly created and reclassified fire education coordinator/municipal clerk II position and an amendment to the position job description – 8

Renewal of agreement for the purchase of water at wholesale with the Milwaukee Water Works

Mr. Wojcehowicz said the original City of Milwaukee water system dates back to 1897 when well sites provided Wauwatosa residents with their first municipal water supply system. In 1963, the City of Wauwatosa and the City of Milwaukee signed the original purchase of water at wholesale agreement that would be the future source of the water supply for Wauwatosa. The original contract expired on December 31, 1993. He said there is no change in the fiscal impact to the water utility by approving the terms of the agreement. The infrastructure is already in place to continue working with the Milwaukee Water Works. If the agreement is not renewed; the city would have to explore a new surface water supply source or reestablish a well system since all of the city's wells

have been abandoned. He recommended accepting the negotiated terms of the agreement with the City of Milwaukee Water Works.

Moved by Ald. Bruderle-Baran, seconded by Ald. McCarthy to recommend acceptance of the negotiated terms of the agreement with the City of Milwaukee for the purchase of water at wholesale --

Ald. Casey asked if the Milwaukee Water Works was as safe as any other major water system in light of the cryptosporidium contamination. Mr. Wojcehowicz responded that there have been numerous improvements to the Milwaukee Water Works system. The City of Milwaukee has also opened the first water safety facility in the area.

Vote on the motion was Ayes: 8

2004 Recycling Efficiency Incentive (REI) grant, authorizing resolution for REI & Basic Grants, and intergovernmental agreement

Mr. Kappel said this is the second year they are applying for the Recycling Efficiency Incentive (REI) grant. In 2003, a partnership was formed with five other governmental agencies in order to qualify for the grant funding. They are West Allis, Menomonee Falls, Butler, Sussex and Lannon. This year there are already three members and a potential to add both West Allis and Milwaukee to the application. He said that Mr. Tarman-Ramcheck is in the process of finalizing the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) depending upon the final partners for the application. The 2003 REI grant was for \$33,468. The expected grant amount for 2004 is between \$25,000 and \$35,000. The deadline for filing is at the end of the month. He recommended authorization to apply for the 2004 REI grant, to complete and submit the new Authorizing Resolution and to enter into the IGA associated with this application.

Moved by Ald. McCarthy, seconded by Ald. Matthews to recommend authorization to apply for the 2004 REI grant, to complete and submit a new authorizing resolution and to enter into the IGA associated with this application – 8

2004 Recycling Grants for Responsible Units

Mr. Kappel said this grant has been in effect since 1991 and the city applies for it annually. The grant application has already been submitted to meet the deadline of October 1, 2003. The 2003 recycling grant was \$225,000. A similar amount is expected for the 2004 grant. He said there are no committed city expenditures and the approximate \$225,000 becomes part of the revenue account.

Moved by Ald. Casey, seconded by Ald. McCarthy to recommend approval to apply for the 2004 Recycling Grants for Responsible Units – 8

Policy on alley assessments

Mr. Kappel said per the committee's request, the engineering department reviewed the Whitefish Bay model for reducing assessments for any property that abuts an alley. He said there are several examples where just adopting a new policy similar to Whitefish Bay's could cause problems for other residents that are on the alleys. Those examples were looked at from the standpoint of who has alley access and who abuts the alley. His recommendation was to retain the current alley assessment policy. If the committee would like to grant a reduction, he recommended a modified Wauwatosa policy based on elements of the Whitefish Bay assessment policy. The modified policy would provide single and duplex residents with a 50% reduction in the alley assessment if their primary vehicle access is off a public street. He further recommended that the entire cost of each alley project be recovered 100% rather than setting a maximum amount.

Dr. Thomas Ehlert, 8118 Jackson Park Blvd. , said he was concerned that there are a lot of homeowners unaware of the proposed policy change.

Ald. Casey said he didn't think that because something has always been done one way, it can't be changed. He is sensitive to making changes and setting precedent. He has voted in the past to authorize assessments on alleys where people did not have access. There are a lot of examples of alleys where most of the property owners did not have access. The residents on Jackson Park Blvd. have done nothing more than ask questions. If there is a more equitable way to apply assessments, then changing the policy should go forward. Mr. Kappel explained that in some situations a resident at the end of an alley could put up a fence and say they didn't have access. That is a situation in which using the primary vehicle access criteria is a good way to determine the need for the 50% reduction in assessment.

Ald. Bruderle-Baran observed that the most significant increase would be for the multi-family units because they have the access. Mr. Kappel said that generally the multi-family units have ingress and egress from the alley; therefore, single family and duplex units will get the most of the reductions. He added that in the past the alley assessments have had a cap and the cap has been increasing yearly. It seems reasonable that people using the alley should pay for the work being done on it. Assessing the alleys at 100% is a way to try and decrease the debt service.

Ald. McCarthy said it seems that in many cases, lack of access to an alley is self-imposed by the residents and can be changed at any time. He thought this policy could better address a situation in which a resident had no option to use the alley. He said the recommendation to make no changes in the policy should be approved.

Moved by Ald. McCarthy, seconded by Ald. Grimm to place the report on alley assessments on file – Ayes: 2, Noes: 6 (Casey, Jenkins, Matthews, Subotich, Bruderle-Baran)

Moved by Ald. Matthews, seconded by Ald. Jenkins to recommend approval of the modified Wauwatosa plan for alley assessments --

Ald. Grimm didn't see a need to change the alley assessment policy. Ald. Matthews said it was her belief that residents should not have to pay for an alley they don't intend to use. Ald. Casey said the modified Wauwatosa plan seems to be a more equitable solution.

Moved by Ald. Grimm, seconded by Ald. McCarthy to hold the report on alley assessments for more information. Ayes: 2, Noes: 6 (Casey, Jenkins, Matthews, Subotich, Bruderle-Baran)

Vote on the motion to recommend approval of the modified Wauwatosa plan for alley assessments was, Ayes: 5, Noes: 2 (Grimm McCarthy), Present: 1 (Casey)

Vouchers

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FOR</u>
R. Gruebling	\$482.96	Treas. – 9/24-9/26/03 – Sturgeon Bay Wisconsin Treasurer's Assoc. Fall Conference
M. Brown	\$52.36	Personnel – 9/16-9/17/03 – Waukesha Training required by DWD & DHS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FOR</u>
W. Mainus	\$550.00	Building – 9/15-9/18/03 – WCTC Commercial Code Intensive Training
D. Wheaton	\$415.75	Building – 9/16-9/19/03 – Wausau Plumbing Inspector Recertification
W. Kappel	\$1,750.34	Public Works – 8/23-8/27/03 – San Diego, CA APWA International Congress
R. Lenski	\$187.70	Assessor – 9/10-9/12/03 – Wisconsin Rapids Annual League Conference

Moved by Ald. Casey, seconded by Ald. Matthews that the vouchers
be allowed and paid – 8

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk
City of Wauwatosa

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