

**Finance Committee Meeting
City of Manchester
October 9th, 2023**

Present: Alderman Hobbs, Vice Mayor Messick, Alderman Parsley

Absent: None

The Manchester City Finance Committee held its regular called meeting on Monday, October 9th, at 4:00 p.m. in the board room at Manchester City Hall. Others present were: Mayor Howard, Alderman Anderson, Alderman Bellamy, Director Myers, Director George Gannon, Director AJ Fox, Chief George Chambers, Chief Bill Sipe, Director Fiske, other employees and members of the press. The first agenda item was to call the meeting to order by Alderman Joey Hobbs, Chairman of the committee.

The second agenda item was approving the minutes from the Special Called Meeting held on August 28th. Vice-Mayor Messick moved to approve the minutes with a second from Alderman Parsley. Motion carried.

The third agenda item was to approve the meeting agenda. Alderman Hobbs added item 4a to elect a new chairman of the committee. Motion to approve the amended agenda made by Alderman Parsley with Vice-Mayor Messick seconding. Motion carried.

The fourth agenda item was public comments which none were given. Item 4a to elect a finance committee chairman continued with Vice-Mayor Messick making the motion for Alderman Hobbs to remain as chairman for the next year. Motion was seconded by Alderman Parsley. Motion carried.

Fifth agenda item was the presentation of Recreation Department part-time wage increases presented by Director AJ Fox and Assistant Director Becky Johnson. It was proposed to increase part-time wages by 44% to be competitive in the job market or around \$170,000. This would affect approximately 111 part-time positions if fully staffed. The current budget is \$377,443 and would increase to \$544,793. The revenue will be coming from the general fund unless the Recreation Department can increase revenues. If funded for a half a year it will give the Recreation Department time to work on increasing revenues prior to next fiscal year to help cover a full year of funding. Director Myers informed the committee that they need to vote on the pay scale versus only a lump sum due to needing documentation on why an employee is paid what they are earning. After much discussion about realistic staffing and increased revenues, a motion was made by Vice-Mayor Messick and seconded by Alderman Parsley to approve the presented pay scale with funding at an estimated \$70,000. Motion carried.

Vice Mayor Messick requested that we move agenda item #9 to be discussed next. Police Chief Sipe joined the alderman to discuss the purchase and specifications of four solar road signs at a total cost of \$32,640. The signs are speed display signs that collect data for traffic studies. Alderman Hobbs said that with four signs we could have two displayed on major roads and two for neighborhoods that are registering complaints for speeding. Alderman Hobbs asked if this funding could come from the Capital Equipment Fund and Director Myers said yes that fund could be utilized for funding. After discussion a

motion was made by Vice-Mayor Messick to purchase three signs with a second by Alderman Parsley. Motion carried.

Since the meeting was running short on time, Alderman Hobbs addressed agenda item #10 passing out the organizational chart to the committee. When going to Paycom, an organizational chart was required. MTAS had previously created an upper-level chart, but our new chart is detailed by department of all approved and budgeted positions even if currently vacant.

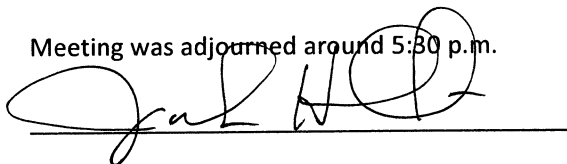
Continuing the meeting, the committee went back to item number six, Project/City Manager salary range. Discussion ensued on the difference in pay depending on the position. The committee asked the mayor for another work session to discuss and to get salary information from MTAS for both positions.

Next agenda item was the impact fee analysis. Discussion about the fees proceeded as a possible source to help with school projects and help minimize the raising of property taxes. The mayor pointed out that other cities and counties spread the use of the impact fees over multiple uses and don't restrict to a single cause. Since the meeting was running long, and it was suggested to put further discussion and action on the next month's agenda.

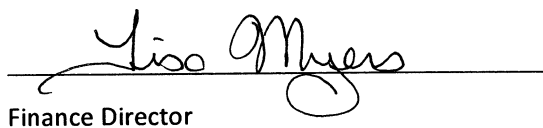
Agenda item #8, Bonnaroo, was also pushed to the next meeting by Alderman Hobbs so the last agenda item could be discussed prior to the November board meeting. The last agenda item was the discussion of a school land purchase and future construction. The school is looking at purchasing land for future school expansion and a possible police department. They are working on a deal for payment over two years with our share being \$750,000 per year. Vice-Mayor Messick made the motion to purchase the land jointly with the city school board and fund over two years with a second from Alderman Parsley. During discussion, Mayor Howard wanted to know if we helped purchase the land would we also be assisting with the renovation of Westwood Middle School. The committee said they only were voting for the land purchase to go before the Board of Mayor and Alderman. She also is concerned about the title being held in two names. She suggested that the school board purchase the land and our funds go for possible renovations. All members agreed that much discussion was needed on future school needs. The motion carried but was decided to not present to the board until the December meeting.

Motion made by Vice-Mayor Messick to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Chairman Hobbs. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned around 5:30 p.m.


Finance Committee Chairperson

11/3/23
Date


Finance Director

11/3/22
Date