

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Butler at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Brian Butler, Mayor Gary Manier, Alderman Lili Stevens

Also Present: City Administrator Jim Snider, Finance Director Joanie Baxter, Planning and Development Director Jon Oliphant, Utilities Superintendent Brian Rittenhouse, Derek Schryer – Davis & Campbell

1. Non-member Aldermen Wishing to be Heard on Non-Agenda Item: *None.*
2. Citizens Wishing to be Heard on Non-Agenda Item: *Reema Abi-Akar from the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC) gave a brief overview on the federal Section 5310 grant that will provide funding to establish a paratransit trial program in the eligible Washington urbanized area. Five citizens spoke about the need for such a program given that Washington is part of a “grey area.”*
3. Approval of Minutes from February 21, 2022 Regular Meeting: *Mayor Manier made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Alderman Stevens. Motion approved.*
4. Business Items:

A. TOWNSHIP/CITY URBAN AREA PARATRANSIT PROGRAM FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION

Washington Township started a program within the last couple of years to provide free ride service to “mobile seniors” within the 61571 zip code. The Greater Peoria Mass Transit District (GPMTD) applied for a federal Section 5310 grant to pay for 50% of the operating funds associated with a four-month trial program to provide transit service for handicapped individuals between the ages of 18-59 through CityLift. The grant is for \$100,000 and both the City and Township have committed to \$50,000 local matches. Service would be provided within the urbanized part of the 61571 zip code that does not have paratransit service for this age range and to points in East Peoria and Peoria.

The consensus of the City Council on September 20 was to commit to a \$50,000 local grant match, though no particular budget fund was identified. An intergovernmental agreement will be placed on an upcoming City Council agenda for approval to memorialize the partnership for the initial trial. Staff requests direction on which FY 21-22 budget fund(s) to utilize for payment of the match. Additionally, staff seeks direction on any possible future cost contributions after the expiration of the trial program. No financial commitment is in place by the City, Township, or other possible funding agencies. Data obtained through the trial will help determine the ridership demand and whether a long-term continuation of it is warranted. GPMTD staff has shown confidence to the Township that 80/20 funding can be secured for an additional three years. It is roughly estimated that the annual operating cost would be \$700,000. The Township has indicated to staff that it will likely be capped at contributing \$100,000.

Comments: Jim Bremner, Township Supervisor, asked if the City would consider contributing \$100,000 to match a Township contribution to allow for a one-year program. He handed out a letter from GPMTD that another match of at least \$50,000 would be used as a local share to find a grant or other financial source to leverage the remaining 80% of the project needs for potentially three full years. GPMTD has asked IDOT and TCRPC for help with funding scenarios. Staff asked for feedback on identifying where the City’s \$50,000 contribution would come and there figures to be \$500,000 unspent from the current budget that could be utilized. After brief discussion by the Committee, there was no consensus and the direction was to place this on the April Committee of the Whole meeting for further discussion on where to utilize any FY 21-22 funds and to receive direction on potential future expenditures towards such a program.

B. WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE FIXED FEE DISCUSSION

Staff handed out spreadsheets showing the past and projected revenue and expenses for both the Water and Sewer Infrastructure Fixed Fee accounts. The Water Fixed Fee Account shows that over a 5-year

period from FY18-19 when first established through budget FY22-23 – there has been a total of \$2.668M in revenue received or projected compared to a total of \$3.2M in actual and projected expenses. The Sewer Fixed Fee shows that over that same 5-year period, there has been a total of \$598K in actual and projected revenue compared to a total of \$2.9M in actual and projected expenditures. As such, there are no funds to be shown as restricted for this revenue in either account. Over \$1 million is planned to be spent for water infrastructure in FY 22-23, with the primary projects being the Hilldale improvements, filter and softener media replacement, and water main replacement. About \$923,000 is planned to be spent in FY 22-23 for sewer infrastructure, with the primary projects being the Hilldale improvements and CIPP lining.

Comments: The Committee did not have any questions. Staff will continue tracking the fixed fee revenue and expenses as part of the budget process.

C. STP2, PHASE 2B FUNDING DISCUSSION

Staff handed out a summary of the possible funding considerations for a Phase 2B trunk line construction project. As of now, approximately \$5 million of Reserves is projected to be used available as of the end of FY 22-23. American Rescue Plan Act funds totaling \$2.155M can be used towards this project. FY 29-30 is the last full year of debt service as part of the 2009 STP2 expansion with a payment totaling \$289,446. The bonds for that project will be retired in 2030.

Should a bond be considered for the Phase 2B project, a 20-year loan with a 2.5% interest rate on \$5 million would have annual debt service of \$319,000. The same terms for \$10 million would have annual debt service of \$637,500. The total amount to potentially be requested for an eligible IEPA loan would be the cost of the project minus any ARPA funds and Reserves utilized. An IEPA loan would not be available for smoke testing and any expenses as a result of the testing and could only be used if the trunkline were constructed.

Comments: Alderman Butler said that it would be good for the Council to see different debt service scenarios as well as possible rate increase scenarios. Staff will look to present that to the Council at the appropriate time.

5. Other Business:

- a) Alderman Stevens asked about an expense of \$250 on this month's Bills and Payroll. That expense is for the periodic pulling of the glass recycling container.

6. Adjournment: *Motion made by Mayor Manier and seconded by Alderman Stevens. Meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.*