

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CIVIL CITY OF NEW ALBANY, INDIANA, HELD A BUDGET HEARING IN THE THIRD FLOOR ASSEMBLY ROOM OF THE CITY/COUNTY BUILDING ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2016 AT 6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Members Mr. Phipps, Mr. Nash, Mr. Blair, Mr. Aebersold, Mr. Barksdale, Dr. Knable and President McLaughlin. Mr. Coffey and Mr. Caesar were absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Gibson, Mrs. Moeller, Mr. Ham and Ms. Milburn

Mr. Phipps called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Gibson handed out the flood control district statement of revenue that the council asked for at the last meeting.

MVH

Mr. Gibson explained that MVH is its own fund that is a set amount that they get from the state based upon population and rating from the DLGF. He stated that most of the time when you see a salary they will see the 2% increase but this one is a little more because they have extra employees budgeted.

Mr. Ham stated that they have 14 employees in the street department and 2 in the garage.

Mr. Blair asked how many staff members they are adding.

Mr. Gibson explained that there were open positions and they are just now filling so they aren't adding a position. He added that there is some additional items in supplies such as paint because they have their own paint crew out now since they have been able to move the trash to Echotech.

Dr. Knable asked what happens to the money if it isn't used.

Mr. Gibson explained that it will stay in the fund and be re-budgeted.

Mr. Blair asked if the overtime was for snow removal.

Mr. Ham explained that it is for that and other emergency services.

Mr. Gibson stated that this is something that is very unpredictable because it is based on mother natures so they never really know what they are going to use it for.

Mr. Phipps asked if the paint/sign covers the new signs that had to be replaced because of reflectivity.

Mr. Gibson stated that the grant doesn't cover all of the signs so this line item will cover the rest. He encouraged the council members that if they see a sign that needs to be replaced to let Mr. Ham know.

Mr. Aebersold asked about equipment repair.

Mr. Ham stated that they have a lot of old equipment so it requires a lot of upkeep.

Mr. Gibson stated that the street department has been neglected from an equipment standpoint because of budgetary reasons.

Mr. Barksdale asked if this reflects any new equipment.

Mr. Gibson replied no.

Mr. Barksdale asked what falls under the contractual line item.

Mr. Gibson explained that it includes spot engineering done on a small project and contracts for something like electrical work.

LRS

Mr. Gibson stated that this is a separate fund and they get the numbers from the state. He explained that they will see a slight increase because of capital outlays. He stated that they were sitting on a balance in June of \$600,000.00 so they went ahead and marked that for next year to address additional paving needs.

Dr. Knable asked if striping is included in this

Mr. Gibson replied yes.

Mr. Blair asked if the state would limit them if they carry over a balance.

Mr. Gibson replied no.

Fairview

Mr. Phipps asked if there is any reason they haven't combined Fairview and West Haven and if it would save administrative cost if they did.

Mr. Gibson explained that they wouldn't save any administrative cost because it falls under the street department but it is something they can look at.

Mr. Barksdale asked if the funds for something like the Friends of Fairview are held separately

Mr. Gibson replied yes. He explained that this fund deals with operation items and maintenance.

Dr. Knable asked what happens to the money not spent in this budget

Mr. Gibson explained that it stays in the general fund.

Mr. Aebersold asked why there is so much overtime.

Mr. Ham explained that most of the overtime he has seen so far has been burials that took place over the weekend.

Mr. Barksdale asked how many employees do each have.

Mr. Ham stated that they have 4 full-time employees total.

Mr. Gibson stated that they have part-time employees in the summer for grass cutting.

West Haven

Mr. Gibson stated most of the expenses are shown in the Fairview budget but it all comes through the general fund.

Mr. Phipps stated that it would seem to make more sense to have these budgeted together in the future.

Mr. Gibson stated that he will take a look at it because it is the same essential services.

Mr. McLaughlin entered the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

Dr. Knable asked if the projects that they allocated a couple of months ago are on schedule.

Mr. Gibson stated that he will ask Mr. Duggins to get them an update on what is going on.

Weights & Measures

Mr. Gibson explained that this is an ongoing agreement with the county where they split the salary of the inspector. He stated that in the past it has been \$25,000.00 and Mrs. Moeller has already asked for the invoice for this year.

Non-Reverting

1. Rental Housing

Mr. Gibson stated that this is the new rental housing non-reverting and the \$15,000.00 is just a shot in the dark. He explained that with these types of funds they have to make sure the money is actually there before they authorize payments. He stated that the contractual services would be for software and \$5,000.00 in demo, but they assume it will need to be adjusted next year after they see how it works out.

Mr. Aebersold asked if this is rental houses that the city owns.

Mr. Gibson stated that this is just for the rental registrations.

2. Ambulance – Medical Transport

Mr. Gibson explained that this is a non-reverting fund and the main item in this budget is medical supplies. He stated that it was originally set up when they ran the ambulance but now it is down to the medical supplies.

Mr. McLaughlin asked if they still have the vehicles.

Mr. Gibson stated that he would need to check.

Mr. Phipps asked if it would make more sense to put this in the fire budget in the future.

Mr. Gibson stated that they would have to close the account and transfer the money because it is a different fund and from their standpoint it is nice to have this as a backup.

Mr. Blair asked what the account balance is.

Mr. Gibson replied \$33,302.00

3. Veterinary - Animal Shelter

Mr. Gibson explained that most non-reverting funds are generated with fees, fines and liens and this line item is generally funded by the spay and neutering program. He stated that they use these funds for operating supplies and veterinary bills.

Mr. Phipps asked if the vets are a fee-for-service.

Mr. Gibson replied yes.

4. Animal Control Runs

Mr. Gibson explained that is used for when they do runs but it isn't used very often. He added that Mr. Hall is very good about keeping his budget in check and has only spent about 12% of his budget through June.

5. Tree Board

Mr. Gibson stated that this fund doesn't have a balance right now.

Mr. Barksdale asked how they could fix that.

Mr. Gibson stated that it would take a transfer.

Dr. Knable asked when was the last time they had a comprehensive census done of the trees and the needs in the city.

Mr. Barksdale stated that it has probably been 10-15 years.

Mr. Blair stated that he knows several areas that are in need of attention.

Dr. Knable stated that he would love to do something from the top down with this board.

Mr. Blair asked if there is a group interested enough that would run with this from a board perspective.

Mr. Barksdale explained that they cut back their meetings to quarterly because they didn't have any funds but they are going to start meeting monthly again and would love to entertain something like this.

Mr. Blair asked if they could meet and put together a business plan because they could always move money from riverboat or EDIT in the future.

Mr. Gibson explained that the council would just need to transfer and if they budget it they don't have to go through the appropriation process.

Mr. Blair stated that he would like to see a plan before they transfer any money.

Mr. Barksdale stated that he has been on the board for several years and it would be good to have money to take down a large tree that the street department can't handle.

Mr. Blair stated that if they had an active tree board they could put together a proposal for the tree-scape throughout the city and it could make a huge impact.

Mr. Barksdale stated that he thinks the tree board would welcome that opportunity but right now they know they don't have any money to work with.

Mr. Blair stated that they will need to come back and let the council know what they need.

6. Parking Administration

Mr. Gibson explained that the salary in that is for Cathy Cousins who handles a lot of the parking violations and this also pays for the software and ticketing system He stated that the capital outlays have been used in the past to buy things like 2 speed guns for the police department.

7. Abandon Vehicle

Mr. Gibson stated that is for vehicles that have been towed into the lot.

Mr. Blair asked about the balance on this fund.

Mr. Gibson stated that \$146,000.00 as of June. He explained that they usually hold two sales per year and they just did one so that balance will be higher.

8. Law Enforcement Training

Mr. Gibson explained that \$4.00 from every traffic ticket that goes through the county comes to the city and that is what funds this line item. He stated that they use it for training and small equipment and has a current balance of \$32,000.00

9. Unsafe Building

Mr. Gibson explained that this is funded by liens filed by Mr. Brewer's office and they do have a budgeted salary in this fund. He stated that they added more demo funds to this line item for his office to utilize in tearing down structures.

Mr. Blair stated that this program took a few years to get up and running but now it is funding itself.

10. Fire Contract Run – Emergency Medical Service

Mr. Gibson stated that this is used mainly for equipment and is funded through Horseshoe

Dr. Knable asked for a current list of the current balances for the non-reverting funds.

Mr. Gibson stated that they get them every month in their packets and it is called a fund equity report.

11. Interest Federal Equity Share

Mr. Gibson explained that the police department works with the FBI and the DEA and part of that agreement is that when they do major drug buys and seizures the city gets a portion of that money. He stated that it has been used for equipment and training in the past as well as a new K-9 unit.

12. Fairview Cemetery Perp. Care

Mr. Gibson stated that this is used when someone is contracted out to fix a broken headstone or mausoleum. He explained that the capital outlays will be items for maintenance such as lawn mowers or machines to dig the holes.

Mr. Phipps asked if the whole cemetery is under perpetual care or if there are certain plots that are designated just for that.

Mr. Gibson stated that there isn't any that he is aware of.

Mr. Barksdale asked how they left the building commission and the possibility of having another salary budgeted in there.

Mr. Gibson stated that they do have a position already budgeted but they don't have it filled and as soon as they have room for them on the floor they will move forward. He explained that if they need another position funded then they will come back.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Greg Phipps, Vice President

Mindy Milburn, Deputy City Clerk