

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF PLYMOUTH

Rules and Finance Committee Minutes

February 20, 2020

Rules and Finance Committee met on Thursday, February 20, 2020 at 1:07pm. The following were present:

Councilwoman, Joan Felver
Councilwoman, Elaine Root
Councilwoman, Susan Moore
Councilwoman, Susan Broderick

Administrator, Tom Rusynyk
Police Chief, Thomas Hintz
Administrative Clerk, Rebekah Fearing
Fiscal Officer, DiAnn Jamerson

Vehicle Leases

Currently the Police Department is leasing two cruisers and the Utility Department is leasing three trucks. These leases will end in April of this year. Administrator Rusynyk and Chief Hintz have obtained quotes from Sharnack Ford in Willard for replacement vehicles. The details are as follows:

Rusynyk and the Utility Department's three 2017 Ford F250- The plan is to trade all three trucks in and them be replaced with two 2020 Ford F250 and one 2020 Ford F150.

- Sharnack is offering \$25,000 trade in for each of the current trucks.
- Rusynyk does not feel the need to get three "big" trucks; he believes an F150 will be plenty for himself to drive and it will not be equipped with a plow package; therefor, costing less.
- The two F250 will be equipped with a 6-door utility box and 8' Snowdog snowplow. These two trucks, after being fully equipped, including the trade in of old trucks, will cost the Village \$11,729 each.
- The one F150 will only end up costing \$4,146 after the trade in.
- The total cost of all three utility trucks would be \$27, 604; this would be split equally between electric, water, sewer.

Hintz and the 2017 Ford Interceptor and 2014 Chevy Caprice- The plan is to trade in one of the Ford Explorers and the old Caprice and replace them with two new 2020 Ford Explorers.

- Sharnack is only willing to offer \$10,500 trade-in for the Explorer. Everyone believes this to be an extremely low offer. Hintz is going to go back to them and try to get a higher offer.
- The trade in on the Caprice is actually much larger than what Hintz expected, \$6,000. This car is being traded in because it is costing us thousands and thousands of dollars every year in maintenance. Fiscal Officer states the actual amount spent in 2019 for repairs was \$6,500. The Caprice is normally used by all part-time officers; they will now be using the 2017 Explorer *not* being traded in.
- The total cost for two 2020 Ford Explorers, after trade-in of one 2017 Explorer and 2014 Caprice, would be \$54,394.
- We must also keep in mind, this cost, does not included any equipment- lights, cages, etc. Ideally, Fiscal Officer would like to see equipment costs included in financing.

All Committee members agree the best thing to do is get multiple quotes from a few different places to ensure we are getting the best deals possible. Everyone also agrees we should explore options for both buying and leasing. It was reiterated what Councilman Patrick said the day before about how he would like to see an additional two years added to the warranty and possibly the inclusion of oil changes in the sale price. Both Councilwomen Broderick and Felver think it best to replace all vehicles every 4 years.

Councilwoman Felver wanted to raise caution about the "deal" being struck on the utility trucks since the trade-in value on the police cruiser was so low. She explains the money for the utility trucks can be split between electric, water and sewer; whereas, the police vehicle total cost comes from the general fund which is already tight. She would like to see a more "equal" deal be struck.

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Councilwoman Felver would like to bring this to Council as a whole in March. Councilwoman Moore stated she believes transparency with the public is the best way to avoid any backlash. She believes it should be put out there that “turning over” the VOP vehicles every 4 years really does save taxpayers money in the long run. Unfortunately, several members of the Committee think there will be criticism no matter what is done.

Councilwoman Root asked if this is something that HAS to be done by April Fiscal Officer stated the permanent appropriations have to be put in before anything can be done pertaining to a new vehicle purchase in any department. Jamerson stated permanent appropriations are due by April 1st.

Permanent Appropriations

A few meetings ago it was brought up by a Councilmember on whose responsibility it was to actually come up with the year’s permanent appropriations. Fiscal Officer answered that it is technically the Mayor in conjunction with the department heads to establish budgets. It then goes to Council for approval. However, she has always been the one to do it in the past. There was an interest from a few Council members to see about coming up with the appropriations themselves.

Seeing as how the deadline was quickly approaching, it was decided for Jamerson to come up with the appropriations based on the department head’s wishes, and present to Council for approval.

Quick Update

Councilwoman Felver asked Fearing for an update on tax collection. Fearing explained the process of the payment plans she put in place, and the fact that a lot of these plans are coming to fruition. She is very optimistic about overall collection for both tax and mayor’s court. Fearing also says that if anyone is interested in seeing exact numbers, those can be easily retrieved.

Felver asked Jamerson for an update on the interest from the money market account. Jamerson states that it is staying right around a minimum of \$2,000 a month. Administrator Rusnyk plans to use these monies for street paving.

PIC and Pool

President of the Plymouth Improvement Committee, Katie Veletean, was here to inquire about the status of the pool and what the expectations of PIC were going to be for pool season 2020. Items of discussion are as follows:

- Management and Guards- Unfortunately last year’s manager is not going to be returning for this season. Thankfully, last year’s Assistant Manager, Sarah Miller, has agreed to step up into the vacated position. Miller suggested Logan Cline, a past year guard, for the position of assistant. It was decided we still have to interview for these positions along with lifeguards. Fearing stated she has received a few guard applications. Rusnyk will get with Fearing on putting an ad in the paper.
- Contract- The idea of a contract has been thrown around on both sides. Everyone is in agreement a contract would alleviate some of the “bumps” experienced last season. Rusnyk and Veletean will come up with a contract both sides can agree on.
- Finances- It was asked what the balances were on both the VOP and PIC sides. Veletean states the PIC pool savings account has roughly \$7,200 in it. Jamerson says the VOP pool account is sitting at roughly \$6,800. Combining the two with a total of \$14,000 is more than enough to open the pool. It was agreed by everyone, that yes, the pool will open for the 2020 season.
- “THE LEAK”- Rusnyk wanted to make sure that everyone was aware the leak still has not been fixed. He does, however, think he knows roughly where it is. Upon

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draining the pool at the end of last season, he noticed once the water level got to a certain point, it stopped draining. Rusynyk believes the leak is along a welding seam done many years ago. He does, however, caution everyone, especially PIC, the leak could become very expensive to fix. It is very hard going into the season not knowing how much the repair will cost.

- Continued Financing- Both Councilwomen Broderick and Moore would like to see the Village take a more active role in financing of the pool. They believe it to be a critical “service” to the town. Fiscal Officer wants to ensure the “park money” will not be touched by the pool. She says that over the last few years, up until last year when PIC funded it, the pool almost drained the park fund.

Veletean says she cannot speak for PIC as a whole, but would assume, all members would be more than willing to do anything they can to keep the pool open for the community. She sees there being a possibility for PIC to commit to doing one fund raiser per season. Councilwoman Moore still believes the burden of financing pool operations is not that of PIC, but of the Village to figure out.

Veletean will go back to PIC and relay everything discussed. She again reiterates that it is not PIC’s wishes to continue to fund the pool; however, PIC is willing to do whatever it takes to see it remain open. Both Councilwoman Felver and Root want to make sure everyone knows it was a very hard decision to vote to close the pool. Neither one thought it would ever come to that. They would both love to see the pool remain open; however, neither one believes the Village is in the position to continue to fund operations.

Next Rules and Finance meeting will be Tuesday, March 10th at 10:00AM.

Meeting adjourned at 3:48PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebekah Fearing, Administrative Clerk