

Board of Aldermen
Finance Committee Minutes
March 25, 2015

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TOWN AND CITY CLERK
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Meeting was called to order at 6 PM.

In attendance were David Blackwell Jr., Joe Jeanette, Denice Hunt, Phil Tripp (left for another meeting at 6:50 PM), Charlie Stowe (arrived at 6:09 PM) and Lorie Vaccaro.

During Public Session:

Beth Lynch, Town and City Clerk asked about the IT line item in the budget for \$200,000. This is a new department, and includes salary for a part time IT specialist, as well as monies for equipment.

Randy Carroll commended the City and BOAT for doing a good job in working on this year's budget.

Chief Kevin Hale and LT Wayne Williams presented on behalf of the Police Department. Chief Hale stated that the increase in this year's budget, (approximately \$219,000) is attributed mostly to the new contract. He further stated that the new HAS insurance would offset the increase. He also commended the members of the force for their cooperation in their recent contract negotiations. Chief Hale also advised that 10 officers are eligible to retire in June.

Regarding the Emergency Operations center, Chief Hale indicated that he will need more supplies and funding for food and would need a couple thousand dollars for EOC.

Doug Novak, Superintendent of Public Works indicated that over \$200,000 was spent on overtime this past year, attributed primarily to snowstorms. Some of his accounts are already depleted 80-90%; he wondered how he was going to enhance the city parks this Spring. He talked about single stream recycling, and that he has had negotiations with Winter Brothers regarding this matter; that the initial layout for a truck would be \$1,000,000.

Jared Heon, Chief, presented on behalf of ARMS. Theresa Atwood, from EMMS, his the billing agent for ARMS spoke about billing. The average call is approximately \$600, Medicare allows \$130; Medicaid \$196. We collect 100% from Medicaid, 96-97% from Medicare, and 86-89% from insurance for ambulance service. For private payers, the collection rate is 12% with the balance going to a their collection company. It was discussed that ARMS used \$5000 for tires last year. Comptroller Bill Nimons indicated that he could provide assistance to ARMS regarding the collection process for bills that are hardships and write-offs.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorie Vaccaro