

MINUTES
CITY & SAFETY SERVICES COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 12, 2020
7:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance via Videoconference: Sarah Grace, Chair
Chris Fahl, Vice-Chair
Beth Clodfelter, Member

Administrators and
Other Elected Officials via Videoconference: President Knisely
Mayor Patterson

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- Broadband Installation and Equipment (remote connectivity for ARTS-West)
 - Grace – this is to improve internet access to ARTS-West

 - Mayor – the equipment will allow broadcasting from ARTS-West and offer virtual programming and streaming services – also, The Government Channel (TGC) is finding it very cumbersome and difficult to effectively provide for all City virtual meetings – a quote has been received for two systems, one for ARTS-West and one for TGC totaling \$67,840 – these are CARES Act eligible items to maintain City operations during this pandemic – Project #334 has been assigned to update ARTS-West operations – still working through the details to install fiber from the City Building to ARTS-West

 - Fahl – is pleased that this ARTS-West project will be functional beyond COVID-19

 - Clodfelter – agrees – this project will be beneficial to the City for a long time – is an effective expenditure of CARES Act funding for our community

 - Risner – clarified that this equipment was not a TGC 2020 budgeted item
 - Mayor – a new system was not part of the budget – the system currently in place for TGC is not effective for handling COVID-19 virtual meetings
 - President – confirmed that such a system was not part of the budget

 - Smedley – this project will keep ARTS-West relevant into the future – some of the ways we have adopted during the course of the pandemic will remain as more effective

-Risner – questioned whether TGC staff will be tasked with operating and maintaining this complex equipment for both facilities, and if so, if TGC can handle the added workload

-Mayor – understands concern – there will be a level of expertise that TGC will bring in the way of training the Program Specialist at ARTS-West

-Grace – expressed appreciation to the TGC team for managing and coordinating lots of Zoom meetings – hopefully this new system will make their jobs a bit easier

-Alan Swank, Townsend Place, Member of the City's Arts, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board – is excited about offering virtual programming and live-streaming services to ARTS-West as a performance venue – with a good system in place ARTS-West can offer quality programming and a state of the art facility – would also like to see the Community Center updated with equipment for the many events held at that facility

MINUTES: OCTOBER 12, 2020
FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
7:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance via Videoconference: Sam Crowl, Chair
Jeff Risner, Vice-Chair
Peter Kotses, Member
Arian Smedley, Member

Administrators and/or

Other Elected Officials via Videoconference: President Knisely
Mayor Patterson

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- Staffing (amend)
 - Crowl – discussion postponed to October 26th

- Appropriations/Transfers
 - Crowl – a CARES Act check has been received totaling \$884,211.16 – this total will be appropriated half to CARES Act Fund, 285.120.5323 and half to 285.120.5513 – City would like to partner with the County to purchase ultra-cold freezer units for the Athens City-County Health Department to prepare for storage upon approval of a COVID-19 safe vaccine – the City’s 1/3 cost share will be \$6,701.67 for one large freezer and two portable freezers

 - Risner – asked where the freezers will be kept, and under whose authority will they be used
 - Mayor – they will be maintained and stored by the Athens City-County Health Department – the City’s 1/3 and the County’s 2/3 cost share is based on population – understands the vaccine must be stored at, or around, -80 degrees – again, a great use of CARES Act funds

 - Clodfelter – appreciates the advance preparation for a vaccine – in the interest of sustainability she suggested the freezers not be plugged in until a vaccine has been approved
 - Kotses – is aware that the technology is extremely efficient

 - Fahl – questioned whether, if the vaccine does not need to be ultra-cooled, if the units can be returned and money refunded

 - Crowl – agrees, these units are state of the art, innovative technologies, again, very efficient

- Pay Off (2 loans)
 - Crowl – supports the Auditor and Mayor’s recommendations to pay off, in full, two upcoming loans -- \$170,000 for the Sanitary Sewer System upgrades and \$150,000 for our Water Treatment Plan upgrades

 - Risner – asked when the notes are due
 - President – December 6th

 - Clodfelter – will save paying interest for an additional year

 - Risner – can only improve the City’s bond rating, and possibly lower future interest rates

ITEMS NEEDED ON THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. Appropriations

MINUTES
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 12, 2020
7:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance via Videoconference: Chris Fahl, Chair
Jeff Risner, Vice-Chair
Sarah Grace, Member
Arian Smedley, Member

Administrators and/or Other Elected Officials
via Videoconference: President Knisely
Mayor Patterson

Items Discussed:

- Special Use Permit
 - Fahl – this is a special right-of-way permit request to install a (3) foot high decorative fence along 110 Morris Avenue
 - Risner – asked about the term of the permit
 - Fahl – 7 years – owner will then need to request renewal

ITEMS NEEDED ON THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. Permit

MINUTES
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 12, 2020
7:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance via Videoconference: Peter Kotses, Chair
Sam Crowl, Vice-Chair
Beth Clodfelter, Member

Administrators and/or

Other Elected Officials via Videoconference: President Knisely
Mayor Patterson

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- Infrastructure Authority
 - Kotses – would allow the Service-Safety Director, for a limited period of time, authority to close City streets to provide crowd control
 - Mayor – this is simply to take action quickly, if needed
 - Fahl – asked about the time period
 - Kotses – this would go through January 30

ITEMS NEEDED ON AN UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. Infrastructure Authority