

CITY OF ELKHORN
Finance & Judicial Committee Minutes
First Floor Conference Room, 9 S. Broad Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin

March 7, 2016

The Finance and Judicial Committee was called to order at 4:47 p.m. by Alderman McClory, followed by roll call.

Roll Call

Present: Aldermen Scott McClory, Michael Kluck, Tom Myrin

Also present: Mayor Brian Olson, City Clerk Cairie Virrueta, Finance Director James Heilman, Fire Chief Rod Smith, Utility Director John Murphy, Library Director Lisa Selje, Howie Reynolds, Bob and Colleen O'Neil, Kellen Olshefski,

Ehlers Financial Advisory Services for 2016 Utility System Improvements and Quarles & Brady Bond Counsel Engagement

Alderman McClory said this is for a contract and cooperative agreement with a company that has over 20 years of service with the City. Finance Director Heilman said there were two pieces: the SAFE drinking water loan and refinancing the existing water debt which could result in an approximate savings of \$600,000. Mayor Olson had in issue as no one talked to the council about this and just did it; Finance Director Heilman said there was no commitment or no charge for the paperwork that has been prepared. Mayor Olson would like to look at broader horizons in the future and requested that the committee look to other firms in the future. **Motion (McClory/Kluck) to contract with Ehlers and Quarles & Brady for 2016 Utility System Improvements.** Alderman Myrin said although he is not familiar with this, he felt it was valuable to look at other companies. Alderman McClory said others have been looked at in the past and Ehlers was determined to have the best fit for the City. He was concerned that changing could affect the City's Moody rating. Mayor Olson didn't believe it affected the City's rating. **Voice vote; motion carried.**

Purchase of Plants and Soil for Downtown Beautification Project

Alderman McClory said in the City purchased pots and flowers last year for downtown beautification but after the initial purchase, the City would no longer be involved. Alderman Myrin said the plan was to have businesses be involved, but he did not have time to pursue the businesses. He will ask them to contribute 50% of the costs towards the pots next year and then 100% following. Little Miss Sweet Peas provided costs to install plants in the pots, which included adding soil and fertilizer and the labor to install. Colleen O'Neil said working with VIP, they will continue to check the pots throughout the summer. Alderman McClory was not against the project, but was concerned that no one else was contacted to get prices to put the flowers in the pots, he felt it was not a good practice for the City. He has received calls from citizens on this. Alderman Myrin said flowers need to be ordered now and two weeks may be too late. Mayor Olson suggested soliciting for quotes, but he also supported going with a Little Miss Sweet Peas and working with VIP. Utility Director Murphy suggested that the Chamber or EEDA be contacted to coordinate this project and this is not a City project and the City donate funds to the organization in charge of the project. **Motion (McClory/Kluck) to have the City Clerk send out requests for quotes and specs to Pesches, UW-Extension and other businesses for the flowers, plants, soil and installation the next day, to be returned by Monday, March 14 at 3 p.m.** All quotes will be reviewed at the Finance & Judicial Committee that Monday. Alderman Myrin felt getting quotes was "nonsense" and Alderman McClory disagreed. **Voice vote; Alderman Myrin voted against; motion carried.**

Tree Damage by Advanced Disposal: Insurance Settlement Costs

Utility Director Murphy said a tree that was earmarked to be removed was snagged by an Advanced Disposal truck and the City had to do an emergency removal. Advanced Disposal was willing to pay for half the removal costs. **Motion to accept the settlement from Advanced Disposal to pay half the removal costs for a tree they damaged. Voice vote; motion carried.**

Adjournment

Motion (Kluck/Myrin) to adjourn at 5:26 p.m. Motion carried.

Cairie L. Virrueta
City Clerk