

City of Middletown
Finance & Government Operations Commission Agenda
Regular Meeting
January 29, 2020 @ 6:00 pm
Municipal Building Room B19

Present: Councilman Anthony Gennaro, Councilwoman Meghan Carta, Councilman Edward McKeon, Councilman Gene Nocera, Councilwoman Linda Salafia, Joseph Samolis, Jeff Daniels, Dr. Joseph Havlicek, Philip Cacciola, William Russo, Christopher Holden, Christine Bourne, Gene Thazhampallath, Tayna Oliver-Perry, Lee Matterazzo, Mayor Benjamin Florsheim, Barbara Peterson, Jennifer Mahr, Steven Kovach, David Gallitto, Santo Carta, Ronald Nossek

Absent: None

1. Councilman Gene Nocera called the Finance & Government meeting to order at 6:05 and requested a motion to approve the January 2, 2020 minutes. Councilwoman Salafia asked to speak before accepting the minutes, stating that the CDBG should have been on agenda for questions and not sent back to the committee. Councilman Nocera stated that the amendment was done and motioned to approve, Councilwoman Salafia second; unanimously approved.
2. Public Comments on the Agenda – Jennifer Mahr, 99 Old Farms East, Chair of the Westfield Residents Association and a member of the Fire Range Building Committee discussed her concerns with the funds being overspent at Palmer Field. She would like the commission to consider that this project is over budget and remind them that the project was originally for bleacher repair and now the project has turned into a brand new stadium at the expense of green space and other projects.
3. Items submitted for discussion:
 - **Auditors – Discussion of FY 2018/2019 CAFR**
Ron Nossek from Blum Shapiro gave a brief presentation regarding the audit. He explained that they follow the Generally Accepted Audit Standards and that we have received a clean audit. Councilman McKeon inquired about our City's pension plan. Carl Erlacher explained that the pension is very healthy at this time. The city hasn't had to make a contribution for any general government employee except for Police and the Fire district in the last 16 years that he has been here and doesn't see the need at least for the next 10 years. He also said that it would cost the city more to stop the pension and turn to social security. The city would have to come up with a 6.2% social security match plus offer some sort of defined benefit or contribution type of plan, this would incur an enormous cost to the city.
 - **Health – 1) Appropriation Request totaling \$7480 in CNR funds for purchase of two premium care warranties for two 2020 Ford Fusions; 2) Grant Confirmation totaling \$2500 in federal funds for NACCHO grant to provide training and supplies to Medical Reserve Corps**
Councilman Nocera motioned to approve the appropriation request for the purchase of two premium care warranties for the two new 2020 Ford Fusions for the Health Department. Councilwoman Salafia second; unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Salafia motioned to approve the grant confirmation totaling \$2500 in Federal funds for the NACCHO grant to provide training and supplies to Medical Reserve Corps, Councilman Gennaro second; unanimously approved.

- **Tax Collector – Discussion of Court Stipulations reducing tax liability**

Councilman Nocera stated that this would be on the March agenda and asked the Tax Collector Lee Matterazzo if she could please attend to answer any questions which may arise.

- **Public Works – Resolution requesting approval for line transfer of \$600,000 in Parks Bond funds from Hubbard Park Improvements to Palmer Field Entry & Bleacher Repair for upgrade to Light Structure System and, use Musco Sports Lighting Total Light Control LED Technology**

Chris Holden discussed the finding from the structural engineers' report which stated that the structural integrity of the light poles could possibly be a liability to the city. The committee asked to have language added to the resolution clarifying the liability issue. Councilman Nocera suggested amending this resolution Monday night before the meeting. Motion passed unanimously subject to the amendment clarifying the liability issue.

- **PCD – 1) Resolution requesting endorsement of five applications submitted by River COG to the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) for the 2020 Regional Performance Incentive Program (RPIP) and, authorization actions to enter into a binding agreement with OPM according to terms of the RPIP; 2) Resolution requesting approval for transfer of up to \$30,000 from Economic Development Fund Balance to Economic Development Outreach Initiatives to continue to finalize the concept design for the Boathouse Project**

Councilman Gennaro motioned to approve the first resolution requesting endorsement of five applications submitted by River COG to the Office of Policy and Management for the 2020 Regional Performance Incentive Program and authorization actions to enter into a binding agreement with OPM according to terms of the RPIP, Councilwoman Salafia second; unanimously approved.

Councilman Nocera motioned to move the resolution requesting approval for transfer of up to \$30,000 from Economic Development Fund Balance to Outreach Initiatives to continue to finalize the concept design for the Boathouse Project. Councilman Gennaro second; unanimously approved.

- **Committee – Discussion of Charter Revision**

Reports

- Transfer of Funds/BOE Transfers
- General Fund Appropriations
- City's Investments
- Tax Collector Report
- Professional Services Report
- Quarterly Reports – Senior Services and Arts & Culture checking accounts
- Monthly Expenditure Summary Report

4. Other

The next regular meeting is Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at 6:00 pm in Room 208