

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**of August 12, 2024**

**In Attendance:**        **Vermilion City Council:** Steve Herron, Council President; Gary Howell, Council at Large; Pat West, Ward One; Greg Drew, Ward Two; Drew Werley, Ward Three; Gwen Fisher, Certified Municipal Clerk, Melanie Wood, Assistant Clerk of Council. Absent: Jeff Lucas, Ward Four; Brian Holmes, Ward Five (late - arrived for Special Council meeting)

**Administration:** Jim Forthofer, Mayor; Amy Hendricks, Finance Director; Chris Hartung, Police Chief; Chris Howard, City Engineer; Bill Brown, Fire Chief; Tony Valerius, Service Director

**Call to Order:**        Steve Herron, Vice Chair, RESOLVED THAT this Finance Committee comprised of the committee of the whole has now come to order.

---

**TOPIC ONE:**            **Year-To-Date Reporting**

Amy Hendricks presented her report as attached hereto and incorporated herein as part of the official record of proceedings.

Further reporting addressed a gift agreement for a Splash Pad adjacent to the pool on Pineview for increasing revenue and expenditures of \$225,000. Additionally, reimbursements are coming in from the city's expenses, so they do not have advances to pay in relation to the OWDA Wastewater Treatment Plant. Additional training has been requested by the WWTP supervisor for Sewer Fund Training in the amount of \$1,200.

S. Herron addressed the Opioid Settlement and asked if the administration can adopt a position to the powers that the opioid settlement money could go towards the cruiser order because almost all the time on an overdose, a police officer is the first one on scene administering Narcan, so if the city is getting new police vehicles, they are obviously used in the response – why can't the Opioid settlement money go for that? This would cut 10 percent off the cruiser order. A. Hendricks explained the guidelines do not allow this type of latitude, but she isn't saying they cannot do some additional research and find out if this is an option or not. S. Herron suggested pursuing additional research because they could use it directly for addressing the situation. He is all for prevention programs in the school too, but they have six new vehicles that are deemed necessary by the department for the safety and well-being of the officers in the community.

G. Howell asked why there was a discrepancy on the cruiser order on the budget sheet versus the ordinance. A. Hendricks asked what was budgeted. G. Howell said the administration has a \$125,000 difference. A. Hendricks said they had an additional allocation in with the lease payments and the final lease payment isn't going to be used and it was a little over \$100,000, so this is staying in that budget line item, and she is asking for the additional to be allocated. G. Howell asked if the number for the vehicles is then \$263,000. A. Hendricks said it is \$387,546.

G. Fisher addressed the splash pad project and the creation of the fund, along with a gift agreement, which is shown as a necessity of emergency since the city wants to start the work in September of 2024. A. Hendricks said she received a call today from Marc Weisenberger informing her that the donors want the agreement reviewed by their legal counsel, so a first reading is appropriate. G. Fisher said she wanted to clarify if it was a necessity for emergency tonight.

Next Meeting: Next scheduled meeting is September 16, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m. at the Vermilion Municipal Court Complex, 687 Decatur Street, Vermilion, Ohio.

Transcribed by Gwen Fisher, Certified Municipal Clerk