

FINDLAY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR SESSION

DECEMBER 15, 2020

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ROLL CALL of 2020-2021 Councilmembers:

PRESENT: Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser

ABSENT: President of Council Harrington, Warnecke

President of Council Pro-Tem Russel informed Council that President of Council Harrington and Councilwoman Warnecke notified him that they would not be in attendance tonight. Councilman Hellmann moved to excuse the absence of President of Council Harrington and Councilwoman Warnecke, seconded by Councilman Slough. All were in favor. Filed.

President of Council Pro-Tem Russel opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

ACCEPTANCE/CHANGES TO PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

Councilman Slough moved to accept the December 1, 2020 Regular Session City Council meeting minutes, Councilman Palmer seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

ADD-ON/REPLACEMENT/REMOVAL FROM THE AGENDA:

Councilman Wobser moved to replace the following to tonight's agenda, seconded by Councilman Shindledecker. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

REPLACEMENTS:

1. Resolution No. 032-2020 AS AMENDED – credit card reader for Utility Billing Dept (*LEGISLATION section*)

- *1st WHEREAS:*

WHEREAS, the City of Findlay currently provides electronic payment services online to its customers and is adding the option of paying at the counter of the Utility Billing Office, and;

to now be:

WHEREAS, the City of Findlay currently provides electronic **credit/debt card** payment services online to its customers and is adding the option of **payments** at the counter of the Utility Billing Office **with the use of electronic card readers**, and;

- *2nd WHEREAS:*

WHEREAS, the City of Findlay has entered into an agreement with Official Payments/ACI Worldpay, an entity which provides the means of offering electronic payments to customers, and;

to now be:

WHEREAS, the City of Findlay **is amending** an agreement with Official Payments/**ACI Payments, Inc.**, an entity which provides the means of offering electronic payments to costumers, and;

- *3rd WHEREAS:*

WHEREAS, the City of Findlay shall provide electronic payment options to its customers for a transaction fee no greater than the cost incurred by the City of Findlay per transaction, and;

to now be:

WHEREAS, the City of Findlay shall **continue to** provide electronic **credit/debt card** payment options to its customers for a transaction fee no greater than the cost incurred by the City of Findlay per transaction **when using the electronic card readers as well**, and;

- *4th WHEREAS:*

WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT Official Payments/ACI Worldpay is the is the electronic payment processor best meeting the needs of the City of Findlay with a proposal to provide electronic payments for a fee per transaction for utility payments made by credit/debit cards;

to now be:

WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT Official Payments/**ACI Payments, Inc.** is the electronic payment processor best meeting the needs of the City of Findlay with a proposal to provide electronic payments for a fee per transaction **when using the electronic card readers** for utility payments made by credit/debt cards;

- *emergency clause:*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Findlay, State of Ohio, does hereby authorize said agreement to be entered into with Official Payments/ACI Worldpay for the purpose of providing electronic payments to utility customers.

to now be:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Findlay, State of Ohio, does hereby authorize said **amendment of the agreement** to be entered into with Official Payments/**ACI Payments, Inc.** for the purpose of providing electronic **credit/debit card payments with the use of electronic card readers** to utility customers.

2. Ordinance No. 2020-141 – year-end appropriations (**LEGISLATION** section)
- SECTION 1:
Removed “Fund” from the TO portion of the appropriation
 - SECTION 3:
Changed the TO portion of the 6th appropriation “~~CIT Fund – Capital Improvements Restricted Account~~” to now be “Energy Bonds Series B #23056100”

PROCLAMATIONS: none

RECOGNITION/RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS: none

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: none

PETITIONS: none

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: none

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS:

City Income Tax Monthly Collection Report – November 2020. Filed.

Findlay Municipal Court Activities Report – November 2020. Filed.

Findlay Fire Department Activities Report – November 2020. Filed.

City Auditor Staschiak – summary financial reports

A set of summary financial reports for the prior month follows including:

- Summary of Year-To-Date Information as of November 30, 2020
- Financial Snapshot for General Fund as November 30, 2020
- Open Projects Report as of November 30, 2020
- Cash & Investments as of November 30, 2020

Filed.

Treasurer’s Reconciliation Report – November 30, 2020. Filed.

Mayor Muryn - Financial Summary. Filed.

Mayor/Acting Service Director Muryn – annual Community Park Improvement Program Grant

The City of Findlay has received grant monies in the amount of six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00) from the annual Community Park Improvement Program Grant through the Hancock Park District. Those grant funds will be used for assistance in restoring the band shell at Riverside Park. The band shell was built in the 1940s and is in need of restoration. A local company will be used to perform this project. Legislation to appropriate funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2020-138 was created.

FROM:	HPD Grant	\$ 6,000.00
TO:	HPD Grant 2021 #3190420000-other	\$ 6,000.00

Filed.

Findlay Police Department Activities Report – November 2020. Filed.

City Engineer Thomas – 2020 Street Preventative Maintenance, Project No. 32800200

The Street Department was not able to complete all of the work that they were hoping to accomplish in 2020 due to the quick onset of colder weather. As a result, there are some funds left in the project that can be returned to the Capital Improvements Restricted Account that can be used for new projects after the first of the year. Legislation to de-appropriate funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2020-139 was created.

FROM:	2020 Street Preventative Maintenance (32800200)	\$ 125,000.00
TO:	CIT Fund – Capital Improvements Restricted Account	\$ 125,000.00

Filed.

Mayor Muryn – District 13 Integrating Committee appointment

Mayor Muryn is appointing Brian A. Thomas, P.E., P.S., City Engineer for the City of Findlay, to the District 13 Ohio Public Works Commission Integrating Committee. This term will expire April 30, 2023. In the event Mr. Thomas cannot attend a scheduled meeting, Jeremy Kalb, Assistant City Engineer for the City of Findlay, as an alternate to the District 13 Ohio Public Works Commission Integrating Committee. This appointment does not require Council’s confirmation. Filed.

City Auditor Jim Staschiak – year-end items to transfer/appropriate

The following accounts require an appropriation or a transfer for this budget year so that the City may remain in compliance with ORC and audit. It is important that the rules be suspended and the legislation for these transfers be passed at the December 15, 2020 City Council meeting in order to remain in compliance.

Transfer Resolution:

FROM:	Council #21001000-other	\$	2,000.00	
TO:	Council #21001000-personal services		\$	2,000.00
FROM:	Mayor #21002000-other	\$	1,000.00	
TO:	Mayor #21002000-personal services		\$	1,000.00
FROM:	Safety Director #21017000-other	\$	500.00	
TO:	Safety Director #21017000-personal services		\$	500.00
FROM:	Human Resources #21018000-other	\$	500.00	
TO:	Human Resources #21018000-personal services		\$	500.00
FROM:	General Expense #21010000-other	\$	16,000.00	
TO:	Law Director #21005000-personal services		\$	6,000.00
TO:	Law Director #21005000-other		\$	10,000.00
FROM:	Sewer Maintenance #25048000-other	\$	9,500.00	
TO:	Sewer Maintenance #25048000-personal services		\$	9,500.00
FROM:	Parking #25075000-other	\$	2,500.00	
TO:	Parking #25075000-personal services		\$	2,500.00

REASON: the transfers deal with moving already appropriated funds between the department’s personal services (wages and related benefits) and other (operational expenses) accounts to be able to finish the rest of the year.

FROM:	General Fund	\$	1,595,400.00	
TO:	Severance Payout Reserve Fund		\$	1,595,400.00

REASON: this transfer will cover known retirement obligations the City has through 2021. The amount brings the fund balance to \$1,000,000.00 above the obligation amount. Additional known obligations beyond 2021 are as follows: 2022 - \$260,630.00; 2023 - \$448,170.00; 2024 - \$183,928.00; 2025 = \$345,815.00. Legislation to transfer funds is requested. Resolution No. 033-2020 was created.

Appropriation Ordinance:

FROM:	Severance Payout Reserve Fund	\$	369,000.00	
TO:	Severance Payout Reserve #22090000-personal services		\$	369,000.00

REASON: There have been several retirements that have already occurred and some that are scheduled to occur this year that were not included in the original budget figures because the City did not have written notification of the retirements at the time of budget development last fall. Money needs to be appropriated to cover the expense of the retirement settlements.

FROM:	CR 236 TIF Fund	\$	38,636.88	
TO:	CR 236 Widening Debt Service #23060310-other		\$	38,636.88
FROM:	CR 236 Widening Debt Service #23060310-other	\$	38,636.88	
TO:	CIT – Capital Improvement Restricted Account		\$	38,636.88

REASON: the CR 236 debt payments were appropriated and paid initially by CIT Fund-Capital Improvements money for 2020. \$38,636.88 has been received in 2020 of TIF revenue to offset a portion of the 2020 debt payment. These appropriations allow the TIF Fund money to be used for the debt and reimburse Capital Improvements.

FROM:	County Permissive Fund	\$	370,867.12	
TO:	CR 236 Widening Debt Service #23060310-other		\$	330,414.12
TO:	CR 236 Land Debt Service #23060210-other		\$	40,453.00
FROM:	CR 236 Widening Debt Service #23060310-other	\$	330,414.12	
FROM:	CR 236 Land Debt Service #23060210-other	\$	40,453.00	
TO:	CIT – Capital Improvements Restricted Account		\$	370,867.12

REASON: The CR 236 Debt payments were appropriated and paid initially by Capital Improvements money for 2020. \$370,867.12 of County Permissive Fund money to pay the 2020 debt payments as an allowable use of the money. These appropriations allow the County Permissive money to be used for the debt and reimburse Capital Improvements.

FROM:	Energy Bonds Series B #23056100	\$ 8,773.21	
TO:	CIT Fund – Capital Improvements Restricted Account		\$ 8,773.21
FROM:	CIT Fund – Capital Improvements Restricted Account	\$ 0.01	
TO:	Energy Bonds Series B #23056100		\$ 0.01

REASON: The City had to appropriate the entire amount of the interest payment for the Energy Bonds for the 2020 debt payments. However, the Series B bonds are federally subsidized and the City received a portion of the subsidy payment. Due to the federal mandated sequester, the City did not receive the entire subsidy. There is a federally established process with the IRS to request the payments that must be followed twice a year. The second payment request was filed at the earliest date of September; however, as of the date of this letter, that payment has not been received which means the reimbursement amount in 2020 is about half of what was originally expected. Also, the interest amount that was due on the bonds ended up being more than was shown on the amortization schedule and was originally budgeted. These transactions take care of the return the fronted appropriation to CIT Fund – Capital Improvements Restricted Account and the required small appropriation for the rounding.

FROM:	Special Assessments Sidewalks #28020000	\$ 304.52	
TO:	General Fund		\$ 304.52

REASON: In 2004, the City made the final debt payment on the 2003 Sidewalk Construction Program, however, there were several assessment deferrals granted at that time in addition to several property owners that had chosen not to pay the assessment. Also, the City made the final debt payment on the 2010 Sidewalk Repair and New Construction projects in 2014. About half (1/2) of the assessed property owners chose not to pay this assessments. The City had to cover the costs of the debt payments with General Fund money and was to be reimbursed when the property owners finally made payment. The \$304.52 represents the amount of money that was received in 2020 for some of these properties. This money should now be returned to the General Fund. There are still a few outstanding assessments to be collected from these projects.

FROM:	Police Pension Fund	\$ 53,424.24	
TO:	Police Pension #27078000-761400		\$ 53,424.24

FROM:	Fire Pension Fund	\$ 53,424.24	
TO:	Fire Pension #27079000-761400		\$ 53,424.24

REASON: A portion of the amount received from the assorted property taxes from the County tax settlements is deposited into Police and Fire Pension Funds by law. The cash balance is then transferred to the General Fund at the end of the year. Although the revenue budgets for 2020 were estimated very closely, the transfers out of these funds were budgeted low. The County revises their revenue estimates after adoption of our annual appropriation ordinance, and in order to avoid potentially over-budgeting the fund on the certificate filing, the transfer out is budgeted lower than expected.

FROM:	Private Trust Fund	\$ 41.56	
TO:	Private Trust #27087000-761400		\$ 41.56

REASON: The amount of charges from the private trusts to fulfill the requests for the respective gravesites exceed the original estimate of \$2,500.00. The expenses are initially paid from the Cemetery account and then reimbursed from the private trust accounts. This appropriation allows the excess amount to be transferred to the General Fund. Legislation to appropriate funds and to adopt on an emergency for the above listed items is requested. Ordinance No. 2020-141 was created.

Discussion:

Councilman Wobser asked that the letter be read into the record, seconded by Councilman Haas. All were in favor. The Council Clerk read the letter in its entirety.

Councilman Wobser noted that the Severance Payout Reserve Fund was discussed during the budget hearings. He asked City Auditor Staschiak to explain what was put into the legislation for this. City Auditor Staschiak replied that the Severance Payout Reserve Fund is put in place for when employees retire, whether it is known early that they will retire or if it is unknown, to cover the General Fund if it is hit with large payouts, sometimes in the tens of thousands of dollars. The fund was originally created using three to four (3-4) years of known retirements going forward. Since the recession, the Auditor’s Office has tried to keep as close to one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) in the fund regardless of how retirements went. The City is currently in a solid position as far as cash balances are concerned and have been for a couple of years. While it has been talked about, there has not been a real effort to fund the obligation. The dollars that are listed in that paragraph through 2025 are known dollars for employees that it are eligible for retirement through the service that they have had with the City and what their payouts would be for each of those years. If all eligible City employees retire the end of 2021, the City’s obligations, that currently are unfunded, would leave the fund about six hundred dollars (\$600,000.00) in the hole. There are unfunded severance payouts that the City is obligated to pay today should those individuals retire. The one million dollar (\$1,000,000.00) request covers a significant portion of those obligations through 2024 based on known retirements. There are employees that do not make it known that they are going to retire, but do end up retiring. Some have service credit through other employment and some employees do not want the City to know when they are going to retire. Retirements are a known obligation and the City is in a strong cash position to fund a significant portion of that known obligation. It is an obligation that is not going to go away. If the City goes through another economic recession within the next twenty-four (24) months like it did in 2007 and 2008, it could put the City in a bind if funds are not set aside for other economic pressures or is another Council were to come in and does not fund it. Since Council is a 2-year seat and the City is currently in a strong cash position, he urges Council to fund this as much as they are comfortable doing. The City is in a position that they can fund the entire thing and fund it in a strong way based on what is known and expend it to budget projections.

Councilman Wobser asked if the three hundred sixty-nine thousand dollars (\$369,000.00) in the ordinance is just for next year. City Auditor Staschiak replied it is for known retirements this year that is paid out of the salary line item. When Council passes the budget via appropriation ordinances, funds either go to the personal services or other line items. It is taken out of personal services and then is lined up at the end of the year so that there is enough money to pay salaries in the last month of the year so that everything is squared up and are proper for audit which is what the three hundred sixty-nine thousand dollar (\$369,000.00) appropriation in this ordinance does. The one million five hundred ninety-five thousand four hundred dollar (\$1,595,400.00) transfer is the difference between those that have retired and have received or are receiving their payouts currently under the three hundred sixty-nine thousand dollars (\$369,000.00) appropriation and funding the Severance Payout Reserve to the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) beyond through 2021, and these numbers are through 2025. One million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) is not an arbitrary number.

Councilman Hellmann asked if the one million five hundred ninety-five thousand four hundred dollars (\$1,595,400.00) is for all those that are eligible to retire. City Auditor Staschiak replied that the number is calculated based on who is eligible to retire. It is much like a pension system where City employees accrue in a pension system such as a 401K. Those benefits are accrued today knowing that one day there will be a payout in either monthly installments or a lump sum. This is a lump sum payout that the City is obligated to make when employees turn in their notice of retirement. Councilman Hellmann asked if those employees are eligible to retire. City Auditor Staschiak replied yes. Those that are not eligible to retire are not included in these numbers.

Councilman Wobser noted that the conversations that took place during the budget hearings were centered on the one million five hundred ninety-five thousand four hundred dollars to one million six hundred thousand dollars (\$1,595,400.00-\$1,600,000.00). It was suggested to transfer a portion of that amount. If that is Council's desire, then Council will need to come up with a figure they want to change it to and make an amendment to the Resolution. Councilman Shindledecker replied that several months ago, there were discussions to put additional funds in the Rainy Day Fund that he agreed needed to be done, but was not happy to do so in the spring and feels the same way about this request as retirement is a moving target and he is not comfortable putting that amount of money into that account at this time. While it is known that funds will have to be available when the time comes and the City will have to be careful, it still bothers him to do the whole thing at once and would prefer to amend it to a smaller amount.

Councilman Hellmann agrees with Councilman Shindledecker and suggested reducing it by half (1/2). Councilman Shindledecker replied he would like to reduce to five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) which is less than half (1/2) the amount, but is open to any amount other Councilmembers suggest.

Councilman Russel asked when a City employee retires if the funds in the Severance Payout Reserve Fund are transferred to the Personal Services account that is listed in this legislation. City Auditor Staschiak replied it is an appropriation. Councilman Russel asked if the three hundred sixty-nine thousand dollar (\$369,000.00) request is to reimburse that. City Auditor Staschiak replied that is correct. Councilman Russel asked what the current severance payout is. City Auditor Staschiak replied that initially, there was nine hundred thousand dollars (\$900,000.00), but have obligated three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) of that which was paid and appropriated throughout the year. There is now another three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) for a total of six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000.00) as the projected balance. Six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000.00) puts the City at a one million two hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000.00) obligation through next year. Five hundred ninety-five thousand four hundred dollars (\$595,400.00) will cover through 2021 and six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000.00) will cover through 2021 in its entirety, but does not set anything solid for numbers after that. Councilman Russel asked if the transfer listed by City Auditor Staschiak is necessary in order to remain in compliance with Ohio Revised Code and audit. City Auditor Staschiak replied that is true for the three hundred sixty-nine thousand dollars (\$369,000.00). The additional amount was added per Council's conversation and requested according to this piece of legislation with the understanding that Council would have this discussion and determine whether or not they want to move forward. Councilman Russel asked if these amounts were to change, if that would get the City in trouble with Ohio Revised Code or with an audit. City Auditor Staschiak replied not with that particular part of it, but would with the other parts of it as those are the amounts needed to stay in compliance.

Councilman Wobser summarized that Council is looking at the six hundred thousand to seven hundred thousand dollar (\$600,000.00-\$700,000.00) range because it is known that the City will be in a deficit spending situation unless the City is funded Federally like it was this year which is not known at this point. One reason he likes to have this funded well is because it gives City employees the security that the money will be there and may help prolong some employees from retiring if they know the money has been appropriated. If it is funded as needed, it would not reassure employees with a good strong feeling to stay on longer if there is not a lot of money there. When dealing with public entities, money is here today and could be gone tomorrow which has been dealt with all year. This is his reasoning for transferring at least seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000.00).

Councilman Wobser moved to amend Resolution No. 033-2020 to change the dollar amount of SECTION 3 from one million five hundred ninety-five thousand dollars (\$1,595,000.00) to now be seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000.00), seconded by Councilman Slough. The amendment will be done during the LEGISLATION portion of tonight's meeting.

Mayor Muryn added that she is comfortable with whatever amount Council decides on. When talking about a deficit budget, the one million five hundred ninety-five thousand dollars (\$1,595,000.00) was put into the budget as part of those discussions, and the decrease in that amount will actually help the City's 2021 budget. The three hundred sixty-nine thousand dollar (\$369,000.00) request needs to be done as it will meet the City's current obligations. The City will be one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) over for 2021 and 2022, but will take the City through 2025, so she is all for planning ahead to ensure that the City is appropriately prepared, but as she mentioned in the budget hearings, she would rather fund the Severance Payout Fund in increments and decide what is needed each year and put that amount aside and assess the City's cash position each year, as well as look where revenues are coming in at so that the City is preparing for the future, but are not getting ahead of themselves.

She would be comfortable with Councilman Wobser's suggestion of seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000.00) as the City is in a strong cash position, but when looking years ahead, she does not want the City to put themselves in a restricted position. She does not want to put the funds aside that becomes an issue. It is not something that has to be done immediately. She would prefer to assess the situation and make minor tweaks instead of making the decision all at once. Filed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The **PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE** to whom was referred a request from Rooney & Ranzau, Ltd. Philip Rooney on behalf of Amber Waves Development Inc. to rezone the Amber Waves Development Inc. (East Bigelow Avenue) annexation to I1 Light Industrial.

We recommend approval of the initial zoning as I1 Light Industrial as requested. Legislation will be available after January 23, 2021 (after 60-day hold in the City Clerk's Office).

Councilman Hellmann moved to adopt the committee report, seconded by Councilman Slough.

Discussion:

President of Council Pro-Tem Russel explained that this is not a rezone, but is the zoning needed due to this property is being brought into the City. This is coming in from Marion County. All were in favor. Filed.

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 032-2020 AS AMENDED (*credit card reader for Utility Billing Dept*) **requires three (3) readings** **second reading - adopted**

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CHARGING UTILITY CUSTOMERS A FEE FOR PROCESSING CREDIT/DEBIT CARD PAYMENTS AT THE COUTNER OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY UTILITY BILLING OFFICE.

Councilman Wobser moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Resolution its third reading, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser. The Resolution received its third reading. Councilman Greeno moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman Slough.

Discussion:

Councilman Russel asked why this Resolution needs to be adopted tonight and what the dollar amount would be. City Auditor Staschiak replied it would be zero dollars (\$0.00) to the City. When a customer of the City chooses to pay by credit card, a third party processor is utilized with a convenience fee that the credit card provider charges. That fee is charged back to the customer. In Utility Billing's case, the third party processor has been bought out, so there is a name change which is indicated in this Resolution. Utility Billing and their customers want the ability to use cards for payment at the counter. This legislation is required by the card service provider so that fees can be charged back to the customer. It is a formality request by the credit card provider and will not install the credit card readers until this is passed.

Councilman Shindledecker asked what kind of convenience or service fee is it. He asked what the percentage is that is calculated for the fee. City Auditor Staschiak replied that he does not know the exact amount, but it is a typical or standard fee that customers are comfortable with. Both Utility Billing and the customers want this. Customers of the Income Tax Department also appreciate the convenience of being able to pay by credit card. Customers who pay by credit card tend to do so frequently and not just as a one-time means of payment.

Ayes: Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser, Greeno. The Resolution was declared adopted and is recorded in Resolution Volume XXXIV, and is hereby made a part of the record.

RESOLUTION NO. 033-2020 AS AMENDED (*year-end transfer of funds*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading - adopted**

A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING FUNDS WITHIN APPROPRIATED FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Slough moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Resolution its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser, Greeno, Haas. The Resolution received its second and third readings. Councilman Wobser moved to amend SECTION 3 of the Resolution from one million five hundred ninety-five thousand four hundred dollars (\$1,595,400.00) to now be seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000.00), seconded by Councilman Slough.

Discussion:

Councilman Russel noted that he would be in favor of amending it to less than seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000.00) and discussing it at an APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE meeting for clarity on the different figures being suggested and to address questions that are being asked. There are two (2) different views on this. While Councilman Wobser has expressed his view on having enough funds in the account for employees that are nearing retirement to clearly indicate to them that the budget has been fiscally sound, he feels that would have a minimal effect on employees that are close to retirement and therefore, he will be voting against the amendment and would instead like to strike SECTION 3 in its entirety.

Councilman Wobser replied that he still stands by his amendment from the standpoint that the City is doing well financially as it will help employees as they look to retirement to see that the City has been a good steward of the City's money that is owed to them when they retire.

Ayes: Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser, Greeno, Hellmann. Nays: Russel, Haas. Motion to amend is approved. Motion to adopt as amended: Ayes: Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer.

The Resolution was declared adopted and is recorded in Resolution Volume XXXIV, and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-134 (*726 S Blanchard St rezone*) **requires three (3) readings** **third reading - adopted**
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1100 ET SEQ OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, KNOWN AS THE ZONING CODE BY REZONING THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY (REFERRED TO AS 726 SOUTH BLANCHARD STREET REZONE) WHICH PREVIOUSLY WAS ZONED "R4 DUPLEX/TRIPLEX" TO "C2 COMMERCIAL DISTRICT".

Councilman Hellmann moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Slough. Ayes: Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-134 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-136 (*Madison and Monroe sewer replacement project*) **requires three (3) readings** **second reading - adopted**
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Slough moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its third reading, seconded by Councilman Niemeyer. Ayes: Slough, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker. The Ordinance received its third reading. Councilman Wobser moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Slough. Ayes: Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-136 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-138 (*HPD Annual Community Park Improvement Program grant*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading - adopted**
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Slough moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Wobser moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Slough. Ayes: Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser, Greeno, Haas. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-138 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-139 (*2020 Street Preventative Maintenance de-appropriation*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading - adopted**
AN ORDINANCE DE-APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Slough moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Palmer. Ayes: Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Greeno moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Slough. Ayes: Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-139 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-140 (*Street Dept – new milling machine*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading - adopted**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO PURCHASE A 2019 BM 1300/30 MILLING MACHINE FOR THE CITY OF FINDLAY STREET DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Hellmann moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Haas. Ayes: Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Palmer moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Slough.

Discussion:

Councilman Hellmann asked if the attached options is what the City wants. Safety Director Schmelzer replied that it is a need versus a want based on the last couple of years' worth of work and based on lease payments the City has paid over the years in order to get the work done. During the last City Council meeting, he explained how the Street Department has been able to do projects and are now targeting the work to handle some of the milling projects themselves. The equipment the City has been leasing is utilized for about two and a half (2 ½) months a year for fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) a year to mill pavement to grade and would be much more prudent for the City to purchase a piece of equipment for approximately three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000.00) than continue to pay the lease rate. During the last City Council meeting, one of the payment options was to have a contract to purchase with an annual payment to pay it off early or pay cash. Since the last meeting, the alternative for developing a contract for purchase has been eliminated. The options now are to buy or not to buy. The Ordinance before Council is to pay cash to buy that piece of equipment.

Instead of buying a 2021 piece of equipment at a cost of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) more, the City has the opportunity to buy a brand new 2019 piece of equipment that has never been used, but is still new for a significant discount. That 2019 piece of equipment is not available to the City in perpetuity and is on hold based on Council's decision tonight or in the very near future. The vendor is under no obligation to keep it for the City until the City decides if they want it or not which creates some kind of urgency on what the City wants to do. His opinion is that it falls into a no-brainer category based on the financial aspects previously discussed. He is requesting Council suspend the rules and adopt the Ordinance in order to pay cash for it.

Councilman Hellmann asked if the payment option is no longer on the table. Safety Director Schmelzer replied that is correct. Councilman Hellmann asked what happened with that option. Safety Director Schmelzer replied that option was not able to be put together because of the issues regarding whether or not signing an agreement would be considered debt.

Councilman Wobser noted that the price of the new equipment is not listed in the legislation and asked if the sticker price was five hundred seventeen thousand dollars (\$517,000.00) and if they are discounting it to the City for three hundred sixty-eight thousand (\$368,000.00) to be around three hundred thousand eighteen thousand dollars (\$318,000.00) with fifty thousand dollar (\$50,000.00) trade-ins. Safety Director Schmelzer replied that is correct due to the power of state bidding. The curb machine is no longer used by the City and a smaller milling machine (aka asphalt zipper) does not set grade which significantly slows progress on final pave for grade and collecting the grindings. Councilman Wobser asked if the final prices should be around three hundred eighteen thousand dollars (\$318,000.00). Safety Director Schmelzer replied that he intends to go back to the vendor and inform them that the City has the ability to purchase the equipment and ask if any negotiating can be done. They have already committed to an extended warranty for twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) which is well worth it. It will not be more than the purchase price of three hundred sixty-eight thousand dollars (\$368,000.00). He is going to ask them to include the extended warranty in the total cost which will most likely not be purchased until the next year after the equipment has been ran for awhile.

Ayes: Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-140 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-141 AS AMENDED (year-end appropriations) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading - adopted**
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Russel moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Palmer. Ayes: Slough, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Greeno moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Hellmann. Ayes: Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-141 and is hereby made a part of the record.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Muryn noted that the standard fee to run credit card transactions is \$6.95 per credit card transaction and \$1.95 per debit card transaction.

Mayor Muryn thanked City employees for their dedication during COVID. The team has done a fantastic job this year as shown in the financial summary of managing expenses and have been wise managers of tax dollars. She also thanked Council for their guidance throughout the budget process in continuing to make sure the community has operated in a safe manner and has been in person. Many neighboring communities have had to temporarily suspended business, have closed buildings or have had to make adjustments. The Findlay community adapted quickly to be able to continue to operate meeting the community's expectations in a safe manner for both Findlay citizens and City employees.

Mayor Muryn informed Council that Ohio began receiving the COVID vaccination yesterday with Hancock County receiving its first shipment the week of the 28th that will initially go to healthcare frontline employees, EMS workers, and long-term care facility employees and residents. The Administration will continue to work with Hancock Public Health and the hospital on how to communicate it and how to roll it out. It will be slow at first as it is worked through the State and Federal Government who want to ensure that all doses received are ran through the process and then larger amounts of the dosage will then be distributed ramping up manufacturing. As information is provided to her, she will communicate that to the public. Councilman Wobser asked how many doses will arrive in the first batch. Mayor Muryn replied that the first batch will be five hundred (500) doses which will cover the ER and COVID employees. It will not be mandated, but will be their choice whether or not they want to get the vaccination. It will only cover a small portion, but is expected to ramp up week to week. Councilman Wobser asked which company is providing it. Mayor Muryn replied it is the Moderna vaccination. Councilman Wobser asked if it has to be kept at subzero. Mayor Muryn replied that is the Pfizer one. The Moderna one still has to be kept cold, but not ultra-cold which is easier to manage. Packaging that has been developed for the vaccinations that can keep it for up to ten (10) days. The vaccinations can be shipped and kept in its packaging for ten (10) days with the dry ice they provide, and then will send an additional supply of dry ice the next day or two to maintain it for an additional five (5) days. Councilman Slough asked if this is the company that requires one or two doses. Mayor Muryn replied it requires two (2) doses.

The one (1) dose vaccination is not available yet. Pfizer and Moderna both require two (2) doses. Pfizer's is twenty-eight (28) days and Moderna is twenty-one (21) days. Those that sign up for the vaccination will then sign up for the second dose after they receive their initial dose. There will be five hundred (500) vaccinations this round.

Mayor Muryn noted that newly appointed Marathon CEO Michael Hennigan presented at yesterday's Findlay Rotary Club. He has asked that she communicate that Marathon is completely dedicated to the community and will continue to invest here in the community. Through the growth over the last couple of years, they have positioned themselves well over the last couple of years and are an international and national company. Findlay is their headquarters and they will not be shifting their personnel to other communities. Councilman Hellmann noted that he felt that Mr. Hennigan's comments were reassuring of Marathon's future in the community.

Mayor Muryn noted that the overall budget will now be increased by approximately seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000.00) and will be adjusted due to Council reducing the amount of the Severance Payout Reserve Fund amount. Councilman Hellmann complimented the Administration on spending less than what was budgeted. The actual numbers are very reassuring. Mayor Muryn replied that Department Heads want to continue to see the City operate well and manage expenses as they have been for the last couple of years.

Councilman Slough moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Greeno. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO-TEM