



Special Council Meeting

Council Chambers

March 26, 2018

A) CALL TO ORDER

The Council for the City of Norwood met in special session on the above date with Mrs. Donna Laake presiding. The meeting opened with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

B) PRAYER

C) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D) ROLL CALL

On roll call, the following members answered present: Mr. Bonsall, Mr. Clark, Mr. Thompson, Ms. Stevenson, Mrs. Hanrahan, and Mr. Breadon; Mr. Sanker was absent.

E) REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests to address Council on agenda items.

F) FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

1) ORDINANCE APPROVING AMENDED DETAILED FINANCIAL PLAN FOR THE CITY OF NORWOOD, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

On a motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Clark, it was moved to suspend the rules and hear all three readings of the ordinance. All members present voted, "Yes."

Mr. Bonsall began by stating this plan is similar to the version discussed in the Committee of the Whole meeting; the changes will be discussed in detail:

- Cable Television dollars
 - Future dollars are to go to PACE; that money will no longer appear in the plan, as it will be sent directly to PACE.
- Income tax
 - It was not increased from 2019-2020; this impacted the years 2021 and 2022 and will appear to be higher as compared to the previous plan.
- Police Crime Control
 - Materials and supplies were reduced from \$133,400 to \$110,000 for 2018; 2019 and beyond were kept constant.
 - Contractual Services will not be reduced and will remain the same, even though it was discussed in Finance Committee.
 - Capital Outlay
 - The Police Department is able to purchase two 2011 cruisers for \$8,300 (usually \$50,000 for a new cruiser); they have been reviewed by the city garage and have about 60,000 miles on them. This is a great value per mile and is a one time expense.
- Debt Service
 - There are no more debt service payments in 2022; removing this expense adds almost \$300,000 to the bottom-line.
- Street Construction Repair Fund
 - This will remain the same; Mr. Thompson reached out to Mr. Bonsall about a capital outlay line in the plan to indicate money will be spent on streets. This was not added to the plan.
 - Community Development Block Grant can only be used for low to low-moderate income, and other funds must be used for matching grants. Representatives from the Auditor of State stated there is no rush and that it is better to not show money being spent if a street plan is not yet finalized. Mrs. Laake noted that a capital expenditure plan will be worked on, which includes streets and other equipment demands.

Mr. Bonsall stated by the end of 2022, the general fund should have a positive balance of \$758,000, after all plan items are considered. Mrs. Laake stated the city will be in the black as of 2020, according to the plan. Mr. Bonsall stated there aren't many changes to the plan. Ms. Stevenson asked about using street funds, and making sure everyone is aware of timelines and the amount leveraging for a match. Mr. Bonsall replied by saying he will make sure it happens and that everyone is included in the communication.

Mrs. Laake asked Mayor Williams for his comments. Mayor Williams stated this is a plan and it will change; numbers are entered to make sure the city doesn't go deeper in debt. Some areas will be looked at down the road and others are yet to come; he used 911 and retiree healthcare as examples. Mrs. Laake stated there are assumptions in the financial recovery plan that are noted, including the potential savings from passage of a different retiree healthcare plan and/or contracts; a lot of work went into this plan and she thanked Mr. Bonsall. Mrs. Laake stated this plan is more realistic than the one passed last year; it was looked into at greater depth and she appreciates everyone who attended the multiple meetings to review and share as much information as possible. Mayor Williams reminded Council that the plan must show a decrease in debt. Ms. Stevenson asked about staffing levels and how it could help to even out costs and what kind of safeguards are in place. Ms. Stevenson asked about budgeting for over-time and if it is going beyond the plan; Mayor Williams replied by saying scheduled over-time becomes the issue. Over-time can be budgeted, but it is a guess; there is fluctuation in not knowing what will happen. They look at historic data for over-time; the chiefs are there to analyze and look at reducing scheduled over-time. Mrs. Laake stated reports are reviewed; if a department has spent 70% of their money 30% into the year, this indicates something has to be done. Mayor Williams also used an example of several medic units breaking down; they needed to be fixed, and had no choice but to spend the money to fix them or to lease one.

On a motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Clark, it was moved to pass the ordinance. All members present voted, "Yes."

G) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBER/S

On a motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Stevenson, it was moved to excuse Mr. Sanker's absence. All present voted, "Yes."

H) ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mrs. Hanrahan, it was moved to adjourn. All present voted, "Yes".

Joseph S. Geers
Clerk of Council

Donna M. Laake
President of Council