

**THE CITY OF KENT, OHIO
FINANCE COMMITTEE
WED., MARCH 14, 2007**

This meeting of the Finance Committee of Kent City Council was called to order by Wayne Wilson, Chair, on Wed., March 14, 2007, at 7:15 p.m. Chair Wilson explained the first item on the agenda dealt with a grant from the Christenson Foundation.

PRESENT: MR. BARGERSTOCK, MR. DELEONE, MR. FERRARA, MS. GAVRILOFF, MR. HAWKSLEY, MR. KUCHAR, MS. OSWITCH, & MR. WILSON

ALSO PRESENT: D. RULLER, CITY MANAGER; J. SILVER, LAW DIRECTOR; L. COPLEY, CLERK OF COUNCIL & G. ROBERTS, SERVICE DIRECTOR

ABSENT: MR. SCHULTZ, COUNCIL & J. FENDER, MAYOR

Dave Ruller, City Manager, introduced **Gene Roberts, Service Director**, at this time, and explained that Mr. Roberts would explain the request regarding the Christenson Foundation.

Mr. Roberts said in previous years, when downtown organizations were approached for donations for Adopt-A-Spot, Howard Boyle donated generously from the Christenson Foundation. He said they are required to fill out an application this year to apply for said monies. He said they need Council's approval to apply for the grant and to accept it, if awarded to them.

At this time, there were no questions from the committee, nor comments from the audience.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE CHRISTENSON FOUNDATION.

Motion made by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Ms. Gavriloff, and carried by a voice vote of 7-0-1, with Mr. Wilson abstaining.

Mr. Wilson said the next issue deal with the reprogramming of the 2007 Capital Funds for the Water Treatment Plant. Mr. Ruller asked Mr. Roberts to provide further information.

Mr. Roberts said in 2005, they had a problem with a pump that failed at the water plant. He said by running this pump, which is gas fired, they save about \$7000 on their electric bill. He said it does cost \$3,000 in gas, but reduces their overall energy use by \$4,000. He said they reevaluated the motor in 2006, and they were afraid they would not get a full year. He said the only backup to the plant is diesel. He said in the 2008 Capital Budget, they programmed a generator and a pump replacement. He said they are asking Council to swap funding. He said they would make the roof at the water plant last one more year, and would bury the power lines at the well field in 2008, so they can use the \$75,000 in 2007. He said the funding does not change, adding it is just a swap of the years of funding.

At this time, there were no questions from the committee nor audience comments.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE REPROGRAMMING OF 2007 CAPITAL FUNDS FOR THE WATER PLANT.

Motion made by Ms. Oswitch, seconded by Ms. Gavriloff, and carried by a voice vote of 7-0-1, with Mr. Wilson abstaining.

Chair Wilson said the next issue dealt with a glass vestibule in Council's office.

Mr. Roberts said a complaint was received by an elderly lady visiting Council's office. He said the door slides open, parallel to the wall, to its three-foot dimension. He said the ADA requirement can push the requirement up to thirty seconds. He said depending on where someone stands in the public area of the Council office, they can continually open and shut the door as it operates on a beam.

Mr. Roberts said they looked at several alternatives. He said the easiest would have been the installation of baseboard electric heat. He said it would cost about \$1000 to run annually, based on the heat loss. He said there is no pure science as there is no pure way to define it when the door opens. He said it depends on the wind direction, and temperature differential. He said he used an average winter of ten degrees, with an inside temperature of seventy degrees.

Mr. Roberts said they attempted to obtain a price for a glass wall, as it would keep the cold air separated. He said he did not take into account that this reverse occurs in the summer, although it is not as dramatic. He said there may be a twenty-degree differential.

Mr. Roberts said he would like approval to install the glass vestibule this year. He said they had a very bad winter, along with a major increase in the use of the facility based on passports. He said the number used was ten openings a day, adding he can say without hesitation that is probably only 50% of the time it opens.

Mr. Bargerstock said it is certainly needed. He asked about the occupancy of the inside room, and Mr. Roberts said he would defer to the building department. He said they will have to obtain a building permit. Mr. Roberts said the dimensions were driven by the glass openings, and the four-foot ADA requirement to turn a wheel chair. He said the dimension is about eleven feet from the glass wall to the glass windows.

Mr. Hawksley asked if they would have a door opener on the interior door, and Mr. Roberts said that was correct, adding there would be no latch. He said it would function as a swinging door. He said because of ADA requirements, there would be a push button inside the glass and the public area, so the door would operate mechanically.

There was no audience comment at this time.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE GLASS VESTIBULE FOR THE COUNCIL'S OFFICE.

Motion made by Ms. Oswitch, seconded by Mr. Bargerstock.

MOTION TO AMEND THE MOTION TO INCLUDE AN ALTERNATIVE METHOD TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM, WHICH MIGHT BE ECONOMICALLY MORE FEASIBLE.

Motion made by Mr. Kuhar.

Mr. Wilson said the motion was not appropriate, as it changes the original motion, and the Clerk agreed. Mr. Kuhar asked him how they could fix it, and Mr. Wilson suggested a motion to table it until Mr. Roberts reviewed the new information.

Ms. Gavriloff asked what was the new information, and Mr. Wilson said he had no idea, adding he did not know if Mr. Roberts knew what the new information was either. He asked Mr. Roberts if he wished to share the new information, and the Clerk said there was a motion on the floor.

MOTION TO TABLE UNTIL MR. ROBERTS REVIEWS THE NEW INFORMATION.

Motion made by Mr. Kuhar, seconded by Mr. Bargerstock.

Ms. Gavriloff pointed out that Mr. Bargerstock seconded the original motion, and could not also second this motion.

The motion died for want of a second at this time.

Ms. Oswitch said she was glad Mr. Roberts brought this forward. She said she has been in and out of the office all winter, and it is awful. She said she has even offered to bring a heater from home. She said it is cold in there, adding she commends Mr. Roberts for a nice solution.

Mr. Wilson questioned which one was the "elderly lady" complaining to Mr. Roberts, and Ms. Oswitch

pointed out that the Clerk is older.

Mr. Bargerstock said he had a question for the parliamentarian. He asked if the motion is approved, and the Engineer finds a better way, does that stop him from coming back, and the Clerk said that was correct. Mr. Bargerstock concurred with Ms. Oswitch's comments, adding it was bad before anyone complained, as it is inconvenient. He said that Mr. Kuhar may have some good ideas, and hoped that would happen after the motion passes.

Mr. Hawksley suggested there may be a better way to do it. He said he was unsure it was not completely code compliant, and he wanted to be sure it meets the ADA code.

Mr. Kuhar said that he did not want to turn down the motion, but there are some alternative methods that could solve the problem, making the comfort levels better. He asked if approval of the motion did not stop alternative methods, and Mr. Wilson said that is correct.

The motion carried by a voice vote of 7-0-1, with Mr. Wilson abstaining.

Hearing no further business before this Committee, Chair Wilson adjourned this meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Linda M. Copley, Clerk of Council

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

- 1) **TO AUTHORIZE THE GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE CHRISTENSON FOUNDATION**
- 2) **TO AUTHORIZE THE REPROGRAMMING OF 2007 CAPITAL FUNDS FOR THE WATER PLANT**
- 3) **TO AUTHORIZE THE GLASS VESTIBULE FOR THE COUNCIL OFFICE**