



MINUTES
Committee on Ways and Means
Wednesday, September 21, 2016 @ 8:15 a.m.
10th Floor Conference Room, City Hall

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:16 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmember Judi Brown Clarke, Chair
Councilmember Carol Wood, Vice Chair
Councilmember Tina Houghton, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Staff
Jim DeLine, Internal Auditor
Jim Smiertka, City Attorney
Lori Welch, Recycling
Chad Gamble, Public Service
Breina Pugh, Granger
Tonia Olson, Granger
Amber Paxton, Financial Empowerment
Kevin McKinney, Granger

Minutes

Will be addressed at the next meeting.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

No Public Comment at this time.

Discussion/Action:

RESOLUTION – Workers Compensation WC2062876-00673

Council Member Wood asked why the memo and documents are never part of the packet, but hand delivered. Mr. Smiertka confirmed it appeared all items were redacted, so there would be no reason in the future to not include in all packets. Mr. Smiertka then went on to discuss the claim, noting that an outside administrator evaluated all the claims, and Law supports the recommendation. Committee asked questions that Mr. Smiertka was not aware of, so Council Staff forwarded the following questions to Mr. Smiertka for response before action at the Council Meeting September 26, 2016.

- *Is the claimant back on the job? Or still on disability?*

- *Were they offered another job if/when they came back?*
- *Is the claimant continuing to do the same job?*
- *Is the claimant in the retirement program and entitled to benefits?*
- *With this claim does it mean they are no longer employed?*

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HOUGHTON TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE WORKERS COMPENSATION CLAIM WC2062876-00673. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Financial Empowerment Grant for Technical Assistance, 5/3rd Bank

Ms. Paxton outlined the request which was funding to assist with her travel expenses to the two (2) annual coalition conferences. This is a group of 15 member cities partnering with financial institutions. Anything that is not covered by the \$3,500 will be taken from the General Fund. Council Member Brown Clarke invited Ms. Paxton to a future meeting October to present the Office accomplishments and future plans. Ms. Paxton accepted the invitation and also informed the Committee that the City of Lansing will host the Coalition Conference in April 2017, and it will highlight the City.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE GRAND FOR TECHNICAL ASSITANCE FOR THE OFFICE OF FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,500. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Authorization of Participation in the Capital Area Recycling Initiative

Mr. Gamble referenced recent versions of a resolution from East Lansing and their proposed draft, which was a follow up from a meeting they had with the representatives from Granger. Together they developed the revised resolution, which mirrored the resolution in Delta Township, and passed by East Lansing. This resolution dated 9/13/2016 was distributed.

Council Member Brown Clarke reviewed the data spreadsheet and asked them to continue to watch the numbers. The next question asked was if a case study had been done since 2008. Ms. Welch stated it had not. There was a feasibly study done in 2015 by their contractor, RRS, who was doing a regional study. Mr. Gamble noted that the new resolution is a continuation of the framework and output of the study. Ms. Olson confirmed she was at a meeting with the City working on the recent resolution, however noted Friedland was not, however she herself spoke to them. Ms. Olson stated she had sent an email to the Committee on September 20, 2016 and would forward that again.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CAPITAL AREA RECYCLING INITIATIVE LAST DATED SEPTEMBER 13, 2016. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Council Member Wood asked Mr. Gamble if there were any changes based on the studies. Mr. Gamble confirmed that they were not at the levels they thought they would be at, but with the increase on pricing, they are in the black and not in the red.

Council Member Brown Clarke inquired about educating the public on not recycling glass with the single item due to breakage. Ms. Welch confirmed it has been a topic of discussion in the industry, however it depends on the processing center also. The City contractor, Re-Community does accept glass, and has not rejected any or reported any problems. Ms. Olson stated that Granger views it as the best way to address this item is to encourage the users to drop off their glass.

Council Member Houghton encouraged Mr. Gamble and Ms. Welch to continue to reach and pursue the best way to recycle at multifamily buildings such as larger apartment buildings.

Council Member Wood informed Ms. Welch she had recently sent her a claim inquiry from a resident, and Ms. Welch acknowledged that and would follow up with that resident.

Discussion - Lansing Housing Commission:

Financial Statements

Recovery Agreement with HUD and the City of Lansing

The Committee recapped for Mr. Smiertka the past attempts to reach the LHC Director and have her attend a Committee meeting to review the statements and speak to the recent recovery agreement. This includes verification that the Committee had Deputy City Attorney Aboud ask personally, also letters from Committee with a carbon copy to the LHC Board Chairperson Tony Baltimore. There was also email communications sent in the beginning from Council staff. The Committee and Law then discussed the connection between the two documents, and the impact of the recovery agreement with their current budget and subsequent budget. There was concerns that they might be in violation of that agreement. The Committee asked Mr. Smiertka to contact the LHC Board and asking them to determine their audience and invite them. The letter should be sent certified/registered mail and inform them the Committee wants someone who has the ability to answer questions on the recovery statement, contracts and the financial statements, to attend.

Vacancy Report

Council Member Brown Clarke stated that the Committee should see something October with the quarterly report, and should be in the format they requested.

Budget Priorities

The Committee had not recommended changes, updates or deletions.

ADJOURN

Adjourn at 9:00 a.m.

Submitted by,

Sherrie Boak, Recording Secretary Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on October 5, 2016