

**MANISTEE CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2017**

The Manistee City Council met in a special work session on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall, 70 Maple Street, Manistee, Michigan 49660.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dale Cooper, Lynda Beaton, Roger Zielinski, Robert Goodspeed, James Smith, Mark Wittlieff, Erin Pontiac

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager, Department Directors, Staff, Public

Continued Discussion on Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget and Capital Improvement Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON WORK SESSION RELATED ITEMS.

Howard Turk, 152 Quincy Street – commented on the condition of Quincy Street and asked that it be considered in the budget.

STREETS / CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

- *Comments made on the streets to be done on the Northside in 2018, nothing proposed in 2019, some reconstruction w/storm to be done in 2020, in 2022 it say TBD – could Quincy Street fall into that category or can we swap any projects to put Quincy on the list earlier; understands the Asset Management Plan is data driven but consider the human side of this – we owe the public; requested to have Quincy Street added in the 2022 plan and move up earlier if possible, 2020?*

CONSENSUS: Agree to name Quincy Street to the 2020 CIP.

MOTOR POOL

- *Commented on financing vs. cash purchases of equipment, department contributions to the motor pool, not a true picture of departments use; motor pool is not self-sufficient but has been successful for 20 years and works well how it is, otherwise budgets would have to be adjusted.*
- *Police Interceptor, mower decks, plow trucks, vactor, and sewer service truck were discussed.*
- *Questioned what is being done to maintain our fleet of vehicles; do we have an in-house mechanic for all vehicles; would like to see the purchase of vehicles spread out more; want to make sure equipment is safe and reliable for anyone driving them; committed to funding.*

CONSENSUS: No changes made.

VEHICLE ALLOWANCES

- *City Manager, Planning & Zoning, and Facility Manager all receive vehicle allowances – is this included in their FAC for MERS; why do we use vehicle allowance when there is a vehicle to use; vehicle is not always available, employees are encouraged to take the City vehicle when traveling so no mileage reimbursement is paid, if vehicle is available and you don't take it – no mileage is paid,*

just gas cost.

CONSENSUS: No changes made.

PERSONNEL

- Health Benefits & MERS increase – *19% increase in insurance proposed in the budget, are other options being looked at, are other insurance companies besides Blue Cross being looked at also; where is this money coming from for increased personnel costs.*
- DPW Personnel – *Mikula explained the MDOT funding of bridge personnel.*

CONSENSUS: No changes made.

ALLIANCE FOR ECONOMIC SUCCESS

- *Their contract expires 12/31/17, would like to only budget to that date, if contract is renewed a supplemental appropriation could be made, others disagreed and asked where would we be without them; several items were named that have not taken place that were listed in their contract, examples were also named of what they have accomplished; don't feel we are getting enough, we pay for it through the County, we need jobs, they are missing their objective; hard to quantify what they do, we were to receive a higher level of service – what is it; suggested starting discussions in June or July whether we continue to contract with AES, could take half of the money and put towards something else; need more communication from them, need to know why someone didn't come to Manistee and how we can change that; need to leave the door open.*

CONSENSUS: Fund only until the end of the year, reduced by \$23,259.

SUMMARY OF BUDGET MODIFICATIONS.

AAY - \$6500 increase
Ramsdell - \$2500 decrease
AES - \$23,259 decrease

Manistee Saints – no change to proposed amount

PEG - no change to proposed amount

Quincy Street – add to Capital Improvement Plan for 2022

OTHER.

Commented on planning a picnic for employee appreciation, possibly including boards and commission also.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Michelle Wright MMC / CPFA, MiCPT
City Clerk/Chief Deputy Treasurer