

Finance Committee

April 21, 2014

The Finance Committee met Monday, April 21, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Present were Council members Frey, Gambatese, LoPresti, Marko, Packard, Schlessel and Ward. Also present were, Mayor Cicero, Finance Director Kovalchik, Chief Carroll and Chief Porrello. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Income Tax Rate Issue and Ordinance 2014-25.

In response to Council's concern that there be quality communication and education on this subject for the public Mayor Cicero, Finance Director Kovalchik and Chairman Ward have reviewed what other communities have done in this regard. Several have engaged the services of consulting firms to assure every opportunity to educate the public is provided a quality effort. A meeting was held with one consultant whose firm has assisted communities and school districts with high success in order to get an idea what those efforts might cost. In addition to outlining a strategy, the consultant suggested the City consider moving the date of election for this matter to November.

Discussion was held with members offering their thoughts on the merits of one proposed election date or the other. Many questions were asked and answered in this regard.

Chairman Ward indicated he was not looking for an answer on engaging a consultant or on the election date immediately, rather for Council members to consider both questions carefully to be discussed at a yet-to-be-called meeting. He stated he would call the meeting to take place prior to the May 5th Council meeting, when the Ordinance will be on third reading for adoption, so that if there is a change in date it can be incorporated in that legislation.

A motion was made by Mr. Frey, seconded by Mr. Gambatese, that the meeting be adjourned.

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick A. Ward
Chairman