

# *Finance Committee*

April 28, 2014

The Finance Committee met Monday, April 28, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Present were Council members Frey, Gambatese, Schlessel and Ward. Also present were, Mayor Cicero and Finance Director Kovalchik. The purpose of the meeting was to further discuss the Income Tax Rate Issue and Ordinance 2014-25.

As a follow-up to last week's meeting and the two questions on the table for the Committee's consideration Chairman Ward, Mayor Cicero and Finance Director Kovalchik have done some additional investigation.

With regard to the day of election, it had been suggested that August might be too tight a time table to properly engage and educate our residents about the issue, why it is necessary, what is at risk, what it might cost and who would bear that burden amongst other issues. It was also suggested that, having the question posed in August, the early election would assure that all focus would be on that issue and that it would not be lost in the sea of questions and candidates and literature associated with the November General Election. While there is no doubt there would be a lot to do in order to assure everything possible has been done to properly educate our residents the fact that the August ballot will have little or no distractions is a big plus. It was moved by Mr. Frey, seconded by Mr. Gambatese that the City proceed with the August election date for this matter. The question passed unanimously.

Chairman Ward reported on additional conversations that had taken place with consultants experienced in assisting communities educate residents on similar issues. Since there is a tight time table and a need for the City to do an excellent job with this outreach it is recommended the City engage a consultant to assist. One company that was contacted had provided an estimate of \$50,000 and another had estimated \$40,000. Mayor Cicero suggested the Committee recommend spending \$35,000. Mr. Schlessel, however, felt that we should allocate no more than \$30,000. It was moved by Mr. Frey, seconded by Mr. Gambatese the City engage a consultant to assist the City in its education efforts. That question passed unanimously.

Mayor Cicero also indicated Council will need to seek the assistance of residents in an effort to pass the ballot question in August. Those efforts would be undertaken outside City Hall and fund raising will need to be done to support that effort.

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

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick A. Ward  
Chairman