

Cuyahoga Falls City Council

Minutes of the Finance and Appropriations Committee Meeting

September 7, 2004

Members: Mr. Flinn, Chairman; Mr. Barnhart, Vice Chair; Mr. Gorbach, Member.

Mr. Flinn called the Finance Committee to order at 6:20 p.m. All members of Committee were present except for Mr. Barnhart. The minutes from July 26, 2004 Finance and Appropriations Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

Pieces of Legislation this evening (second readings):

A-125	An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Director of Finance to make payment to the County of Summit for capital improvements to the Mud Brook Interceptor Sewer, and declaring an emergency.
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Mr. Arrington states the County made improvements to the sewer through Ward 8 and billed the City of Cuyahoga Falls. The total cost was over six million dollars. The County sought reimbursement from our City and litigation ensued. This ordinance saves us 1.6 million dollars over the next 20 years and resolves the litigation. Mr. Brodzinski indicates this ordinance has saved us interest over 20 years and we do have the ability to borrow from ourselves, unlike other municipalities.

The committee recommends bringing out Temp. Ord. A-125

A-126	An Ordinance establishing a Corporate Wellness Program, and declaring an emergency.
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Mr. Pierson indicates the Corporate Program compliments the efforts and development of the new Natatorium. This program will compliment the use and overall lifestyle of a healthy employee. There are several levels of participation on the corporate level and there will be marketing efforts to pursue this avenue. The Corporate Programs offer complimentary passes/access to other city facilities that they may use at their disposal. Mayor Robart indicates the facility is a tremendous building and Dick's staff and the Parks/Recreation Division should be commended. Following up this structure with a Corporate Wellness Program supports the Natatorium. One opportunity is to address the seniors of our community. This facility will help with the testing of your health, the fitness of your body, and the nutritional needs.

Joe Brodzinski states that this program can reduce absenteeism, on the job injuries, and disability management costs. Stress related illnesses could be reduced with regular fitness. On Friday there is a mock opening and we want to have this program available to our employees. After 12 months, the city will reimburse employees based on the calculations of the ordinance. Since this is a performance reimbursement, there is a goal to succeed in having their membership reimbursed in full. There are approximately 510 employees eligible. The administration is hoping for 50% participation, but Joe will keep us informed on the numbers.

Carol feels that the facility reaches out to everyone of the community. She recently toured with a business leader and is excited to bring this corporate program to them. Kathy Hummel asks which number going to be used for reimbursement; 120 year or 10 visits per month. Joe states 120 visits per year is it. The fire & police used to be able to use the Nat for free and Joe states they are informing the police of the current situation to make it equal to all city employees. Mr. Pierson indicates there are 1000 charter members at this point and he feels it will increase with the opening. Mary Ellen questions if an employee can do this less than a year. Joe indicates this is an annual commitment only to promote a lifestyle change and lifestyle well being.

The committee recommends bringing out Temp. Ord. A-126

Finance and Appropriations Committee Meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.