

Finance Committee

8/29/2022

Topic: ARPA funds review – DPW request

Members present: Etti, Savage, Talbott, Whitcomb

Others present: Mayor Allaire, Alderman Barbagallo, Treasurer Markowski, DPW commissioner Rotondo, Ted Gillen

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm.

The meeting began with Jim Rotondo providing an overview of the most pressing DPW requests. Jim first presented the Water Treatment Plant and Waste Water Treatment Plant requests. Jim noted that both requests are difficult to place in the annual budget. Jim then discussed the request for the highway division and water distribution division requests. Jim provided photos of the equipment requests being proposed and discussed with the group the high repair costs of continuing to maintain the current equipment.

Beyond the requests for ARPA funds, Jim outlined anticipated public works projects. Jim outlined combined sewer overflow and pollution control projects, water main distribution replacement projects, City of Rutland water main project, paving bonds, sidewalk bonds, and structure bonds.

Alderman Etti asked how the two proposed pieces of equipment in the current request would have fit into the equipment improvement plan. Jim indicated that these pieces of equipment were both on the replacement schedule but had likely been delayed. Alderman Talbott inquired if the city is able to maintain the equipment in a covered/garage area. Jim indicated that equipment was now able to be maintained under cover. Alderman Barbagallo asked if there was any value in the current equipment that would be replaced. Jim indicated that they would seek to trade in the equipment and put any money from the sale toward new equipment acquisition. Mary asked if money from the ARPA funding should be set aside for the streets garage. Jim indicated that he believed public works could look at this structure in segments going forward and strategically engage in upgrades. Jim suggested that if a capital improvement plan were created this could be an effective alternative to fund the streets garage request, removing \$400,000 from the overall DPW requests.

The committee took no action in this meeting citing the need to hear again from the police and fire department regarding their ARPA request. The committee anticipates meeting and providing a recommendation for DPW ARPA funding in early October of this year.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:23PM.