

City of Darien

Minutes of the Administrative Finance Committee January 9, 2012

The Meeting was called to order by Alderman John Poteraske at 6:30 pm. Committee members Alderman Tina Beilke and Alderman Ted Schauer were also present. Treasurer Michael Coren was present. Staff members City Administrator Bryon Vana, Assistant City Administrator Scott Coren, General Utility II Jeff Corneils and General Utility II Tom Masek were also present. Retired employees Matt and Karen Coulman, 7814 Clarendon Hills Road in Willowbrook, Leonard Catalano, 7117 Gold Grove in Darien, Bob and Marcia Mengarelli, and James Gross were also present. Lauren Williamson from Patch online newspaper was present from the public.

Mechanic Position Discussion

Assistant Administrator Coren discussed the mechanic position and provided answers to questions presented at the December Administrative/Finance Committee meeting. Leonard Catalano provided an alternative cost/benefit example and opposed outsourcing the mechanic position to Downers Grove. General Utility II Tom Masek said he thought he deserved the mechanic position. Alderman Schauer said he was not comfortable making a decision on this item, and wanted it reviewed with the entire City Council for feedback. The entire committee requested the item be reviewed at the January 16, 2012 City Council meeting and voted on at the February 6, 2012 City Council meeting, without a recommendation.

Pumping Station Electric Bid

Assistant Administrator Coren said in 2008 the City of Darien joined NIMEC, an organization bidding electric usage for 100 communities in Illinois, to enter into contracts to reduce the price of electricity. The agreements signed for water pumping electricity are expiring in June 2012. If the City of Darien does not select a supplier for these accounts before this time, the rate would change to hourly pricing, which can get extremely expensive.

NIMEC will be bidding accounts for communities between February 1 and March 31, 2012. The exact timing of the bid will depend on the market for electricity. Three suppliers, Exelon, Integrys and Constellation, will be bidding on the accounts. Because electricity is a commodity that fluctuates in pricing on a daily basis, the pricing for the bid will be good for only one day. This resolution authorizes the City Administrator to accept the pricing from the winning bid. If the City Administrator finds the pricing to be excessive, he may decide not sign the winning bid.

Alderman Beilke made a motion to approve, seconded by Alderman Schauer. Motion carried 3-0.

IRMA Deductible

Assistant Administrator Coren said the City of Darien has participated in the Intergovernmental Risk Management Agency, an insurance pool with over 70 members, for several decades. There are optional deductible programs for the City of Darien, allowing for the selection of deductibles at various levels. Historically Darien has selected the most conservative deductible level of \$2,500, which allows for the lowest exposure in years with a large number of claims and therefore the most consistent budgeting. The committee recommended 2-1 to remain at the most conservative deductible, with Alderman Schauer dissenting.

General Communications Lease Agreement

Assistant Administrator Coren said the City of Darien received a tower from the University of Chicago approximately two decades ago and has allowed other public entities and private communication companies to lease space on the tower. Staff was recently approached by General Communications, who has agreed to pay a \$25,000 capital contribution and \$4,000 per month to install equipment on the tower. They have agreed to a contract that is similar to other contracts signed in the past with other vendors, except it has three year renewals instead of five year renewals.

Alderman Beilke made a motion to approve, seconded by Alderman Schauer. Motion carried 3-0.

Adjournment

There being no further business Alderman Schauer made a motion to adjourn, with a second by Alderman Beilke. The motion carried 3-0 at 8:21 pm.

Approved:

John Poteraske, Chairman _____

Ted Schauer, Member _____

Tina Beilke, Member _____