

CITY OF BURTON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 3, 2000, 7:30 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilperson Laurie Tinnin.

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Council President, Paula Zelenko, at 7:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brawner, Centilli, Hammon, Martinbianco, Tinnin and Zelenko.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cross.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor C. Smiley; Fire Chief Doug Halstead; Attorney R. Austin and G. Webster, City Clerk.

Martinbianco moved and Centilli seconded the following motion:

Approve and authorize the minutes of the following meetings: Special Council Meetings December 20, 1999 at 6:00 P.M. and 6:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting of December 20, 1999 at 7:30 P.M., as printed. Motion carried 6-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

Mayor Smiley welcomed everyone back to the first meeting of the new millenium. He said that Y2K went smooth without any problems. The Police Department reported that this was one of the safest and best New Year's Eve they had experienced.

The Mayor would like to set the annual audit workshop for January 24, 2000 at 6:00 P.M. at the police/fire facility.

The Mayor said Item #3 was added to the agenda concerning the purchase of the new fire trucks. Due to some delays, the interest rates went up ½ of a point. The council will need to reconfirm the purchase of these fire trucks. The Fire Chief was present to answer any questions on this matter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mrs. Zelenko read two thank you letters in regards to the Burton Fire Department assisting other communities with fire emergencies. The two letters were from Flushing and Flint Twp. She congratulated our Fire Chief Doug Halstead and thanked him for a job well done.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Don Sanderlin, 4460 Killarney Park, commented on an article in the Flint Journal that dealt with Burton and hundred year old homes. He said there was a hundred year old home at 3338 Atherton Rd. He thought there should be more documentation available on the early history of Burton, as a city and when it was a township.

There was no audience participation in regards to setting a date for the audit workshop.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Mr. Martinbianco asked for clarification on fire protection and mutual aid responses. He appreciated the dedicated service of our fire department during the holidays. He would like the department to keep council apprised of this issue in the future.

Mr. Halstead would be glad to relay this information to council. He reported that the Burton Fire Department responded to three mutual aid fires on Christmas day. Besides Flushing and Flint Twp fires, they responded to a Davison Twp fire, as well. There were four fires ongoing in the county on Christmas night.

Mr. Martinbianco asked for an update on a computer coordinator position.

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Mayor Smiley expressed his concern with not having a computer network administrator on staff to facilitate and maintain the complex computer system the city has installed. He said council approved the position, but not the funding for the position. Several departments need to produce reports and exchange data with state and county offices. The city might have to contract some of the computer work to Dupris & Ryden or other firms that charge about \$70.00 an hour. He felt the council needed to address this serious situation and fund a position to address the city's complex computer needs. The Mayor said this issue has been reviewed and approved by the Finance committee and discussed at a regular council meeting. He has tried to express to the council the great need for someone to administer the city's networked system.

Mr. Martinbianco suggested contracting computer work out as a short-term response and address the possibility of a full time position during the next budget session.

Item #3, concerning the purchase of the fire trucks was briefly discussed.

The Mayor said the new dollar amount would need to be approved to purchase the fire trucks.

A lengthy discussion continued on the topic of adding a new computer position.

Mrs. Zelenko suggested that council set a workshop for further discussion in reference to a computer position.

Mr. Martinbianco preferred to wait on this topic until after completing the audit workshop.

Mr. Martinbianco moved and Mrs. Tinnin seconded the following motion, to add as Item #4, to approve and authorize an Audit Workshop for the fiscal year of 1999 to be held January 24, 2000 at 6:00 P.M. at the police/fire facility. The motion was carried 6-0.

Mr. Brawner asked about the status on Mr. Thurman in regards to contractual computer work. He thought the city was paying him \$15.00 an hour to do some work. He suggested offering him a contract for three months until this issue is settled.

Mayor Smiley said that nobody is working on the computers at this time. Mr. Thurman is billing the city approximately \$50.00 an hour for work that he has recently done. Mr. Becker has contacted Dupris & Ryden in regards to some work that needs to be done for his department. We will be forced to contract someone to get the work done.

Mrs. Tinnin wanted to know what issues Mr. Thurman completed and did not complete during his previous contract. In addition, she would like to know what is expected of him in the new job position. She prefers to look at this position during the upcoming budget.

Mayor Smiley said a job description was provided at the finance meeting. He said this position was needed to facilitate and maintain the computer system on a daily basis. All departments depend on the reliability of the computer network. Many departments need to meet state and federal requirements via our computer system.

Fire Chief Halstead stressed the importance of his computer needs.

Discussion continued in regards to adding a new computer position.

Mrs. Tinnin suggested using the \$11,000 allocated in City Hall and Grounds to pay for contractual computer work.

Mayor Smiley said that the \$11,000 could be used for payroll, if council preferred, but initially the money was set aside for the use of hardware and software equipment. In addition, he suggested the transfer of \$20,000 from General Fund to accommodate the computer position until the end of the fiscal year. Initially, \$32,000 was requested for this position.

Mr. Centilli asked for clarification in regards to city computers being tied to the state.

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Mayor Smiley gave a brief update of departments tied into state, federal and county offices.

In reference to Item #1, Mr. Austin's billing, Mrs. Tinnin wanted to know why the phone calls were not documented with more detail.

Mr. Austin said due to the confidentiality of his clients, he does not always note the person or issue that is discussed.

In regards to Item #3, Mr. Martinbianco made reference to an entry on the attorney billing of \$202.00. In addition, he asked for clarification on the fire truck contract.

Mr. Austin clarified the \$202.00 charges for reviewing the fire truck contract.

Mr. Halstead said the window of opportunity for the set interest rate expired, due to a delay in authorizing the contract. He explained the delay, cost of the trucks and the change in the interest rates.

Mr. Austin said the contract language continued to be negotiated until today. The contract is ready to be approved at this time. The interest change was due to the loss of some money by the company as the contract was finalized. Also, there will be an earlier delivery date.

Discussion continued in reference to the ten-year lease purchase contract regarding the two fire trucks.

Mr. Austin indicated the trucks would be purchased on a title lease program. The city would receive the titles to the trucks immediately. After seven years, the city has the option to pay three more payments after renegotiating the interest rates or pay the balance in full. The first payment has been budgeted for the fire trucks. The attorney recommended that the city then continue to fund this contract from year to year.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION ACTION:

Moved by Martinbianco and seconded by Tinnin, to add as item #4, to approve and authorize an Audit Workshop for the fiscal year of 1999 to be held January 24, 2000 at 6:00 P.M. at the police/fire facility. Motion carried 6-0.

COUNCIL ACTION:

Centilli moved and Brawner seconded the following motion:

1. Approve and authorize the Attorney Billing (Richard Austin) from December 15, 1999 to December 21, 1999, in the amount of \$3,366.00.
Motion carried 6-0.

Martinbianco moved and Centilli seconded the following motion:

2. Approve and authorize the acceptance of an application from Schmald Tool & Die, Inc., for establishing an Industrial Development District and setting the date of February 7, 2000, at 7:00 p.m., for a public hearing to consider the application.
Motion carried 6-0.

Hammon moved and Brawner seconded the following motion:

3. Approve and authorize an amended ten year lease purchase contract with the low bidder American Financial Network, Inc. (AFN) for the purchase of two new fire trucks with an amount to be financed of \$396,402.00 with a net interest rate of 5.54575%, amounting to a total interest cost of \$124,000.25. (NOTE: First payment will be \$51,890.00; \$54,000 currently budgeted).
Motion carried 6-0.

Martinbianco moved and Brawner seconded the following motion:

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4. Approve and authorize an Audit Workshop for the fiscal year of 1999 to be held January 24, 2000 at 6:00 P.M.
at the police/fire facility.
Motion carried 6-0.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Gayle Webster
Burton City Clerk

GW/cml