

November 16, 2021

Council President Mr. Martin called the November 16, 2021 Special meeting to order at 4:10 PM. If you aren't a member of council and are on ZOOM please mute your computer so it will cut down the background noise. The roll was called with the following members present: Mrs. Drake, Mr. Gant, Mr. Locke, Mrs. Miller, and Ms. Riffle present. Also, present was Mayor Lorentz, City Auditor Miss Pittenger, City Law Director Mr. Webster and Clerk of Council Mrs. Meredith. Absent from the meeting was Safety-Service Director Mrs. Hoblitzell, Treasurer Mrs. Copeland, Council persons Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Shutts.

Persons Appearing Before Council – Agenda items only.

Leslie Pittenger 813 Ashberry Drive Belpre addressed council regarding the Software Package that she has been trying to get legislation for since August of this year. Miraculously they received these two pieces of legislation in less than a month. Software should only last 6-8 years. Ten being the max. The software we are using is 26+ years. I'm very disappointed that we are putting the wheels above the heartbeat of this community. How do I know this, Sandy Burton has worked here for 25 years and Lisa Rankin has been here for 20 years and they have both worked with this software? This software could have been paid for with COVID monies however it was used for other things throughout the city. The oldest vehicle we have is a 1935. This is not realistic its an antique. The next vehicle is 25 years old which is a \$340,000 fire truck. Miss Pittenger compared how often the trucks are used to how much the software is used. We have done our do diligence. We have changed the oil by doing updates, we have changed the tires, got new hardware. Our software is the heartbeat of the city and I'm asking council to do what is right. Do not pass this legislation until the software legislation is prepared.

Lois Radcliff 220 O'Neil Street stated that she was disturbed about the lease. Mrs. Radcliff stated that some of these vehicles are not even broke in until after five thousand miles.

Aaron Martinez lives in Charleston discussed the age, mileage and a strategic plan for the next five years.

Mr. Gant addressed when he first came on council and the issues that they had with a bucket truck that it would not ground to make it safe to work on electric. Even if you have low mileage doesn't mean you will not have trouble with them. There was a dump truck that the frame on it was so bad from salt that it wasn't safe to be on the highway. All these vehicles were replaced.

Jesse Wonycott 805 Main Street asked what would be done with the vehicles when the city was done with them. According to Aaron, Enterprise would sell the vehicles for the city. The city would be allowed to keep what they wanted off the vehicles. Enterprise would have a team of drivers come to drive the vehicles back. We would sell the vehicles and the money from the sale of the vehicles would come back to the city. The equity belongs to the city. Mrs. Wonycott wanted to know where the money is going to come from for the Special Fund. Mr. Martin stated that it would probably come from the General Fund.

Williams Cassady 824 Belrock Avenue addressed the Special Fund that would be set up for the Fleet Management Fund. Mr. Cassady wanted to know where that money would come from and what was the annual cost to the city. Mr. Cassady concurred with what Miss Pittenger stated.

Mrs. Drake informed Mr. Cassady that the funds would come from the department that the vehicle would be affiliated with.

Mr. Cassady 824 Belrock Avenue stated that right now the budget is being debated. My concern is A, paying for the leased vehicles and B why all this has to be done today as an emergency.

Mayor Lorentz stated that we are having issues getting vehicles. If you notice around town the lots are pretty bare. This folk is a national issue with vehicles.

Aaron Martinez stated that there is an issue with the manufacturers. Right now, there is a window to order from the manufacturers. This is why we are treating it as an emergency.

Steve Null 2321 Washington Boulevard stated that he did a lot of research today and this should have been done a month ago. The vehicles are ordered from the factory.

Jesse Wonycott 805 Main Street asked if the money would come out of the police budget.

Mr. Webster asked the mayor how many vehicles are included in the budget. There has been two presented in the budget. The two vehicles totally approximately \$90,000.

John Ruth #1 Buckeye Lane, Belpre asked if the \$111,000 for the next five years covered maintenance. I think this is a good thing about the program since we don't have enough cash outlay. It makes sense to me to go with the program.

Mr. Martin stated that it is \$111,000 for five years.

Ms. Riffle stated that the \$111,000 is for these twelve vehicles. Where does the money come from for the additional 4 vehicles each year?

Aaron stated that actually you would get 12 for \$51,000.

Mr. Martin stated that you can't predict what the old vehicles would sell for. The hard number is the \$111,000.

Leslie Pittenger 813 Ashberry Drive stated that she has 16 days to work however she feels the new software is needed for the betterment of the city.

Jackie Cassady 824 Belrock Avenue asked if the software was figured in the budget, you just haven't got the legislation to get it.

Miss Pittenger stated that this is correct.

Mr. Martin stated that we need to stay off the software as it is not part of the agenda.

Lois Radcliff 220 O'Neil Street stated that she was getting conflicting answers. Mrs. Radcliff stated that there were conflicting answers on the cost of the vehicles. She also stated that at the last meeting we were told that the city would be responsible for the maintenance on these vehicles and tonight I'm hearing that Enterprise is responsible.

Aaron Martinez stated that Enterprise would handle all the maintenance on all the vehicles. All the city will be responsible for is taking them to the appropriate vendors. I understand there is a vendor within the city that they want to continue to use.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Gant brought before council for first reading **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO SIGN A FLEET MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH ENTERPRISE FLEET MANAGEMENT, INC.**

Ms. Riffle made a motion to table the motion until this legislation can be discussed with full council present and until additional legislation can be matched. A vote was

taken with Mrs. Drake voting nay and the rest of council present voting aye. The vote was 4 to table and 1 not to table.

Mr. Gant brought before council for first reading **A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AND DIRECT THE AUDITOR OF THE CITY OF BELPRE, OHIO TO ESTABLISH AND DESIGNATE THE BELPRE FLEET MANAGEMENT FUND FOR THE CITY OF BELPRE.**

Ms. Riffe made a motion to table the motion. Mr. Martin stated this is the same as the last piece of legislation. A vote was taken with Mrs. Drake voting nay and the rest of council present voting aye. The vote was 4 to table and 1 not to table.

Adjourn:

Ms. Riffe made a motion to adjourn at 4:47 PM. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

President of Council Mr. Martin



Kimberly Meredith

Clerk of Belpre City Council Kimberly Meredith