

**FINANCE COMMITTEE  
CITY OF RAMSEY  
ANOKA COUNTY  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The Finance Committee conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, October 8, 2013, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present:     Acting Chairperson John LeTourneau  
                              Councilmember Jill Johns

Member Absent:       Chairperson Chris Riley

Also Present:           City Administrator Kurtis Ulrich  
                              Finance Director Diana Lund  
                              Fire Chief Dean Kapler  
                              Human Resources Manager Colleen Lasher  
                              Development Services Manager Timothy Gladhill  
                              Councilmember Randy Backous

**1.     CALL TO ORDER**

Acting Chairperson LeTourneau called the regular meeting of the Finance Committee to order at 5:08 p.m.

**2.     CITIZEN INPUT**

There was none.

**3.     APPROVE AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as submitted.

**4.     COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**4.01:   Proposed 2014 Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges**

Finance Director Lund reviewed the staff report and presented the 2014 Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges. She stated the majority of the increases relate to the Water and Sewer Rate Studies, noting Ramsey's rates fall in the mid-range for water and sewer rates and in the upper range for storm sewer rates when compared to other communities. Finance Director Lund recommended a slight increase in those rates to meet the demand of anticipated projects. She stated the park dedication fee and trail dedication fee are recommended for an increase of 5%, which was recommended for approval by the Park & Recreation Commission. She read Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood's recommendation and rationale for the

increase, noting the Park & Recreation Commission has many projects on-line and if all are approved, that fund will go negative by 2015.

Acting Chairperson LeTourneau asked about the impact to residents.

Finance Director Lund clarified that it will impact new developments/developers and not residents; however, the increase in sewer, water, and storm drain fees will impact residents. She read the City Clerk Thieling's recommendation and rationale to add a line item and fee for e-cigarette sales. Finance Director Lund stated the City pulled back on rental licensing so it is only for apartments at this time.

City Administrator Ulrich stated that is a policy issue that the Council will consider later in the year.

Development Services Manager Gladhill stated the City can revise the rates and fee schedule at that time, if needed, to add those fees.

Finance Director Lund stated the Brookfield Development water fee will remain at the higher level, resulting in more than one tier of rates. She explained the Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges will be considered for adoption by the Council at the end of November.

Councilmember Johns supported staff's recommendation, noting the increase to utility rates was recommended as part of the rate study.

Acting Chairperson LeTourneau concurred, noting staff's recommendation also addresses anticipated projects.

Motion by Councilmember Johns, seconded by Acting Chairperson LeTourneau, to recommend that the City Council approve the 2014 Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges, holding rates constant with 2013 with the exception of the SAC charge.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Acting Chairperson LeTourneau and Councilmember Johns. Voting No: None.

#### **4.02: Discussion and Review of 2014 Proposed General Fund Budget and 5-Year Budget: 2014-2018**

Finance Director Lund reviewed the staff report and 2014 budget. She explained it had always been anticipated to incorporate TIF 2, when coming off line, to keep the tax rate constant with the increase in debt for the Municipal Center. Finance Director Lund reviewed the changes from 2013 to 2014 in personnel, supplies, other services (road reconstruction), capital outlay, and debt service (internal load principal paid off). Finance Director Lund stated the Fire Station bond is incorporated into the 5-year budget, and when that debt comes on line, the debt for Fire Station #1 will come off within two years (2016).

Fire Chief Kapler stated the Fire Station #2 project will be discussed during tonight's Council Work Session.

Acting Chairperson LeTourneau suggested the discussion of the 5-year budget be postponed to a future Finance Committee meeting when Chairperson Riley is in attendance.

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Acting Chairperson LeTourneau, seconded by Councilmember Johns, to close the regular meeting of the Finance Committee.

Motion carried.

The regular meeting of the Finance Committee adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Diana Lund  
Finance Director

ATTEST:

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Jo Ann M. Thieling  
City Clerk

Drafted by Carla Wirth  
*TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*