

**Finance Committee
January 11, 2021
6:00 p.m. - City Hall Council Chambers
and Via Web Ex Conference Call**

Note: Due to the increases in Covid-19 cases in our area, the City Council, Department Heads and the Public had the option to attend the meeting in person at City Hall or by remote participation through the WebEx platform.

Chairman Ptak called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Alderman Ptak, Alderman Lavieri, Alderman Jeppson, Alderman Herndon

Present Remotely- Alderman Demes

Absent: None

Others present: Alderman Reynolds, Alderman Bacidore, City Clerk Carrie Brown, Deputy Clerk Brent Bader, Finance Director John Duncan, Economic Development Director Leah Inman

A quorum was present.

The minutes of the Finance Committee held on December 28, 2020 were unanimously approved by the Committee by voice vote after a motion from Alderman Lavieri and a second by Alderman Herndon. Each and every alderman has a copy.

In regard to the bills, Alderman Demes questioned a charge from Kittleson's Garage totaling \$5,969.41. Chairman Ptak pulled the invoice and stated that it was for repairs on the 1998 Cab 3500, which was later determined to be the pump station's bucket truck. Repairs were for numerous items such as hydraulic hoses, brakes, new serpentine belts, rear wheel seals and an oil change. Chairman Ptak stated that the parts totaled \$487 with the remaining balance for labor. Alderman Demes felt the labor charge was very high. Finance Director Duncan was instructed to reach out to Kittleson's for further clarification.

Alderman Lavieri questioned a \$293,000 payment to the IEPA. Finance Director Duncan stated that this was a loan payment for the wastewater plant.

Chairman Ptak indicated that a RIP grant totaling \$12,500 to the Uptown Grill was on the council agenda for consideration. All committee members were in favor of approving the grant.

Alderman Bacidore asked how the amounts for recipients of the "ES" grants (La Salle Economic Support Grants) were determined as some businesses received the full \$5,000 while others as low as \$494. Chairman Ptak responded that grants were awarded based on eligible expenses. Economic Development Director Leah Inman added that not all businesses applied for the full amount. Alderman Bacidore also asked how churches were able to receive funding when typically there is separation of church and state. Leah Inman stated that in this case non-profits were eligible if they had qualifying Covid related expenses. Chairman Ptak added that the rules were set by the state, not the city.

Alderman Bacidore expressed his personal feelings regarding the \$600 stimulus monies recently distributed by the federal government. He wondered why everyone received money, as he thinks not everyone needs the money and it should go to those who most need it.

Leah Inman responded by saying that it is the intent of all of these programs to help people.

There were no further questions or comments from the public.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carrie Brown".

Carrie Brown, City Clerk