

City Council  
FY 2023 Appropriations Ordinance Hearing

July 18, 2022  
5:30 p.m.

The hearing to discuss the FY 2023 Appropriations Ordinance was called to order by Mayor Ricky Gottman at 5:30 p.m. on July 18, 2022.

Aldermen in attendance were Barker, Hubler, Brosman, Stunkel, and Lester. Hobler, Lewey and Rebbe were absent.

Discussion was held regarding the FY 2023 proposed Appropriations Ordinance. Cemetery was \$53,945 in the red which is due to some grant money the City is going to be spending (the City has the money in reserve) for a new building at the Cemetery if it comes within the budget that has been put together. The Capital Improvement Fund has a projected \$191,586 deficit. Projected revenues exceed expenses in all of the other categories (General Fund, W/S Fund, Recreation Fund, Tourism Fund, Garage Fund, MFT fund, TIF Fund, and Payroll Fund), totaling \$658.988 in the black. Gottman thanked Paslay for putting together the budget and thanked the Department Heads for doing a great job in managing funds and money. Gottman reminded the Council that the City does not count money in reserves as an income. He also noted that these revenues that are projected are new revenues coming in, not dollars that the City already has. Lester asked the income you are expecting is based on the income we got last year and Paslay replied yes. Gottman said we may have to come back and look at this again due to economy concerns, etc. Connor said as it sits, it is in the black situation as to allocation and revenue projections, irrespective of the fact that the City does have money sitting in the account as a reserve now. The City will not be dipping into that if the City follows this appropriation, but also the City has appropriated for the coming year's expenses and anticipated revenues. Lester asked do we reevaluate the income side six months from now, and Gottman said we will look at the need for re-evaluation at that time. Lester asked about the effect of the rising interest rates on the expense side and Paslay stated that all of the loans the City has are locked in. Gottman said he is very pleased going into a budget year in the black again for numerous years without using any reserves as income. The Capital Improvement Fund is in the red based on projected expenditures because of all of the projects going in in the City. One change in the budget from the budget the Council received at the last meeting was the pay increase for seasonal cemetery and lake salaries, with an increase from \$12.00 to \$13.00 an hour. Paslay noted that she had been budgeting for Thrill Hill Bridge and hadn't recalled getting the final payment for that and she was informed by IDOT that the City did

receive payment so that took \$150,000 out of capital improvement which was an original deficit.

Stunkel asked about people cutting down trees on their lake lots. Connor said they are still subject to the entirety of the Lake Ordinance so as long as there isn't a piece of the Ordinance that requires them to get a permit before they do it. Connor stated you retained all of the control that you had before that. He does not view it as an HOA for free. There is payment for the City's administrative cost, and it's exactly as restrictive as it was before. Because this is a municipal water source lake, we have to retain that control around the lake. Connor said the Ordinance that was passed, the deed they are getting and the contract that they signed, all indicate the sale of this property is subject to the Ordinance in place for the City of Vandalia just like always. Stunkel asked the status of leased lake lots. Of the 220 leased lots, 110 lots have been bought as of today. Approximately 50 people have opted for a new lease and others are opting to continue with the old lease. Gottman stated any funds received from this will be put back into the Lake fund.

With there being no further discussion, meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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City Clerk