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**Finance and Ordinance Committee Minutes  
March 20, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: B. Blue, J. Jemison, and B. Wallace

Also present: D. Weir – Administrator, C. Osborne – Fiscal Officer.

Agenda: no additions or deletions.

Minutes of Dec. 5, 2007 were presented for approval. Jemison is the only returning member from the previous committee

**OLD BUSINESS** – none before the committee.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Resolution 08-03: Health Insurance Proposal** - Weir stated the new proposal with Kaiser will cost \$10,693.52. The employees will pay a higher cost for their prescriptions. Discussion held regarding HRA. The idea was to reduce the premium down approximately \$37,000 if we self-funded the health insurance ourselves. The new HRA will pay prescriptions down to \$10 on generic, and \$45 on others. Wallace questioned if the HRA was necessary. The employees could pay the cost of the prescriptions. Blue stated if the employees use the doctors in the HMO, the savings is large. Weir stated council will need to amend this resolution, paragraph 5, then pass the resolution.
2. **Water/Sewer Rates:** Weir stated he discussed with the utility committee the projections for revenue vs. expenses in these funds. After much calculation, Weir found that over the next five years, using a flat rate and the loan payment for the WTP and the higher plant operation costs, the expenses far exceed the revenue. With this kind of a deficit, there is no way to raise our rates to cover this. Discussion was held regarding the former 8-year rate increase schedule. Weir is proposing a rate study compiled by an outside firm to develop a plan for us to follow to get our utilities more sustaining. The income tax fund currently aids in the payments and we can't keep relying on that fund. Blue said this study may show unforeseen issues and suggested getting a copy of Chardon's study. Blue requested a cost estimate from Arcadis for this study. Wallace stated a study like this will give us answers. Weir stated that the study will justify why our rates are established. Weir to get cost estimate from Arcadis for this study.
3. **Ordinance 08-110: Establishing the 2008 Permanent Appropriations** – The committee recommends the budget to Council.
4. **Johnson Rubber:** Discussion held regarding how this will affect the Village budget, including the water & sewer fund.
5. **Upgrade Administration software to E-Gov:** The upgrade is for the government software used by the administration. The upgrade will not cost more than \$35,000.00. Wallace directed Weir to put a proposal together for Council. Blue agreed.
6. **Ordinance 08-108: Enacting New Section to Allow for Senior Housing** – The sidewalk issue is included in the ordinance. Poole discussed at length with Stuart Friedman about the sidewalks and stated they are now considering extending the

sidewalks as far as possible, into the township. Wallace stated this ordinance refers to only their property. The proposals sent to them included the sidewalks. The ordinance is a change in the zoning code. Poole's position is if council is adamant on the sidewalk issue to connect through township property, Catholic Charities is amendable to it. Blue questioned if the Village is in agreement with the township regarding the taxes. Weir stated the village will retain all the taxes from this annexation. The committee recommends this ordinance to council for approval.

7. **Ordinance 08-109: Allow performance bond in lieu of cash bond for temporary occupancy** - Weir stated he discussed this with Council last month in executive session.
8. **Cemetery Sexton** – Weir discussed with the Street committee regarding the salary compensation for the Cemetery Sexton. Would like to include a cost of living raise annually.
9. **Planning & Zoning Members Pay Increase** – These meetings can last from 1 ½ - 2 hours in length. The pay has been the same for many years. Committee suggested increasing the pay from \$20 per meeting to \$40 per meeting.
10. **Bill 3359** - This bill would require an employee the physical presence of no less than 60 days before their income is subject to municipal income tax. Hearings of the sub-committees have ended however the special meeting of the staff to the sub-committee and the full committee met with local governments and states impacted by the bill on March 11, 2008. The date coincided when municipal officials were attending a meeting of the National League of Cities. To express our opposition to this bill, we will need to contact our state and congressional representatives. This will be in the House of Representatives on August 3, 2008. Weir to draft a letter for our Village officials to sign.

Being no further business at this time, the meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.