

**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE, CLAIMS, BONDS AND INTEREST
COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2013 IN THE
COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Roessler called the Finance, Claims, Bonds and Interest Committee Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois to order at 7:04 p.m.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

Present: Chairman Roessler and Aldermen Ebersohl, Huch and Holtkamp.

Absent: None.

Quorum Present.

Others Present: Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Mathews and Reis.

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator Al Hudzik, Accounting Manager Linda Sharp and Accounting/Clerical Assistant Sandy Garmer.

Guests Present: None.

Chairman Roessler stated the purpose of the meeting was to review/discuss (1) the tax levy for the current fiscal year; (2) various FY 2013 – 2014 YTD receipts; (3) financial projections for the Motor Fuel Tax Fund; and (4) any other items to be considered.

II. TAX LEVY DISCUSSION

Chairman Roessler opened the meeting and called upon City Administrator Al Hudzik to address the Committee/Council Members on this issue. Hudzik reviewed a Memo (previously distributed to the Committee/Council Members) wherein he indicated (i) \$67,000 would again have to be included in this year's real estate tax levy to pay one-third of the amount due the IMLRMA (the city's insurer) pertaining to the settlement of the STS Custom Homes litigation; and (ii) it was his opinion that the Police Pension Fund levy request this year would approximate a similar amount (\$272,000) as levied last year. He also reviewed data contained on the Memo's attachments, consisting of a worksheet entitled "Tax Levy Analytical Data for the Tax Years from 2007 – 2012" containing headings of "Equalized Assessed Valuation Data", "Tax Levy Data" and "Tax Rates/\$100", as well as supporting data received from the Monroe County Clerk on documents entitled "Equalized Assessed Valuations – City of Columbia", "City of Columbia Tax Levy Rates for Year 2012 Payable in 2013", "Admiral Parkway TIF District – Tax Year 2012 Taxes Payable in 2013" and "Comparative Tax Rates for Monroe County Municipalities – Tax Levy Year 2012 – Taxes Payable in Year 2013".

During Hudzik's documentation review, all in attendance were given the opportunity to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions, which included (a) the city's equalized assessed valuation of taxable property in Monroe County decreased slightly for Tax Year 2012 (the second year in a row) with most of the decrease attributed to residential properties; and (b) the city's real estate tax rate has ranged from approximately \$.763/\$100 of assessed value to \$.868/\$100 of assessed value over the last six (6) years representing between 12.08% - 12.69% of the total real estate tax billing amounts paid by taxpayers within the city limits. Hudzik (A) indicated the documentation reviewed (and discussed) at this meeting was for informational purposes only; (B) stated that the city is awaiting (1) the Police Pension Fund's actuarial report and request for their levy this year; and (2) the billing from IMLRMA (the city's insurer) to determine the amounts to be levied for those two funds (he stated he felt the levies would be similar to last year's amounts); and (C) asked the Committee/Council Members to give consideration to the amount of taxes to be levied this year – he also indicated that Accounting Manager Sharp and he planned to recommend tax levy amounts at a future Committee Meeting.

III. FY 2013 – 2014 REVIEW OF VARIOUS RECEIPTS

City Administrator Hudzik then reviewed various financial worksheets (containing fiscal year totals and fiscal year to date ("YTD") information), which were previously distributed to the Committee/Council Members, entitled "Sales Tax Receipts", "Sales Tax Receipts by Category", "Income Tax Receipts" and "Use Tax Receipts" – the worksheets contained monthly receipts data for several years and YTD information for the current fiscal year (i.e., 05/01/13 – 04/30/14) – the "Sales Tax Receipts by Category" worksheet contained only quarterly or annualized figures. During the documentation review Hudzik highlighted and commented upon several of the figures presented on the worksheets; additionally, he expressed his opinion on the likelihood of the current (fiscal) year receipts totals meeting the projected budgeted amounts.

IV. FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS – MOTOR FUEL TAX FUND DISCUSSION

Accounting Manager Linda Sharp distributed a revised worksheet entitled "Motor Fuel Tax Fund – Cash Flow Projections" (to replace the one previously distributed to the Committee/Council Members) containing projected multi-year cash flow figures – Linda began her presentation by reviewing the amounts in the MFT Fund's current fiscal year budget column vs. the projected FYE 04/30/14 figures incorporating changes in the beginning cash, estimated receipts and projected expense totals after including fiscal year to date data; she then reviewed the figures shown in the Projected 2015 through 2018 fiscal year end columns (i.e., April 30th of each year). During Linda's presentation, all in attendance were given the opportunity to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions – she and City Administrator Hudzik stated they would update the Committee/Council Members on the MFT Fund's cash flow projections from time to time.

V. **OTHER ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED OR DISCUSSED**

Chairman Roessler inquired about the status of the city's annual audit – Accounting Manager Sharp stated it is nearing completion and that the audit firm's presentation would be made to the Committee/Council Members at a future meeting.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Huch and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl to adjourn the Finance, Claims, Bonds and Interest Committee Meeting held Monday, October 28, 2013 at 8:00 p.m. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Roessler and Aldermen Ebersohl, Huch and Holtkamp voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**



MARK ROESSLER, Chairman

FINANCE, CLAIMS, BONDS AND INTEREST COMMITTEE

Minutes taken by:



SANDRA GARMER, Accounting/Clerical Assistant