

**Minutes
Finance Committee
May 4, 2015
6:00 PM
2nd Committee meeting**

Members present were Chairman Dale Black, Council members Larry Goodson and Terry Merritt. Finance Director Holly Abercrombie was not present. City Administrator Trey Eubanks was present.

1. Call to order.- Chairman Black
2. Public Comment
3. Reading and approval of minutes- Councilman Goodson made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Merritt seconding. The vote was unanimous (3-0).
4. Reports or communications from city officers
 - a. Budget report- We are 10 months into the fiscal year. There are no other things to report since the council meeting last week. There are additional expenses coming up with Public Works and some equipment to buy for Recreation. Revenues look good.
5. Unfinished business.
 - a. Dress policy- This was discussed last month at the Finance and Policy committee meeting and the budget workshop. The clothing allowance is recommended to be eliminated and a one time payment will be added to salary with fica, retirement and taxes taken out. The other provision is to update the dress code policy. The financial impact is \$10,600. That would be the same amount as the clothing allowance, but would be a one time salary adjustment. Councilman Merritt said this should have been revenue neutral. Trey said the current year was implemented as approved and going forward would be completely up to council. Councilman Merritt said revenue neutral. Chairman Black said the money will still be there year after year.

Chairman Black said if you add everyone that is getting clothing money, including uniforms, it would be \$74,050. That would be \$377.91 per individual, so it is equal. The uniforms would still be there. That would be for everyone in the city to go to Signatures, or somewhere and get logo apparel on an account. If you choose not to have a logo, you still will dress

professionally. Chairman Black said it is not fair for some people to get \$800 and some to get nothing for clothing allowance. \$10,600 is not one time if it is in the salary and occurs every year.

Councilman Merritt said there are two different approaches. He likes Chairman Black's idea of equitability. Some people were promised clothing allowance in order to entice people to work here. This would be a one time adjustment. He said he is for discussing this first. He believes this issue is separate from the dress code. Chairman Black said if employees do not want to wear a logo, they would need to wear a name tag. Police and fire get uniforms with logos. Councilman Merritt said we need to address piercings as well. Women get piercings and we need to get up with the times. Councilman Merritt said clothing is a perk and should have a logo on it, not pants or socks. He would like the opinions from council.

Councilman Merritt said he liked the idea of having a company direct bill for logo apparel. Councilman Merritt made a motion to keep this item in committee with Councilman Goodson seconding. There will be more information gathered in the meantime. The vote was unanimous (3-0).

6. New business.

- a. Budget Amendment- This is an amendment on the current budget we are in now. We will be under budget for the construction and furnishings for city hall. Painting and new floor along with construction and furnishings is \$279,266. There is also \$250,000 in there for paving, which has a match. There was a land purchase of \$442,782 at Sunset Park from the hospitality fund. \$529,266.00 is what will be transferred from the general fund balance and \$442,782 will be transferred from hospitality and accommodations fund balance.

Councilman Goodson made a motion to send this item to council with Councilman Merritt seconding. The vote was unanimous (3-0).

7. Public Comment

- a. Dean Kirkland: This move to redo the city vote on alcohol. Mayor Jones served two terms and has a lot of wisdom. He said that thing should have gone through policy change. I spoke with you at the last council meeting. God has given me peace. Maybe it will be forced through. If a child gets hurt after you have let someone leave, that is on your head. I don't want to sugar coat it, but I don't have to have alcohol to go to a bbq and enjoy it. Alcohol is used for medicine, Paul says take some for your stomach. Noah laid butt naked because he stayed around too long.

Chairman Black: Dean, this is on the council agenda. You can speak on it then. We have public comment for that.

Dean Kirkland: I can?

Councilman Merritt: There is nothing I have heard on this about revenues. The alcohol issue was defeated 3-4. I understood you to say this was about raising revenue, but it is not.

Dean Kirkland: There was an article that someone told me about that talked about all the revenue from alcohol sales. I don't see it.

Mayor Raines: Maybe that was swamp rabbit?

Chairman Black: No. It was not in the swamp rabbit thing.

Den Kirkland: Maybe I am wrong. It was voted down why is it coming back up? I am quiet. I will wait.

Chairman Black: We will discuss this at the council meeting.

8. Committee concerns.
9. Adjournment.- Chairman Black adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk

NOTICE: A majority or quorum of City Council may attend a committee meeting