

CITY OF SPARTA
FINANCE AGENDA
November 9, 2022

CITY HALL

6:00 P.M.

- 1. Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. Consent Agenda: Consisting of Minutes of the Regular Meeting on October 5, 2022**
- 3. Consideration of Tourism Funds for Sparta Youth Hockey Association**
- 4. Consideration of Tourism Funds for Sparta Area Chamber of Commerce**
- 5. Library Presentation**
- 6. Overview of 2023 City Budget**
- 7. Items for Future Consideration**
- 8. Motion by Roll Call vote to go into Closed Session per Wis. Stat. 19.85 (1) (c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Re: Employee Wages**
- 9. Adjourn from Closed Session Per Roll Call Vote**

A possible quorum of the Common Council may be in attendance at this meeting but no action will be taken by the Council.

Posted: 11/07/2022

CITY OF SPARTA
FINANCE MINUTES
October 5, 2022

PRESENT: Josh Lydon, Bruce Humphrey, Matthew Hoffland

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Todd Fahning, Mark Sund, Kevin Riley, Emilee Nottestad, Booker Ferguson, Jim Church, Michelle Tryggestad, Ed Hansen, Jennifer Simunich, Alyssa Young, Barb Gluch

Josh Lydon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Bruce Humphrey and seconded by Matthew Hoffland to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of September 7, 2022. Motion carried 3-0.

Alyssa Young of the Deke Slayton Space and Bicycle Museum presented highlights of events that occurred in 2022. She stated the Deke Slayton Family Tree continues to grow, school groups and bus tours are back in full swing, both space camps were a huge success, and they have expanded their fundraising efforts. She spoke on behalf of the Board of Directors, volunteers, and visitors expressing their appreciation of continued financial support of the museum in the amount of \$40,000 for 2023.

Jennifer Simunich, Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club of Sparta spoke on the club's behalf in requesting tourism dollars for their upcoming House of Shadows Haunted House. The Haunted House has become an integral fundraiser for the club's operating budget. Guests of the Haunted House are guests to the city, visiting and enjoying their time in Sparta and spending money while in town. Mark Sund stated there are funds available and in the past the city has provided \$1,500 in tourism dollars to the club for the event.

A motion was made by Bruce Humphrey and seconded by Matthew Hoffland to approve the allocation of \$1,500 of tourism funds to the Boys & Girls Club of Sparta's Haunted House. Motion carried 3-0.

Barb Gluch of the Sparta Youth Hockey Association is requesting Cares Act money, if available, on behalf of the club. Mark Sund stated that the application period has passed and the money has been earmarked for other projects and purposes. He asked what amount they were requesting. Matthew Hoffland asked if they could present a more formal request or application. Mayor Riley suggested they apply for tourism funds.

Due to the lack of a motion, the consideration died.

Todd Fahning spoke for the request of American Rescue Act (ARA) Funds to possibly build a community and municipal shared storage building. He has had many community and staff requests for additional storage space. Currently, all of the huts for Kriskindlmarkt and other events are being stored in an area that technically should not

house the buildings and materials. The Street Department is in need to store their smaller equipment when not in use, which would make room at their current location for their larger equipment. The building will be constructed on land by the street shop. The Five Shovelmen will donate the labor and possibly the material for the concrete work. They are looking at a 30' by 80' pole shed with 12' doors for a shared space. A rough estimate would be approximately \$75,00, but Todd said he would need to submit it for bid to determine actual cost.

A motion was made by Matthew Hoffland and seconded by Bruce Humphrey to take to Council to earmark \$75,000 of ARA Funds for a community and municipal storage building. Motion carried 3-0.

Mark Sund discussed the preliminary 2023 budget. Mark met with the city's commercial insurance agent, Terry Christen and discussed the overall increase. The health insurance options for city employees will show approximately \$50,000 in savings for the city. PSC fee charges are set to increase from \$15.00 to \$21.00 per quarter. Police union wages are in line for the 4% increase and remaining employees to stay on track with the three to four-year scale increase per last year's discussion. The general levy is down 2.8% with the overall levy increase to be .7%. The mill rate is at 5.11 but will depend on the county and school mill rates. Mark will continue to update the committee. Final budget discussions are still ongoing and final action will be the first week of December.

There were no items for future consideration.

A motion was made by Bruce Humphrey and seconded by Matthew Hoffland to adjourn at 6:28 p.m. Motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Lydon
City Clerk

Sparta Youth Hockey Association would like to present to the finance committee regarding a request for tourism funds to purchase signage for the rink.

The signage would be for on the building. When people from other communities come to the rink they find it confusing to know where the entrance of the building is located.

Here are some images of what we have in mind:

Flat Cut Dimensional Letters

\$2,500

Channel Letters - non-lighted

\$4,500

The example image is the same as below
(Lighted Channel lights would be \$9000)

Barb Gluch





October 19, 2022

To the City of Sparta Safety Council:

Good morning! I am writing to you today to ask for your help. As you are aware, the Sparta Kriskindlmarkt has grown into something truly wonderful, but with that growth has come some pains. One, which to me is of HIGH importance that we need to address sooner than later.

The traffic down Water Street is a concern for me as I see people from all over coming to our great city to enjoy the market with their friends and families. Even though there are speed limit signs posted, drivers still cruise down the street at a speed that can end in tragedy. Drivers gawk at the market and the store fronts as they move up and down the street, which ultimately takes their attention away from the road, from the pedestrians.

I have looked into removable speed bumps, but was told that it is a state highway and therefore we cannot put holes into it. I was also told that when the snow plows come through, they would rip up the speed bumps-which I understand.

I then inquired about a sign similar to the one located at the crosswalk between Lawrence- Lawson and the High School. These run a price tag of about \$30,000 and there is a lot that goes into them. That only got placed because of a grant that was awarded and the DOT had to then approve it. I have also been told that the DOT has stated that until something happens, they were not going to entertain any signage ideas at all.

I don't know about you, but I do not want to wait for "something to happen". I am proposing that the city's tourism fund split the cost with the Chamber of Commerce to purchase two Solar Horizontal Rapid Flashing Beacon Systems with push button activation with the 24" MUTCD Crosswalk Sign in EGR and two 12"x24" diagonal arrow signs in EGR as well in the amount of \$2,619.95 plus \$38.81 ground shipping. I would also like to ask if the city has any old poles or posts that they could donate to the building of the moveable bases. Since I do not know yet the cost of this part of the project, the Chamber of Commerce will fund this solely. I have reached out to a few different area businesses to help me with this part. The post will have wheels so that they are easily moved in and out every night of the market and then transported to be used for other city and chamber events, such as Butterfest, Crazy Daze, or Fall Fest-all events that bring in people.

Thank you so much for your consideration in this and I hope that we are able to continue the great relationship that Chamber of Commerce has with the City of Sparta.

Solar Horizontal Rapid Flashing Beacon System with Push Button Activation

