

## Finance Committee Follow-up Meeting re Cheviot Tax Levy on December 18, 2018

A follow-up meeting of the Finance Committee re addressing the Cheviot Tax levy to be placed on the ballot in 2019 was held on Tuesday, December 18, 2018 in the Cheviot City Hall, Council Meeting Room, 2nd floor, 3814 Harrison Avenue. The meeting was called to order at 1845 hrs. (6:45 PM).

Present were Finance Committee Council members David W. Voss, Alana Tucker, RaeJean Hardig and James Sunderhaus. Others present were President of Council Mark Waters, Council Persons Gail Griffin, Amy Luken-Richter, Kathleen Zech, and Cheviot resident Debbie Slaughter.

There was discussion on whether to place the tax levy on the May 2019 primary or the November 2019 general election. At the November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Finance Committee meeting, information was given that if there was a county-wide issue on the May election date, Cheviot would not be required to pay for the election.

Since the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, it was found that Cheviot will have to pay for a May election regardless of what is on the ballot. This information was confirmed from the Board of Elections. Currently, it appears there are no issues for a Cheviot primary

Per custom, Cheviot will pay the Hamilton County Board of Elections to operate the election in November because there is an election for Mayor, Law Director, Council Members et cetera.

The Committee felt that since there is no anticipated primary needed in May 2019, the additional expense to the City for adding the levy to the May primary would not be an effective use of taxpayer dollars. There is no reason to have to pay for two elections. Adding the levy to the November election should not add any costs to that election, unless the ballot is so large, it goes to two sheets.

The November election is going to cost the City taxpayers approximately \$8,000.00, per the typical cost. While having a May election would allow another chance to pass the levy if it failed in May, it would be an unnecessary expenditure of an additional \$8,000.00 of taxpayer money.

During 2019, the City will be dealing with the police, fire and maintenance contracts. These contracts will impact the budget. The County is also increasing our dispatch fees by one dollar each in 2019. This increase will cost the City approximately \$7,000.00 in 2019.

Council is charged with being good stewards of the taxpayers' money. The \$8,000.00 saved from no May primary can be better spent for required expenditures.

While it may entail a risk by not having the tax levy on the May primary ballot, it was stated that a renewal levy has never been known to fail in Cheviot. Finance Committee members were in concurrence to place the tax levy renewal on the November 2019 ballot. A resolution

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will be brought before Council during June 2019 for the tax levy to be placed on the November 2019 ballot.

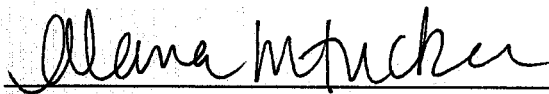
The issue of placing a line item in the 2019 budget was reiterated relative Capital Projects. The amount of \$20,000.00 to \$30,000.00 was suggested for the line item. An ordinance will be required to place the aforementioned line item in the budget.

The meeting concluded at about 1927 hrs. (7:27 PM)

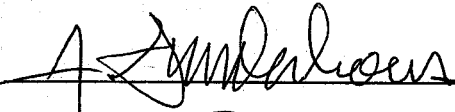
Respectfully submitted,



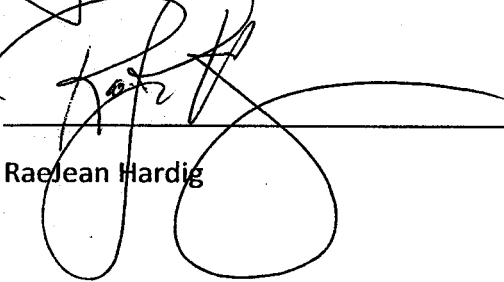
David W. Voss



Alana Tucker



James Sunderhaus



Raejean Hardig