

Sheridan Fire District
Special Board Meeting
July 20, 2023

Attendance: Ray Bottenberg, Gary Giddings, Cory Chrisman, Tammy Heidt

Absent: Pete Gutbrod

Others: Marguerite Alexander, Chief Les Thomas left on a commercial fire alarm returned 6:56 p.m., Jay Payne joined at 7:29 p.m.

Tammy called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Umpqua Bank came forward with a loan proposal

Loan Fee: \$2,000 (Plus their attorney. Total \$4,000?) Much less than the standard \$15 K - \$18K.
6.5 % interest
Has a bank branch in McMinnville
Mixed reviews. Tammy "Absolutely amazing" (Dan's business.) Ray not so good of experience.
Cory expressed concern about ACH payments, and asked if we could avoid them.

US Bank: 6.76% for 7 years for Capital loan

Ambulance Remount: 12 weeks out for ambulance
US loan must tie in the new ambulance we are remounting for collateral.
Tires for truck

Government Capital – Not an option. Amount came in lower than \$1.3 million. (Against seismic upgrade – found out it was illegal in the state of Oregon.)

Sustainability:

- Money from loan would kick start us through to November when tax money comes in.
- Ambulance revenue: last month we made 100 calls. If we had transported 70 percent, it would have paid for itself. We are a business but not everyone needs to be transported.
- Trim spending each month. We were spending \$200 K per month. Now down to \$155 K per month. Goal: Get expenses down to \$130K.
- Prior equipment was purchased second and third hand. Write grants. Looking to replace old, seldom-used vehicles with multiple purpose vehicle.

Anticipated revenue:

- \$1.1 million taxes
- \$ 812K for ambulance user fees.
- Sold E98 and T97. Will go back into vehicles/maintenance.
- GEMT percentage fluctuates.

Comments:

- Our part of the Seismic grant -- \$420,000 – has been paid.
- \$321 K loan: Allocated money in carryover. (Sprinkler system, Maintenance, /Vehicle problems/Fuel)
- COLA is an average of 8 percent nationwide. Ours will be 4 percent. New insurance. (Higher deductible)

- Gary would like to know the percentage of the budget used for personnel. Can only use last year's budget as Sheridan was the bank during the 360 Agreement. (Employees for all three districts listed as Sheridan employees. That dropped to 2 employees when Les took over in Oct. 2021.)
- Workers Comp. Goes off average of 3 years based on number of employees. Didn't get that info in time for planning new budget.
- Carryover prior to the 360 Agreement was \$700,000 to \$800,000. Goal: Get back to \$400,000. \$186,000 capital in budget can be used for carryover.
- \$215 K loan payments – all three loans.
- No prepayment penalties.
- The loan is critical for us to move forward.
- Chief to meet with taxpayers in Ballston on Aug. regarding plans for the fire station there.
- Volunteerism is not like in the old days. He is looking at a volunteer drive.

Two documents needed tonight:

- Resolution to do business. (The document we amended and brought back to the board.) Must be ratified by the Board before they can process the loan.
- Resolution to proceed with the loan. (They have been asking for specifics as to what the money will be used for: No expendables. No personnel. They like heart monitors, etc.)

Resolution 2003-24-01 (Resolution to conduct business – revised per board.)

Discussion:

- Ray – supports resolution but wants the Board to be more proactive and review spending/budget every few months.
- Suggestion: Workshop with two board members. Ray volunteered.
- Any spending over \$5,000 Chief needs to let the Board know.

Approval:

Ray moved to approve Resolution 2023-2024-01 Cory seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Resolution 2023-24-03 to authorize Chief to go through with the loan.

Discussion: Chief Thomas and Tammy to be signers.

Approval:

Cory moved to approve Resolution 2023-23-03 as presented. Ray seconded the motion. The motion carried. 4 ayes; 0 nays. 1 absent.

Eilene will still look at the Full Faith and Credit Financing Agreement after the resolution is signed.

Send board revised Resolution #2023-2024-01 Document to do business.

Ray moved to adjourn the meeting. Gary seconded. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:01.