



City Council Meeting – April 15, 2019 Staff Responses to Council Questions

Before each Committee of the Whole or City Council meeting, questions that have been posed by the City Council relating to [the agenda](#) for that evening will be posted to the City's website. Below are the responses to this week's questions.

Agenda Item 10. Municipal Bills for Payment

1) Blue Frost Heating, \$12,471

Q: Mitsubishi Installation – What was this expenditure?

A: This was an approved fiscal year 2018-19 capital project: LT/Radio Room HVAC Improvement (Station 1). This project provided additional HVAC capacity (heating and cooling) to correct a design flaw that has existed since Station 1 opened in 2004. These two work areas are heavily used by shift personnel each day. With the exception of a few months each year, the spaces are either too cold or too hot to work. The project purchased and added a Mitsubishi Mini Split HVAC system that will provide supplemental heating and cooling to each room.

2) Kenneth Campos, \$738

Q: What was the \$738 tuition reimbursement to Kenneth Campos for?

A: As stated previously (see Feb. 4, 2019) – reimbursement is made to the Paid-On-Call Firefighters who are required to complete the Basic Operations Firefighter Academy in order to qualify to do the job. The historical practice is to reimburse these expenses over a three-year period. Kenneth Campos is one of our Paid-On-Call Firefighters.

3) Kramer Tree, \$80,651.84

Q: What season is this for? Did we hold the final payment from last year until the last pickup was complete?

A: This was the final payment for the 2018-19 leaf collection program.

4) Prodryers, \$3,113.92

Q: Drinking fountain – where is this fountain installed, and why so costly?

A: This was for the replacement of the drinking fountain that had failed on the grounds of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The fountain is located on the south side of the facility near the Fox River Trail at a rest station that includes a paved viewing area of the Fox River, benches and trail signage. Three quotes were received and staff went with the lowest quote. The existing drinking fountain could not be used due to the amount of rust and replacement parts needed.

5) Radarsign LLC, \$6,180.00

Q: How many signs did we buy, and where will they be installed? Will we consider the input of the speed control policy task force before installing, or are they already committed to specific locations?

A: Two portable speed display signs were purchased. These signs are different from the speed display trailer. They are able to be mounted to a pole or speed limit sign and left in place longer than a trailer. This provides flexibility as to the location of their deployment. Input from the Speed Control Policy Task Force will certainly be considered as to their deployment. They will also be proactively deployed in locations where there are frequent resident complaints.

6) Elizabeth Safanda, \$100

Q: Please explain what the \$100 annual easement rights payment is about?

A: This is an annual payment for the easement rights across the old railroad right-of-way from east to west directly behind, (east of,) the Western Avenue substation. We were there originally by permit with the railroad. When the property was sold to Elizabeth Safanda, this was the negotiated settlement recommended by our City Attorney to secure and maintain an easement for the existing utility crossing.

7) Tax Sharing Agreements

Q: There are three sales tax sharing payments for September through December. MyNosh, Shodeen, and Wauconda. Are these the only active sales tax sharing agreements at the present time? Obviously, the Dunkin Donuts is not operational yet but would be an additional active agreement.

A: At present, there are three active agreements, one pending agreement (Dunkin) and one suspended agreement (524 W. State St.). City Council action on the suspended agreement, per the advice of Legal Counsel, is awaiting the resolution of related issues between the former and current owners.

8) Gaido & Fintzen

Q: Why was there no monthly payment to Fintzen and Gaido for their flat rate charge plus any additional amounts?

A: The City has not yet received the billing invoice for the previous month.

9) Rachlis Duff Peel & Kaplan, LLC

Q: It is my understanding (and I might be wrong) that the independent counsel handling the proposed South historic district was retained in February, and their contract calls for monthly disbursements. Is that correct and what are their charges to date?

A: The agreement indicates that statements will be rendered monthly. The City has not received any invoices to date.

Agenda Item 11. Committee of the Whole Items of Business

b) Approve Resolution No. 2019-29 Authorizing Execution of a Contract with Nashnal Soil Testing, LLC in the Amount of \$25,122 for 2019 Construction Material Testing and Geotechnical Services.

Q: I feel like the testing of construction materials for quality assurance should occur from the manufacturer, prior to the sale of materials. Can you please elaborate on what this means/what this is for?

A: Because we use Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) specifications, there are numerous quality assurance/quality control tests taken along the way before the various materials are used on construction projects. Stones are tested at the quarries before shipping to the asphalt/concrete plants, and then they are tested again at the asphalt/concrete plants before the ingredients are mixed together. The bituminous asphalt, cement, and water are all tested as well. IDOT handles those tests as a part of their program to certify material suppliers, and

we only accept materials from IDOT certified plants. The various load tickets that we receive on the construction sites for the materials being trucked in, all have to indicate that the materials are IDOT certified. The finished asphalt/concrete is again tested after they are installed by the contractor, and those are the tests that our geotechnical consultant completes on our behalf.

c) Approve Resolution No. 2019-30 Authorizing Execution of a Contract with Strada Construction in an Amount Not to Exceed \$50,000 for 2019 Sidewalk and Curb Maintenance Project.

Q: Can you please define "Detectable Warnings" (page 54 of the packet).

A: In a broad sense, the detectable warnings are the ADA-compliant sidewalk ramps that are installed at intersections. In a more narrow sense, the detectable warnings are the square/rectangular resin panels that are typically rust colored with the protruding bumps that are installed to notify a pedestrian with visual deficiencies that they are approaching a drive lane. The rust/red/yellow resin panel colors are used to make them stand out from the concrete color, and the bumps create a feel for those pedestrians using a cane as opposed to the smoothness of the concrete.