
Memorandum

To: Mayor & Members of Council
From: Monica Irelan, City Manager
Subject: General Information
Date: May 22, 2015

CALENDAR

MONDAY, MAY 25, 2015

1. **Memorial Day Parade** @10:00 am

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2015

1. **Cancellation** – Finance and Budget Committee Meeting
2. **Cancellation** – Safety and Human Resources Committee Meeting
3. **Agenda** – Civil Service Commission @4:30 pm

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2015

1. **Agenda** – Parks & Recreation Board @6:30 pm

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2015

1. **Agenda** – Personnel Committee @6:00 pm

FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2015

1. **Agenda** – Personnel Committee @6:00 pm

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Press Release/Refuse and Recycling Pickup Schedule for Memorial Day Week
2. OML Legislative Bulletin/May 15, 2015



MI:rd
Records Retention
CM-11 - 2 Years

April 2015							May 2015							June 2015							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
			1	2	3	4						1	2			1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					
							31														

 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
					MONICA - Vacatior	MONICA - Vacatior
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
MONICA - Vacatior	10:00 AM Memorial Day Parade HOLIDAY - MEMORIAL DAY MONICA - Vacatior	4:30 PM Civil Service Commission Meeting MONICA - Vacatior	6:30 PM Parks & Rec Board Meeting	6:00 PM Personnel Committee Mtg.	6:00 PM Personnel Committee Mtg.	
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

May 2015							June 2015							July 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	
31																				

 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 6:15 PM TECHNOLOGY Committee Meeting 7:00 PM City COUNCIL Meeting	2	3	4	5 7:00 PM Rally in the Alley	6
7	8 6:30 PM ELECTRIC Committee Board of Public Affairs (BOPA) Mtg. 7:00 PM WATER & SEWER Committee Mtg. 7:30 PM Municipal Properties/ED Committee Meeting	9 4:30 PM Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 5:00 PM Planning Commission	10	11	12	13
14	15 6:00 PM City TREE Commission Meeting 6:15 PM PARKS & REC Committee Meeting 7:00 PM City COUNCIL Meeting	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 6:30 PM FINANCE & BUDGET Committee Meeting 7:30 PM SAFETY & HUMAN RESOURCES Committee Meeting	23	24 6:30 PM Parks & Rec Board Meeting	25	26 6:00 PM Henry County RIBFEST	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4



City of Napoleon, Ohio



RECEIVED
March 24, 2015

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

OPEN MEETING, DEMONSTRATION, RALLY OR PARADE
(Per Chapter 312 of the City of Napoleon Codified Ordinances)

APPLICANT

NAME (LAST, FIRST, INITIAL):

Adams LARRY F.

1402 OAKDALE DR.

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

NAPoleon, OHIO 43545

419-592-9156

CITY, STATE, ZIP

BUSINESS PHONE NUMBER:

SPONSORING AGENCY (If Different Than Applicant)

ORGANIZATION:

Bert G. Taylor Post #300 American Legion

ADDRESS:

CHAIRMAN:

500 Glenwood Ave.

LARRY Adams

CITY, STATE, ZIP:

PHONE NUMBER:

STATE ID NUMBER

NAPoleon, OHIO 43545

419-592-5561

EVENT DESCRIPTION:

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

DATE OF EVENT:

Monday May 25th

STARTING TIME:

10:00 A.M.

ENDING TIME:

12:30 P.M.

RAIN DATE (If Applicable):

NONE

PARADE ROUTE/STREET LOCATION of EVENT:

STARTS AT Henry County Fairgrounds, South Perry across River Bridge
North Perry to East Washington East Washington to Monroe.

STREET CLOSURE REQUIRED:

YES - NO -

If Yes, Street(s) to be Closed:

EAST Washington

between

Perry

and

Monroe

, from

9:00 A. m. to

12:30 P. m.

IF BARRICADES OR ORANGE TRAFFIC CONES WILL BE NEEDED, PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY OPERATIONS DEPT. @ 419.599.1891 AT LEAST ONE (1) WEEK PRIOR TO THE EVENT.

Memorandum

To: Finance & Budget Committee, Council, Mayor, City Manager, City Law Director,
City Finance Director, Department Supervisors, Media

From: Gregory J. Heath, Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Date: 5/20/2015

Re: Finance & Budget Committee Meeting Cancellation

The Finance & Budget Committee meeting, regularly scheduled for Tuesday, May 26, 2015 at 6:30pm has been CANCELED due to lack of agenda items.

Memorandum

To: Safety and Human Resources Committee, Township Trustees, Council, Mayor,
City Manager, City Law Director, City Finance Director, Department Supervisors

From: Gregory J. Heath, Finance Director/Clerk of Council

Date: 5/20/2015

Re: Safety and Human Resources Committee Meeting Cancellation

The Safety and Human Resources Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday,

May 26, 2015, at 7:30pm has been CANCELED due to lack of agenda items.

City of Napoleon, Ohio
Civil Service Commission

LOCATION: City Hall, 255 West Riverview Avenue, Napoleon, OH 43545

Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, May 26, 2015 at 4:30pm

- I. Approval of Minutes (In the absence of any objections or corrections, the minutes shall stand approved.)
- II. Approval of Eligible Applicant Lists for Firefighter/Paramedic and Police Officer
- III. Approval of Eligible Credits
- IV. Any other matters to come before the Commission
- V. Adjournment

Gregory J. Heath, Finance Director/Clerk of Council

**Time At 8:00am And
The Testing Location
At The Fire Station At
265 W. Riverview
Ave., Napoleon, Ohio,
With The Physical
Agility Test To Follow**

and the testing location at the Fire Station at 265 W. Riverview Avenue, Napoleon, Ohio

**Passed
Yea- 3
Nay- 0**

Roll call vote on above motion:
Yea- Meekison, Baer, Tassler
Nay-

**Motion To Approve
The Notice Of Civil
Service Exams, Job
Descriptions And
Application Blanks
As Prepared And
Presented By The
HR Director For
Firefighter/
Paramedic & Police
Officer With The Age
Of 18 For Firefighter/
Paramedic And The
Age Of 21 For Police
Officer By May 15,
2015**

Motion: Meekison Second: Tassler
To approve the notice of Civil Service exams, job descriptions, and application blanks as prepared and presented by the HR Director for Firefighter/Paramedic and Police Officer with the age requirement of eighteen (18) years of age for Firefighter/Paramedic and twenty one (21) years of age for Police Officer at the time of application due on May 15, 2015.

**Passed
Yea- 3
Nay- 0**

Roll call vote on above motion:
Yea- Meekison, Baer, Tassler
Nay-

**Motion To Approve
The Physical Agility
Tests For Firefighter/
Paramedic & Police
Officer As Presented
By The Fire & Police
Departments**

Motion: Meekison Second: Tassler
To approve the physical agility tests for firefighter/paramedic and police officer as presented by the Fire and Police Departments

**Passed
Yea- 3
Nay- 0**

Roll call vote on above motion:
Yea- Meekison, Baer, Tassler
Nay-

**Motion To Approve
Certain Credits For
Both Firefighter/
Paramedic & Police
Officer Candidates
That Shall Not Exceed
10% Total, And Shall
Apply Only To**

Motion: Meekison Second: Tassler
To approve certain credits for both firefighter/paramedic and Police Officer candidates that shall not exceed ten percent (10%) total, and shall apply only to candidates who pass the written exam with a seventy percent (70%) score

Approved Credits include:

<u>Firefighter/Paramedic</u>	<u>Credit</u>	<u>Police Officer</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Veteran's Credit	5%	Veteran's Credit	5%

**Candidates Who Pass
The Written Exam
With A 70% Score**

Educational Degree	5%	Educational Degree	5%
Firefighter II Certificate	5%	OPTA Certificate	5%
NFD PT Work (3 years)	5%	Auxiliary Police (3 years)	5%

Meekison stated that he is aware that the Human Resources Department had already distributed the above information; however he remembers an occasion in which the previous Fire Chief had to attest at a meeting that an applicant had the credential listed, since the applicant forgot to attach the proof to the application; Meekison stated he would like to see this type of exemption to the rules eliminated. Heath asked if Meekison is setting this as a rule at this meeting; Meekison replied no, adding that he would like to see everything possible done to eliminate these mistakes in the future. Heath asked if, for the record, Meekison is making a Motion to not accept applications lacking information or if he was just stating his opinion related to this issue; Meekison stated that this is his opinion, adding that if he is on the Commission next year, he will make that Motion to not accept applications that are lacking any required information. Heath related background information regarding the application process to the members who have not previously been through this process; after the applications are received Druhot will present an eligible list of applicants and an ineligible list of applicants based on the applications and supplementary information; applicants have previously come in to plead their case to be removed from the ineligible list and entered onto the eligible list. Irelan added that if the City receives an incomplete application, the applicant is not allowed an interview due to the lack of ability to follow directions. Heath added that a certification could be received between the time of application and testing. Meekison stated he would like to discuss the various credits to be given, and will make a Motion to have all requirements met by the application deadline and if not, the Civil Service Commission will not hold any subsequent hearing to allow the applicant to test.

Meekison listed the available credits, and clarified for the record that the Educational Degree credit for both the Firefighter/Paramedic application and the Police Officer application must be a two (2) year Associates Degree or a four (4) year Bachelors Degree from an accredited college or university.

Meekison clarified that the Auxiliary Credit must be from the Napoleon Police Department.

Heath clarified that the percentage of credit is added to the score that was received, and pursuant to Civil Service Commission rules, the applicant must earn a seventy percent (70%) or above on the written exam to receive any credits.

**Passed
Yea- 3
Nay- 0**

Roll call vote on above motion:
Yea- Meekison, Baer, Tassler
Nay-

**Motion To Require
Proof Of All Credits,
Including Education
And Certifications, To
Be Submitted With
The Original
Application By No
Later Than The Due**

Motion: Meekison Second: Tassler
To require proof of all credits, including education and certifications, to be submitted with the original application by no later than the due date of the application

Date Of The Application

Passed
Yea- 3
Nay- 0

Roll call vote on above motion:
Yea- Meekison, Baer, Tassler
Nay-

Motion To Require That All Applications Must Be Filed By May 15, 2015 At 4:00pm And The Civil Service Commission Will Not Entertain Any Requests For Time Extensions For Any Required Application Information

Motion: Meekison Second: Tassler
To require that all applications must be filed by May 15, 2015 at 4:00pm and the Civil Service Commission will not entertain any requests for time extensions for any required application information

Heath stated that the previous exceptions were allowed to create a larger applicant pool, adding that some of the accredited schools may not have graduated by the time of application, but may have graduated by the time of testing. Baer added that most institutions have gone to semesters over quarters, believing that most will be graduated near the time of the application due date of May 15, 2015. Ireland stated that a certification of graduation could be considered and the school could verify the certification through transcripts; Ireland added that only a copy of the transcript is required, not the actual diploma. Meekison asked if there is a place on the application to indicate whether the applicant will have the appropriate degree; Ireland stated that the notice of the exam defines what must be submitted with the application, adding that previously applicants have written a letter to verify this; Druhot added that applicants have written their anticipated date of graduation on the application as well.

Tassler agreed; stating that he believes the applicant must verify the anticipated graduation; Baer agreed as well.

Passed
Yea- 3
Nay- 0

Roll call vote on above motion:
Yea- Meekison, Baer, Tassler
Nay-

Motion To Extend Current Eligible Lists

Motion: Tassler Second: Meekison
To extend the current eligible lists from expiration date through July 18, 2015

Heath stated there is no request to roll the eligible list, merely to extend it.

Passed
Yea- 3
Nay- 0

Roll call vote on above motion:
Yea- Meekison, Baer, Tassler
Nay-

Any Other Matters To Come Before The Commission

Meekison thanked Baer for accepting the position on the Commission.

Heath recommended having the May Civil Service Commission meeting to approve the applicant lists, adding there may be some additional approvals needed regarding the certifications of degrees, depending on the graduation dates.

Motion To Adjourn

Motion: Meekison Second: Tassler
Motion to adjourn the meeting

Passed
Yea- 3

Roll call vote on motion:
Yea- Meekison, Baer, Tassler

**Nay- 0
Adjournment**

Date Approved:

Nay-
Meeting adjourned at 5:19pm

David Meekison, Chair

DRAFT

City of Napoleon, Ohio

Parks & Recreation Board

LOCATION: City Hall Offices, 255 West Riverview Avenue, Napoleon, Ohio

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, May 27, 2015 at 6:30pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes
- III. Discussion and/or Action: Fourth of July Celebration Activities
- IV. Miscellaneous
- V. Any other matters currently assigned to the Board
- VI. Adjournment

Gregory J. Heath, Finance Director/Clerk of Council

City of Napoleon, Ohio
Parks & Recreation Board

Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 29, 2015 at 6:30pm

PRESENT
**Parks & Recreation
Board**
City Staff
Recorder
Others

Mike Saneholtz, Peg Funchion, Aaron Schnitkey, Joe Bialorucki, Pat McColley, Chad Richardson
Tony Cotter, Parks & Recreation Director
Tammy Fein
Jeff Nicely, Napoleon Police Officers Union
Matt Hardy

ABSENT

Call To Order

Acting Chair Funchion called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Approval Of Minutes

Minutes of the March 25 meeting stand approved with no objections or corrections.

**Donation From
Napoleon Police
Officers Union**

Cotter introduced Officer Nicely; stating that the Napoleon Police Officers Union had proposed a skate park at Swearingen Park in 2009 in place of a failing tennis court; the Union has installed the skate equipment.

Nicely discussed the overview of the skate park including the additions for more area and more equipment to use, adding that this equipment is steel, allowing BMX bikes to use the equipment as well. Nicely reported that the additional total cost was approximately \$10,000; Nicely asked for the Board to accept this donation from the Napoleon Police Officers Union. McColley stated that this park is always busy; Nicely stated that Councilman Marihugh was initially concerned about the skateboarders causing trouble at this location, but Nicely has spoken with the skateboarders and they will keep it clean as they have done previously, and thanked Nicely for the equipment. Cotter stated there have only been a few issues there, and if there is an issue, the gate is locked with a sign stating why the gate is locked for approximately a week and the point is made. McColley asked if there were ever any serious injuries at this location; Nicely reported none to his knowledge; Cotter added that there is a sign stating that helmets are strongly encouraged. Cotter stated the equipment is well made; Nicely added there is a twenty (20) year warranty.

**Motion To Accept
Donation From
Napoleon Police
Officers Union**

Motion: Saneholtz Second: McColley
To accept the donation from the Napoleon Police Officers Union

Passed
Yea- 6
Nay- 0

Roll call vote on above motion:
Yea- Saneholtz, Richardson, Schnitkey, Bialorucki, McColley, Funchion
Nay-

**Proposal From
Napoleon American
Legion**

Cotter reported that a member from the Napoleon American Legion showed interest in use of the pool for the kids; the Legion would like to offer community members free swimming for a week. Cotter gave estimates of attendees to the pool to the Legion, adding that attendance is dependent on the weather. Cotter

reported that the Legion proposed free admission to the pool for a week, reimbursing the City with a cap of approximately \$1,500 during the week of June 29 through July 3. Cotter asked the Board's approval for this proposal. Cotter stated the end of June is usually when there are the most swimmers using the pool. Bialorucki asked how any cost over the cap amount would be covered; Cotter stated it would be a loss, adding that \$1,500 is a high estimate of six hundred (600) non-membership swimmers in that week. Saneholtz stated that concessions would increase with more users which would help make up any potential difference. Bialorucki believes that new users may come back after this week as well. Cotter will research with the Law Department how to have this proposal move forward.

**Motion To Approve
Proposal From
Napoleon American
Legion**

Motion: Saneholtz Second: Bialorucki
To approve the proposal from the Napoleon American Legion

Passed
Yea- 6
Nay- 0

Roll call vote on above motion:
Yea- Saneholtz, Richardson, Schnitkey, Bialorucki, McColley, Funchion
Nay-

**Miscellaneous
Bialorucki**

None

Schnitkey

Asked how the Outdoor Education Program was progressing; Cotter stated that it is coming well; twenty nine (29) kids registered for the Oakwood Trail Walk, and the bat program had sixteen (16) registrants; Hefflinger is doing a great job and the registrations are higher than expected.

Richardson

None

McColley

None

Bialorucki

None

Funchion

None

Saneholtz

None

Cotter

Cotter stated that he has not recently heard any information regarding the progress of the dog park; he received a mock-up of the park sign logo, and the Girl Scouts will be researching permits with Tom Zimmerman, Zoning Officer. Cotter stated there was no deadline given as to when the dog park was to open; when the dog park is completed it will come before Council to be donated to the City.

Cotter reported that the girls' softball programs will begin next week; attendance is down slightly but this registration overlaps with traveling teams. Cotter reported that baseball registrations have ended, and will begin in a few weeks; information will go to the coaches soon.

Cotter reported that the pool is drained and cleaned, adding that it is in much better condition this year than it was last year; the maintenance is a bit ahead of schedule and the pool should be filled on May 18 and will open the day after

school lets out, June 3rd, for the season.

Cotter reported that a five hundred dollar (\$500) donation was received from the Henry-Wood Sportsman Club to stock the fishing pond at Oakwood Park, and grant money for the Outdoor Education Program was approved, with a maximum amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000).

Cotter reported that the golf course is in good shape; the path was tore out at hole nine (9) but should be replaced in the next couple weeks, adding that the revenue is a little ahead of last year. Cotter reported that there were minor issues on the greens due to ice, but these have been repaired.

**Any Other Matters To
Come Before The
Board**

None

Motion To Adjourn

Motion: Schnitkey Second: McColley
To adjourn the meeting at 6:55pm.

Passed
Yea-
Nay-

Roll call vote on above motion:
Yea- Saneholtz, Richardson, Schnitkey, Bialorucki, McColley, Funchion
Nay-

Date Approved

Peg Funchion, Acting Chair

City of Napoleon, Ohio

Personnel Committee

LOCATION: City Hall Offices, 255 West Riverview Avenue, Napoleon, Ohio

Meeting Agenda

Thursday, May 28, 2015 at 6:00pm

- I. Approval of Minutes *(In the Absence of any Objections or Corrections, the Minutes Shall Stand Approved)*
- II. Review of Personnel Matters
- III. Executive Session: Employment of Personnel
- IV. Adjournment

Gregory J. Heath, Finance Director/Clerk of Council

City of Napoleon, Ohio
Personnel Committee

Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 18, 2015 at 6:00pm

PRESENT
Personnel Committee
City Staff

Acting Recorder
Others
Absent

Travis Sheaffer – Chair, Jason Maassel, Mayor Ronald Behm
Gregory Heath, Finance Director/Clerk of Council
Trevor Hayberger, Law Director
Gregory Heath

Call To Order

Chairperson Sheaffer called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March 23 meeting stand approved with no objections or corrections.

Review Of Personnel Matters

Motion To Go Into Executive Session: Employment Of Personnel

Motion: Behm Second: Maassel
To go into Executive Session to discuss employment of personnel

Passed
Yea- 3
Nay- 0

Roll call vote on above motion:
Yea- Maassel, Behm, Sheaffer
Nay-

Into Executive Session

The Committee went into Executive Session at 6:05pm.

Motion To Come Out Of Executive Session

Motion: Behm Second: Maassel
To come out of Executive Session

Passed
Yea- 3
Nay- 0

Roll call vote on above motion:
Yea- Maassel, Behm, Sheaffer
Nay-

Out of Executive Session

The Committee came out of Executive Session at 6:35pm. Sheaffer reported that the Executive Session was held to discuss the employment of personnel and no action was taken.

Motion To Accept Thirteen (13) Applications As Submitted

Motion: Behm Second: Maassel
To accept thirteen Applications for Law Director position as submitted

Passed
Yea- 3
Nay- 0

Roll call vote on above motion:
Yea- Maassel, Behm, Sheaffer
Nay-

Motion To Adjourn

Passed
Yea- 3
Nay- 0

Date Approved

Motion: Behm
To adjourn the meeting at 6:36pm

Second: Maassel

Roll call vote on above motion:
Yea- Maassel, Behm, Sheaffer
Nay-

Travis Sheaffer, Chair

DRAFT

City of Napoleon, Ohio
Personnel Committee

LOCATION: City Hall Offices, 255 West Riverview Avenue, Napoleon, Ohio

Meeting Agenda
Friday, May 29, 2015 at 6:00pm

- I. Approval of Minutes *(In the Absence of any Objections or Corrections, the Minutes Shall Stand Approved)*
- II. Review of Personnel Matters
- III. Executive Session: Employment of Personnel
- IV. Adjournment

Gregory J. Heath, Finance Director/Clerk of Council

City of NAPOLEON, Ohio

Operations Department

1775 Industrial Dr., P.O. Box 151, Napoleon, OH 43545

Phone: 419/599-1891 Fax: 419/592-4379



Operations Superintendent
Jeffrey H. Rathge

Water Distribution Foreman
Brian Okuley

Streets/Sewer Foreman
Roger Eis

Refuse Foreman
Perry Hunter

Head Mechanic
Tony Kuhlman

Press Release

MEMORIAL DAY REFUSE & RECYCLING ROUTES

NAPOLEON, OHIO, -- Due to the upcoming Memorial Day holiday, the refuse and recycling pickup routes for the City of Napoleon will be as follows **for the week of May 25 – May 29, 2015 ONLY:**

- 🗑️ **Monday, May 25 - HOLIDAY - NO PICK UP**
- 🗑️ **Tuesday, May 26 - Monday's Route**
- 🗑️ **Wednesday, May 27 - Tuesday's Route**
- 🗑️ **Thursday, May 28 - as usual; Wednesday's route will also be run on Thursday (there is a possibility of later than usual pickup time for Thursday's route).**
- 🗑️ **Friday, May 29 - as usual**

Wednesday's and Thursday's routes will both be run on Thursday, May 28. The Operations Department is asking that for those affected, an extra effort be made to have their refuse and recycling at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on the 28th.

Please contact the Operations Department at 419/599-1891 if there are any questions regarding this matter.





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May 15 , 2015

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS' TESTIMONY NEEDED IN SUPPORT OF GREATER ASSISTANCE THROUGH STATE BUDGET

The league is calling on our members to arrange time in their upcoming schedules to join us at the Ohio Statehouse as we lobby members of the Ohio Senate to restore financial support to Ohio cities and villages, by restoring funding cuts to the Local Government Fund.

As we have reported through our Legislative Bulletins in the last several weeks, the Ohio Senate continues to go through HB 64, the version of the state's two year operating budget passed by the Ohio House on April 22nd. The Senate Finance Committee, after receiving HB 64 from the House, separated issues into general categories. Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee in addition to Senators appointed to various Finance subcommittees, have spent the last three weeks examining the many facets of what may or may not be included as part of the version of the state budget Senators decide upon.

The Senate Finance Committee is expected to reconvene the week of May 26th to receive reports from the Chairman of the Ways and Means and subcommittees who held budget hearings. After the reports are compiled, a substitute version reflecting Senate changes will then be presented to the committee members. After the committee and interested parties are given an opportunity to digest the changes proposed at that point, we anticipate that during the week of June 8th, the full Finance Committee will convene to receive testimony from groups with requests or concerns related to the two year operating plan. In addition to the conversations that should already be taking place, this will be the opportunity for our municipal officials to present their concerns and suggestions on how to improve upon the list of state funding priorities.

The league will be testifying before the Senate Finance Committee on the issues we are tracking in the budget, which we have covered in previous bulletins. The top issues or concerns the league has for the currently proposed budget includes our support and appreciation for the appropriation made by the Ohio House of \$20 million to create the Local Government Safety Grant Program and our desire to see that appropriation increased; our continued request for additional state financial support to the LGF to reauthorize this critical funding source, through either the existing distribution formula or by additional grant opportunities, protect against additional local revenue loss through the proposed elimination of the TPP reimbursement schedule and to discourage unwarranted attacks on current LGF distribution amounts against municipalities who choose to exercise the rights provided to them through the Ohio Constitution, in addition to other items.

The members of the Ohio Senate who are assigned to the Finance Committee can be found at <http://www.ohiosenate.gov/senate/committee/finance> .

It is very important that in addition to league testimony, members of the Senate Finance Committee are presented with testimony from representatives of municipalities who continue to experience financial difficulties as a result of such things as: the slower than expected economic recovery on the local level, depressed local revenue collections in communities across the state compared to 2008 or pre-recession revenue levels, cuts in state funding through the elimination of the Ohio Estate tax and what that loss in revenue has meant to local budgets and the cutting in half of assistance previously provided through the Local Government Fund. Many members of the legislature are still under the false impression that municipal revenue figures across the board are back to or even higher than revenue collection amounts before the 2008 economic recession or the dramatic cuts in state financial assistance that took place in HB 153, the FY 2010-11 state budget, with the LGF and Estate tax.

We are asking that our members begin to plan on coming to the Statehouse the week of June 8th to join us in lobbying members of the Senate Finance Committee, to impress upon them that cities and villages across the state are straining financially and that the senate can provide local taxpayers and communities the breathing room needed.

Remember, testimony should be brief, generally 5 to 10 minutes in duration so that the committee can get through as many witnesses as possible in a manageable timeframe, so brevity is always appreciated by the Chairman. Chairman Oelslager asks that those providing testimony to please provide in advance a written copy of the remarks to be given to his office 24 hours before the hearing date. The league would be more than happy to assist in making sure testimony is delivered to the Chairman's office before the hearing, if municipal witnesses choose to send their copy to us first and we can make sure it gets to the Chairman's office.

As soon as the official public hearing schedule, including dates and times, is released by the Senate Finance Committee, we will be sure to immediately alert our members.

A MESSAGE FROM THE BUREAU OF WORKER'S COMPENSATION (BWC)

Public employers and prospective billing *Group enrollment deadline has changed to May 29*

As part of the Bureau of Workers' Compensation's (BWC) transition to prospective billing, May 29 is the new deadline to apply for BWC's group-experience-rating program for the 2016 policy year. This alternative rating program allows employers in similar industries to group together to potentially achieve lower premium rates.

BWC's switch to prospective billing, which begins Jan. 1, 2016 for public employers, will require payment before BWC provides coverage. This industry standard method of billing offers several benefits, including a 4 percent overall base-rate reduction for public employers, opportunities for more flexible payment options, and increased ability for BWC to detect non-compliance and fraud.

Costs associated with the switch to prospective billing will be covered with a transition credit from BWC. Outstanding premium payments will be due Sept. 1, 2016 for public employers.

Additional information about prospective billing, including a timeline, frequently asked questions and key dates to remember, is available at bwc.ohio.gov.

Below is the committee schedule for next week. Have a safe weekend.~