

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2014 SPECIAL COLD SPRING CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Mayor Doug Schmitz called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. The following City Council members were found to be present: Mayor Doug Schmitz and Council Members Fran Ramler, Jan Dingmann, Dave Stadther and Bob Thelen. Others present: Paul Hetland, Paul Hoeschen, Chris Boucher, Kris Dockendorf, and Dan Weber.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY THELEN, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF THE SEPTEMBER 5, 2014 CITY COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

Mayor Schmitz stated that the purpose of the special meeting was to go over the 2015 preliminary budget and proposed preliminary levy.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

Paul Hetland and Kris Dockendorf presented an overview of the budget, and discussion was held on the history of the levy in previous years, what is expected for Local Government Aid in 2015, and other budget factors.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Dan Weber, Fire Chief, was present to review the fire department budget. He requested an increase to the fire chief's salary of \$500 a year, and an increase in the payment to the Relief Association of \$600 per year.

Dan also proposed purchasing a pumper in 2015, at an approximate cost of \$600,000. He presented a financing plan that he and Kris Dockendorf had put together, which included using existing funds and donations, and grant funding that they would be applying for. This left an approximate amount of \$180,000 which would need to be borrowed, likely through an interfund loan. Dan stated that the purchase of the truck would depend largely on whether they would get the grant. He also stated that they had met with Township officials and they were in favor of purchasing the truck. A truck payment was included in the budget.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chris Boucher, Police Chief, was present to review the police department budget. Chris stated he would like to start buying a new squad car every year to keep maintenance costs down. The Council was agreeable to this plan and agreed this would then eliminate the need for the annual squad car allocation to a designated fund. He also asked for a significant increase in his training budget to get more training for the officers.

PUBLIC WORKS

Paul Hoeschen, Public Works Director, proposed installation of a hoist in the "Parks Building" at a cost of \$7800, which would be split between six departments: Police, Streets, Parks, Water, Sewer, & Storm. He also presented the following budgets:

Streets and Snow: no major changes from 2014

Parks: Requested purchases included a front deck mower, repairs to the first base line at the ballpark, extension of the North Pointe ballpark, and replacement of two overhead doors at the grandstand. Also discussed was funding the concessions, deck, and grandstand improvements at the ballpark. It was agreed this money would come from Fund 33, Future Capital Improvements. It was also decided to start a new line item for Trail Maintenance, and to budget \$5000 for it.

Water: The 2014 budget for a new well needs to be moved to 2015 in hopes of digging the well next year. He also asked to budget \$58,325 for needed repairs to the ground storage tank, some of them safety related. No increase in water rates was budgeted for in the Revenue budget.

Sewer: Paul requested improvements to include 2 sluice gates, sandblast & painting, SCADA repairs, and \$30,000 for a tanker trailer. An increase in sewer rates was included in the Sewer Revenue budget.

Storm Sewer: No major changes to expenditures were proposed. A rate increase to the Storm Charges was budgeted for in the Revenue Budget.

ADMINISTRATION

Kris Dockendorf, Finance Director, presented the Administration, City Hall, EDA, and Emergency Services budgets.

The purchase of a projector for City Hall was discussed, and the Council recommended purchasing it before year-end out of the 2014 budget.

The EDA had requested another \$10,000 budget for marketing work.

The purchase of a siren for River Links was discussed. The Council stated they would like to see the siren installed in 2015 since new homes would be going in there next year. It was decided to have the EMS Director proceed with the installation, since the money had been set aside in previous years for the purchase.

2015 LEVY

The Council reviewed the proposed levy, and felt it was too high of an increase.

Administrator Hetland was directed to have the Police Department cut \$10,000 out of their budget, Streets & Parks cut \$5,000 from their budget, and the Fire Department cut \$5,000 from their budget, totaling \$20,000 in cuts.

It was decided to take \$5,200 in ballpark repairs, to make the proposed 2015 pumper payment of \$18,800, and take the \$22,800 expense for a new squad car all out of the gambling fund, totaling \$46,800 in reductions.

It was also decided to increase interest revenue in an amount in order to bring the levy down to a 7% increase over the 2014 rate.

ADJOURN

MOTION WAS MADE BY THELEN, SECONDED BY DINGMANN, TO ADJOURN AT 2:17 P.M., SEEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

Doug Schmitz, Mayor

Paul Hetland, City Administrator