

FINANCE COMMITTEE

October 12, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Ald. Hoy at 5:00 p.m. with the following Roll Call:

Members Present: Ald. Smith, Ald. Hoy, Ald. Pasbrig,

Members Absent:

Others Present: Mayor Heron (at 5:45 p.m.), Kathie Wild, Deanna Boldrey, Ald. Gering, Ald. Moede, Ald. Voss, Chris MacNeill, Vern Hilker, Sara Mireski, Carla Hagen, Marge Nitschke, Sue Smith, Sally Kahlhamer, Dena Harris

Item #2 – Convene into Committee of the Whole to discuss items on the Finance Agenda.

Motion by Ald. Pasbrig, second by Ald. Smith to Convene into Committee of the Whole. Motion carried unanimously.

Council President resided over the meeting in the Mayor's absence.

Item #3 – Budget Remarks by the Mayor.

No Remarks by the Mayor were given.

Item #4 – 2010 Budget Request Presentations.

The budget discussion started with the General Admin budget with the City Clerk. The City Clerk did discuss the schedule fees. It was noted that ½ of the cigarette licenses are budgeted due to the new smoking law that will take in effect on July 1, 2010. She did note that on average it is \$750 per ordinance change. This includes attorney fees, publication fees, and ordinance update fees. Ald. Voss questioned why the election food was at \$400. This is due to 4 elections in 2010. Kathie discussed how holiday and vacation is budgeted. Kathie pointed out that professional services include \$2,000 for marketing. Ald. Smith noted the Chamber's budget and Graceland Cemetery Budget and questioned if they wanted to present their budget again.

Ald. Smith noted that a list of items to be revisited be kept. He asked that the Marketing Item, Chamber, and Cemetery need to be revisited.

Ald. Hoy suggested that the Room Tax be revisited in future years with the purpose of promoting the City. Ald. Hoy also pointed out the General Admin Donation. She noted this will be paid out shortly with the Horicon Marsh Educational Center film.

Kathie then reviewed the Comptroller Budget. She noted the Shared Revenue decreased 2.84%. The Computer Aid was pointed out. Registration fees were raised for training. Accounting and Auditing line item was discussed with a budget of \$50,000. It was discussed that it could be high.

It was suggested to put Accounting and Auditing on the list to revisit.

It was noted that EAP was not renewed under contracted services. An HR hotline was added under contracted services.

Kathie then reviewed the City Hall budget. She noted the change in the telephone account. The telephone usage will be split out per department. The miscellaneous supply accounts are now allocated for certain items to better track the expenses. Water and Sewer went up due to the public fire protection. Building Maintenance was increased.

Kathie then reviewed the Risk Management. Kathie noted that premiums did go down in many areas.

Kathie then reviewed the Data Processing Fund. She noted that \$10,000 from the Cable TV Fund is moved to the Data Processing. Data Processing account is allocating to track specific computer repair costs.

Kathie noted there is not a change in the Emergency Government Fund Budget.

Kathie reviewed the City Hall and Mayor Budget. Ald. Hoy suggested a 15% reduction in the Alderperson compensation. Ald. Moede pointed out that it would take an ordinance change. Ald. Smith noted that it was a ridiculous discussion. By state law we cannot vote to change our salary but for the next term. Ald. Smith noted that it would cost to change the ordinance. Ald. Smith noted that everyone has the option to donate as much as they can.

Kathie then noted the city attorney budget of \$50,000. This could be reduced, but there are contract negotiations next year.

It was requested to put the City Attorney and Legal Services on the list to revisit.

The Sr. Citizens Center Budget was discussed. Kathie noted that she brought the rentals down. Ald. Voss stated that when he goes to the meetings they do not want to rent it out to keep it clean. Ald. Voss noted they made money when the Legion rented it for bingo. Ald. Voss noted they used to rent it out a lot for parties. Ald. Voss suggested taking from the janitor account for the cemetery. Kathie stated that two months of the cleaning is paid from fund 72. Ald. Smith suggested that Ald. Voss check into the janitorial service.

It was requested to put the Senior Center Rental and Janitorial Service on the list of items to revisit.

Kathie Wild reviewed the Police & Fire Commission Budget. The postage on this budget did go down.

Kathie pointed out the golf course budget at \$12,280. Kathie stated that she budgeted for the top three items. Vern Hilker had checked on the paving. It was discussed that in general it would be resealed every two or three years.

It was requested to put the Golf Course Maintenance on the list of items to revisit.

Kathie noted that she increased dog and cat revenue and animal control.

Kathie noted no changes on the Health Officer budget.

Kathie reviewed the Assessment Budget. She added in the publication amount.

Kathie included the Library Budget. They basically kept it the same. Ald. Gering noted that the board voted to freeze wages in 2010. Kathie noted the Dodge County Library Fund.

Kathie gave an update on the Tag Center Budget. She discussed a previously distributed memo. Three percent of Mike Kurutz's salary was moved to the Rec League's account from the Tag Center Budget. Tag Center Budget bottom line is \$270,000. \$125,000 will be moved from the general fund for subsidizing.

Ald. Moede introduced the Chamber of Commerce request. Sara Mireski gave a presentation from the report that was previously distributed. Sara noted what the additional \$4,000 would be before. Their rent and utilities will be going up approximately \$1500. The utility is really unknown since it is split among the tenants. Sara also noted the additional costs for their website of \$5,000, a computer tower, and Music on the Rock. Sara noted that the average membership dues from the past six years are \$15,230, average expenses from the past six years are \$33,363. Ald. Smith noted he would like to see Music on the Rock come back. Ald. Smith suggested the Chamber have the same budget as last year or the same with an additional 10%. Ald. Pasbrig noted he agreed with Ald. Smith. Ald. Pasbrig questioned if membership fees would be going up. Sara answered they may go up slightly. Ald. Moede noted he wants to keep it open until the end. Ald. Hoy to keep the same because if you increase the Chamber, then Mainstreet's should be increased also.

It was noted to revisit the Chamber of Commerce request.

A straw poll was taken for how many want to leave the Chamber of Commerce item open for the next meeting. All agreed to leave the item open.

Kathie discussed the spreadsheet showing changes from the previous budget meeting.

It was requested to put the Director of Parks and Recreation insurance on the list to be revisited.

Ald. Voss would like time clocks for people to clock in. He wants to know when people come and go. Ald. Smith noted that good practices are better than trust and that is why we have time clocks. Ald. Smith noted he would rather have a record.

The Graceland Cemetery budget item was discussed. Ald. Smith noted that he does not want City employees working for nothing. Ald. Smith requested that the Cemetery budget remain at \$15,000. Ald. Voss agreed. The end of Carla's testimony she did request the same amount as last year. A straw poll was taken for how many want the Cemetery budget to remain at \$15,000. All agreed for the item to remain at \$15,000.

The Public Works budget was discussed. Ald. Voss noted to increase the wheel tax. Vern Hilker noted that \$90,000 is in the budget for street maintenance. He discussed the graphs that show the street maintenance. Ald. Smith noted to go with Vern Hilker's estimate and recommendation. Ald. Hoy questioned the amount budgeted for Transportation Aids, this item has decreased from last year. Mayor Heron questioned the Landfill Settlement account and how is it funded. Kathie noted that \$15,000 is budgeted. He questioned when was the Fund 22 funded and would it need to be rebuilt. The fund was there to serve a purpose. Ald. Smith noted to keep the fund at \$15,000 to \$20,000. Ald. Moede noted that snow and ice wages went up. It was noted that the wages are allocated to each of the different areas. Overtime for snow was increased by \$1000. Ald. Smith is happy with the public works budget. Straw poll showed that all agreed with the public works budget.

The Police Department budget was discussed. Captain Chris MacNeill was invited to the podium. Ald. Smith asked if there were any answers from questions at the last meeting. Ald. Smith noted that less is budgeted for parking violations and court penalties. Ald. Smith questioned the parking permit item. He questioned the unemployment line item. Ald. Smith questioned subscriptions, memberships, postage looked low, time subscription, air cards or tibrune system, employee travel, lodging and printing. Ald. Smith questioned why there is \$1000 budgeted for printing. Chris noted that some items run out, some change due to laws, and some changes are due to fees changing. Ald. Smith is noting that they are not to the gas yet. Ald. Smith noted that the police budget could be under \$900,000. Ald. Voss stated that he had not seen the police department motorcycle all summer.

Item #5 – Reconvene into Finance Committee.

Motion by Ald. Smith, second by Ald. Hoy to Reconvene into Finance Committee. Motion carried 6-0.

Item #6 – Receive, Consider, and Approve Committee of the Whole Report of Recommendation of 1st Draft of 2010 City Budget.

There were not any motions for a report.

Item #7 Adjournment

Motion by Ald. Smith, second by Ald. Pasbrig to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Deanna Boldrey, City Clerk