

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Hoy at 3:00 p.m. with the following Roll Call:

Members Present: Hoy, Pasbrig, Smith, Moede, Nitschke, Voss

Members Absent:

Others Present: Mayor Heron, Kathie Wild, Shelley Eilbes, Mike Kurutz, Vern Hilker, Bill Linzenmeyer, Chris Macneill, Christine Churchill, Deanna Boldrey, Sue Smith, Sally Kahlhamer, Dena Harris, Sharon Chmielewski, Carla Hagen, Ryan Vossekul, Kyle Parish, Nate Klapatke, Ryan Toellner, Kim Mittelstandt, Dennis Hockers, Bob Trevarthan, Marje Sertich, Andrew Johnson, June Linzenmeyer, Judy Bauer

Ald Hoy requested that item #3 be moved up on the agenda.

Item #3 – Discuss/Recommend Disallowance of Insurance Claim per Recommendation by AEIGIS Corporation.

Shelley explained that our insurance company sent us notice that they are disallowing the claim and that we need to pass a resolution to formally disallow the claim. Motion by Ald. Nitschke, second by Ald. Pasbrig to recommend to council the disallowance of the insurance claim per recommendation by AEIGIS. Motion carried 5-0 with Ald. Smith abstaining.

Item #2-Discuss/Recommend 2009 City Budget.

The Mayor explained that he wanted to announce a topic that has come up but that there couldn't be any discussion on it tonight because it wasn't on the agenda. The Mayor explained that an error was made in the 2003 assessment roll with the TIF. The assessor will be correcting the 2009 assessment values. We haven't received the value of the correction. We are in the fact finding mode. As we find out solid facts we will communicate them.

Ald. Hoy explained that she would like to look at the detailed budget and review some of the changes that were decided upon at the last meeting. She would like the council to try to arrive at a surplus that everyone is comfortable with. Ald. Smith explained that he thought after the last budget meeting that we were waiting on Chief Linzenmeyer to come back with some suggestions to reduce his budget beyond his original request. Ald. Hoy reviewed that after the last meeting a room tax was suggested in which we would need to create an ordinance and pass the ordinance before we could implement the room tax. Other items that were decided at the last meeting were to add back \$2,000 each for the Chamber and Main Street, keep the comptroller/treasurer position at the 75% reduction, add back \$500 for training for the comptroller/treasurer, remove the \$1,800 of insurance for the liquor liability. Shelley also reported that Deanna contacted Green Valley regarding having them come in to do City Hall's cleaning services and that Green Valley only does state contracts. Chief Linzenmeyer explained that they have done some things for efficiencies in the long term. He reported that the items that he came up with were to reduce the overtime budget by \$5,000. He suggested that with the recent change in the city attorney this would bring an estimated \$4,000 in savings. He would be moving his squad car lease into the capital improvements budget which is approx \$8,000 savings. Revenues included increasing court penalties and other fees. Sale of a squad car would be able to generate \$3,000 in revenue. He also explained about a training grant that they receive each year for \$1,800 and also the donation from the school district of \$1,550. He explained that the tax intercept program will assist in our revenues but couldn't determine the exact amount of revenues that this program will generate. He explained that the department has applied for a Walmart grant for the defibulator so the \$1,200 could be added into the police department donations account. He explained that the wheel tax, and being creative with Shelley's position, and diverting some funds from the paving budget were other ways in which the council could look at keeping the officers. Ald. Smith expressed that he was encouraged but disappointed in Chief Linzenmeyer's suggestions. He brought up the wheel reluctantly however he feels it could generate approximately \$50,000-\$75,000 to help with the salt budget. This tax would have to be used for transportation related costs and will be added in Vern's budget. Ald. Smith asked why the Chief didn't address the unneeded and not required training in his budget. The Chief explained that he was not going to be sending Chris to the staff and command training next year. Ald. Smith expressed that if the Chief

couldn't reduce his budget by 3% then the burden in on the rest of the departments. Shelley explained that with all of the items the Chief presented this was approximately \$12,632. It was decided that a straw poll would be taken on the items in the police department budget that were originally cut due to the mayor's 15% reduction request. The first item was to eliminate the crossing guards from the police department budget. The results of the straw poll were Ald. Hoy, Ald. Smith, Ald. Pasbrig, Ald. Voss, Ald. Nitschke and Ald. Moede voting no to eliminating the crossing guards. The next item was to eliminate two officers from the police department budget. The results of the straw poll were Ald. Hoy, Ald. Smith, Ald. Pasbrig, Ald. Voss, Ald. Nitschke and Ald. Moede voting no to eliminating two officers from the police department budget. A straw poll was taken to eliminate one officer from the police department budget and the results were Ald. Hoy, Ald. Smith, Ald. Pasbrig, Ald. Voss, Ald. Nitschke and Ald. Moede voting no to eliminating one officer from the police department budget. Ald. Smith expressed that he wanted the Chief to eliminate a total of \$50,000 from his budget and that he only came up with \$12,000 so he would like to see him eliminate another \$38,000. A straw poll was taken to determine if the Chief was required to eliminate another \$38,000 from his budget. The results were Ald. Voss and Ald. Smith voted yes that he would be required to eliminate an additional \$38,000 from his budget and Ald. Moede, Ald. Hoy, Ald. Pasbrig and Ald. Nitschke voted no that he would not be required to eliminate another \$38,000 from his budget. There was a discussion on the wheel tax. Some council members wanted this tax to be looked at every year to determine the need for it. Kathie explained the rules of the meetings to pass the ordinance and gave an estimated figure that the tax could generate for next year. Vern expressed that because of the cost of asphalt they are not going to get much bang for their buck next year with the paving. He isn't sure of the cost and that they may need to reduce if they want more money in the general fund. There was a discussion to take back out the \$31,500 for paving to reduce the paving account back down to \$8,500. A straw poll was taken and the results were Ald. Voss voting no to reduce the paving account to \$8,500 and Ald. Nitschke, Ald. Pasbrig, Ald. Smith, Ald. Hoy, and Ald. Moede voting yes to reduce the paving account. Shelley estimated the fund balance to be around \$135,596 with all the changes reflected that were discussed. There was some discussion as to if we could start the budget process earlier next year so we weren't in a hurry. The Mayor congratulated the council and the department heads on a good job with the budget. Motion by Ald. Pasbrig, second by Ald. Nitschke to recommend the budget with the proposed changes as discussed to the November 17th budget hearing. Motion carried 6-0.

Item #4 – Adjournment.

Motion by Nitschke, second by Pasbrig to adjourn at 6:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Kathie Wild
City Clerk