

X4-21-20

COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

April 15, 2020 – 4:00 p.m.
City Hall (via video conferencing)

A Council work session was held via video conferencing to discuss the City Manager's proposed 2020-2021 Fiscal Year budget.

Attending: Mayor Bill McMurray and Councilmembers Brenda Blessing, Madison Davis, PJ Kovac, Russell Moore, Brian Meyers, Marty Novak, Kent O'Dell and Gary Roach.

J. Bruce Woody, City Manager; Tom Mahoney, Interim Administrative Services Director; Chris Connally, Police Chief; Mike Dalsing, Fire Chief; Debra Bradley, Health Director; Bryan Carter, City Attorney; Amy Cohorst, Human Resources Director; Mary Robertson, Asst. to City Manager/Communications & Public Relations Manager; Rich Karleskint, Budget & Financial Analyst; Cindy McDermott, Accountant; Paul Flury, Network Administrator; and Paula Heyde, City Clerk.

Mayor Bill McMurray called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Agenda #1 – Review of Health Department budget. Debra Bradley, Health Director, gave an overview of this budget.

Agenda #2 - Review of Police Department Budget. Chris Connally, Police Chief, reviewed the Police Department budget.

Councilmember Gary Roach asked for a list showing the mileage on all police vehicles.

Councilmember Russell Moore asked for a list of those items Chief Connally requested but were not included in the proposed budget and a report on workers compensation claims.

Brad Kerns, Fraternal Order of Police President, said 93% of the membership voted to decline the city manager's proposal of a 1% pay raise and asked the City Council to direct City staff to continue negotiations with the union.

Mr. Woody reviewed the information in an email he sent to the City Council this afternoon in response to a request from the FOP for compensatory time.

Councilmember Madison Davis supported the City Manager's proposal and he would like to know more about the fiscal impact. Councilmembers Moore and Brian Myers agreed. Mayor McMurray asked Mr. Woody to provide the City Council with something it can take a look at.

Mayor McMurray asked if the Councilmembers agreed with City staff continuing negotiations with the FOP. Councilmember Davis would like to work toward some sort of long-term plan that the officers can look for and will be there in the long term. Mayor McMurray and Councilmember Myers agreed.

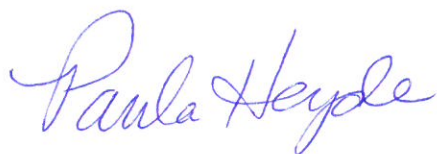
Agenda #3 - Review of the Fire Department budget. Mike Dalsing, Fire Chief, went over some highlights, concerns and challenges in the Fire Department budget.

Councilmember Moore asked for a list of those items Chief Dalsing requested but were not included in the proposed budget.

Mr. Woody reviewed the information requested at the two previous budget review work sessions: 1) Expiration dates of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) projects – provided by email; 2) passing credit card fees on to those that use them to conduct transactions with the City - ordinance on next agenda for first reading; 3) St. Joseph Museums, Inc. budget – provided by email; 4) contact bond counsel regarding possibility of refunding (refinancing) the sewer bonds for a lower interest rate and lower the sewer rate to 0%. He said the amount of funding necessary to do that is approximately \$845,000. He will submit an ordinance proposing the following: 1) \$200,000 – Cell Phone Program fund balance; 2) \$445,000 – General Fund by reducing the franchise fee from the Water Protection Fund to the General Fund; and 3) \$200,000 - charge Landfill Fund for treating leachate.

Councilmember PJ Kovac asked for a list of positions and salary of those positions from St. Joseph Museums, Inc.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.



Minutes transcribed by Paula Heyde, CMC, City Clerk.