

MINUTES BUDGET & FINANCE BOARD

JULY 7, 2020

Chairperson, Jean Soine called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Other members present were Neil Herzberg, Belinda Ludwig, Treasurer/Acting City Administrator, Ron Mergen, Public Works Director/Acting City Administrator, Paul Wegner, Police Chief, and Andy Soine, Fire Chief. Alicia LaBeau was absent.

Motion was made by Mergen to approve the minutes from the March 3, 2020 and April 13, 2020 Budget & Finance Board meetings. Seconded by Herzberg and unanimously carried.

CITY BUILDING INVENTORY CIP

Members reviewed the inventory. The square footage and property values have been added. It was noted this is good information to have as a planning tool.

2021 BUDGET

Members reviewed the preliminary budget noting the following:

- There is no room to cut other than CIP funds
- COVID-19 – the City may be able to collect for some overtime; including Emergency Service Director and Administration staff time in addition to general supplies
- LGA current projection is \$772,124.00 and is subject to change
- Salaries were questioned in 2020, it was noted it was due to Eckerly's payout and wage study
- The budget is currently at a 33% increase
- It was discussed to go in with an unbalanced budget
- All members were to review the budget for further changes and discussion at the next meeting

Department Large Purchases

Public Works:

- Replace the 2011 F250 - water and sewer item
- Replace the 2013 F150 - keep this unit for the part time employees and surplus the 2001 pickup
- Replace the Sitrex mower

All the above items have been budgeted for in the CIP plans.

Fire Department:

- The main purchase will be to upgrade all the SCBA's
- The tanks will expire in 2022 as they were purchased in 2007 with a 15-year certification
- The 2018 cost estimate was \$96,598.00
- The department will want to purchase them all at one time for consistency
- The purchase will be in 2021 or 2022
- The department will be looking for grants for radios

- The small equipment CIP has a total of \$111,000.00
- The main increases in the budget is the Wellness Program and salaries

Police:

- TZD salaries will be separated out as they are reimbursed by a grant
- Reduced the K-9 expenses
- Cut the K-9 out of the CIP budget
- The next squad to be replaced will be in 2023
- Body cameras – the City wants to coincide with what the legislature does
- Stearns county plans to have body cameras in place by 2024 and the City will want to be able to collaborate with them on Watch Guard Program
- Training budget will include de-escalation and diversity training

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.