

**MINUTES
BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE**

AUGUST 13, 2012

Jean Soine called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Other members present were Dennis Zimmerman, Elliott LaBeau, Belinda Ludwig, and Renee Eckerly.

There were no minutes ready for approval.

2013 BUDGET

Eckerly gave a report regarding Stearns County Sheriff Department letter with the change in cost for the transcription and computer input from \$400.00 per month to \$1,000.00 per month. Currently there is a need of \$58,000.00 to balance the budget to equal a 4% levy increase. The budget was updated to reflect the increase. The Committee discussed the number of calls that come into the Police Department. The Local Government Aid (LGA) has been certified by the State for the City at \$679,593.00; however, the budget reflects \$629,593.00. Eckerly has checked with Ron Mergen and neither of them could find any more changes that could be made at this time. The Committee discussed the money that has been received for the lease of the ambulance garage which is \$31,287.77 (to date - end of July). This money is accumulating to be put back in reserves. The Committee reviewed the budget and discussed LGA putting the actual amount certified in the budget since over the past two years the City has received this amount. This would leave a difference of \$8,000 to balance the budget. If the State did reduce the LGA the City had the lease money to fall back on. The Committee agreed to change the LGA amount to the certified amount and monitor the State for any indications they may be looking at reducing that amount.

Motion was made by Eckerly to forward the 2013 preliminary budget with the \$8,000.00 difference and set the preliminary levy at 8% and recommend such to the City Council. Seconded by Zimmerman and passed 4:1 (Zimmerman, yes; Soine, yes; Eckerly, yes; Ludwig, yes; and LaBeau, no).

AUDIT RFP

Eckerly presented a three year service extension proposal from CliftonLarsonAllen at \$20,900.00 for each year, which would be a \$1,200.00 increase from 2011 but this is the same amount of increase over the last three year contract.

Motion was made by Zimmerman to approve the three year service extension proposal by CliftonLarsonAllen forward for \$20,900 for audit years 2012, 2013 and 2014 and recommend such to the City Council. Seconded by Ludwig and unanimously carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m.