

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

Jean Soine called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Other members present were Len Gilmore, Elliot LaBeau, Belinda Ludwig, Finance Specialist; and Renee Eckerly, City Administrator.

There were no minutes to approve.

**2019 PRELIMINARY BUDGET**

The General Fund budget was reviewed including:

- Rental of Buildings revenue – the \$2,400.00 should be a positive number
- Towing & Impound revenue – Increased to \$750.00
- Grant Monies revenue – increased to \$15,000.00 (TZD grant)
- Rental of Land-Farm revenue – decreased \$13,989 due to drop in land rent rate
- Building Permit revenue – made 3 minor increases
- Donations Compost revenue – increased \$500.00
- Special Assessments from County revenue – increased to \$1,500.00
- Sale of Fixed Assets revenue – increased \$2,000.00
- Discussed the importance of getting the St. Cloud and Willmar newspapers but the cost for the St Cloud paper is very high
- Eckerly is to verify the Police wages/benefits
- Police – K9 Expenses – decreased \$15,000.00
- Firefighter wages increase for CALLS from \$10.00 per hour to \$12.00, MEETINGS from \$8.00 per meeting to \$10.00, and TRAININGS from \$10.00 per training to \$12.00
- Streets & Alleys – decreased maintenance and repair of streets by \$1,000.00, need to add amounts for Workers Comp Insurance and Insurance and Bonds, Transfer to Capital Improvement decreased \$5,000.00
- Contact Mergen regarding the 12.84% increase to Transfer to Capital Improvement Street Equipment/Sealcoating
- Beaches – need to add amounts for Workers Comp Insurance and Insurance and Bonds
- Municipal Parks – need to add amounts for Workers Comp Insurance and Insurance and Bonds
- Airport – need to add amounts for Workers Comp Insurance and Insurance and Bonds

**Motion was made by Soine to increase the downtown snow removal to \$1.50 per linear foot and recommend such to the City Council. Seconded by Gilmore and unanimously carried.**

Eckerly reported that in the past the City Council has approved the preliminary levy at 8% because this is the highest point that the final levy can be certified for and no one knows what can happen between now and December 10, 2018. The Committee discuss going in at 6% or 8%.

**Motion was made by LaBeau to set the preliminary 2019 levy amount at 6% and recommend such to the City Council. Seconded by Soine and motion passed 3 to 2 (Soine, yes; LaBeau, yes; Gilmore, yes; Ludwig, no, and Eckerly, no).**

The Committee reopened the discussion of the wages for the Mayor and City Council since this has to be set prior to the November 6, 2018 election for 2019 and 2020. On July 10, 2018, the Budget & Finance Committee recommend no increase in salary for the Mayor and City Council.

**Motion was made by LaBeau to recommend a 2% increase in salary for the Mayor and City Council for 2019 and 2020. The motion died due to a lack of a second.**

**Motion was made by Soine for a 1% increase in salary for the Mayor and City Council for 2019 and 2020 and recommend such to the City Council. Seconded by Eckerly and motion passed unanimously.**

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