

OCTOBER 7, 2015 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

2:30 p.m. Council Chamber. Members present: K. Brown, M. Hraban, M. Platteter. Others present: A. Christianson, H. Helmecci, K. Julien, A. Lobermeier, T. Verdegan.

Call to Order:

Committee Chair Brown called the meeting to order.

Minutes:

Motion was made by Platteter, seconded by Hraban and carried by voice vote to approve minutes of the September 8, Committee meeting.

2016 Budget:

Those present reviewed a Draft 2016 General Operations Budget summary, which Comptroller Verdegan had prepared to incorporate recommendations made at the September 8, meeting. The Comptroller reviewed those changes and any others made since, such as the County Auditor's request that \$5,875 be added to the City contribution toward animal control costs. Another is that the City will receive a \$25,764.81 State check in 2015 as it qualified under the Expenditure Restraint Program.

Comptroller Verdegan called attention to the current positive differential of \$11,292 between currently anticipated revenues of \$4,581,791 and currently anticipated expenditures of \$4,570,499. She recommended that this not be applied as final quotes for property and health insurances haven't been received and plugged in as yet. It may be a couple weeks before they are.

New Construction

The City is eligible to add \$4,429 in new taxes owing to net new construction in the City.

Squad Car

LPD feels it needs to purchase a used Equinox or similar style vehicle "off the lot" before long and to take two older squads out of service. They want vehicles to be dependable when the occasional emergency call comes. Making the purchase at the end of 2015 and paying for it early in 2016 may work. It was noted that Osseo uses new Ford pickups for squads and that Shell Lake uses new Dodge pickups. Although a couple ways to cover this cost were mentioned no recommendation was made.

Street Work

The importance of identifying funding for street work was mentioned. Some residents have stated they are willing to pay tax increases if they see street improvements being made. Mr. Brown will advise Morgan & Parmely that it is the City's preference to rebuild the entire 400 block of Corbett Ave. W.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, October 28th at 2:30 p.m. was tentatively identified as a next meeting date. Insurance quotes should be in by then. The budget hearing notice needs to be in the official newspaper by November 11th if the City if to hold the hearing at its second meeting in November as usual, which will be on the 23rd.