

Special City Council
Budget Meeting Minutes
Wed., Aug. 24, 2005
6:30 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Joy Bertsinger called the meeting to order at 6:40PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Kevin McDermott, Joy Bertsinger, Jackie Hall, Tom Novak, Clerk Nymann, Delbert Holt, Gwen Holt, Adam Brase, Dennis Blanck, Mary Lubahn, Paul Pendergrass

Absent: Scott Keigley

III. BUDGET

Bertsinger stated that this meeting is to go over the budget with the representatives from the departments that are here, and the city will fine tune it at a later meeting.

FIRE DEPARATMENT – Delbert Holt

The following is what was discussed with Council and requested by Fire Department:

- ⇒ Looking at replacing the Blazer (which the DNR owns) in a cooperative purchase with the 1st Responders. They are considering a 4 wheel drive, 1 ton with cover. It was suggested to take a look at the rack with compartments up at the city shop for their truck.
- ⇒ The furnace may need to be replaced.
- ⇒ Capital Outlay increased (due to increase with radios, turn out gear & truck replacement)
- ⇒ Significant decrease in conferences
- ⇒ Increase in fuel for trucks
- ⇒ Suggested increase in Insurance if new truck is purchased.
- ⇒ Utilities increase
- ⇒ Relief assoc. contribution increased, but a wash because that's a rev. source also.
- ⇒ Total of \$43,325 would be approximately a 15% increase over last year's budget.
- ⇒ Novak suggested lumping EOC expenses into FD expenses; they need to remain separate.

PARKS & TRAILS – Adam Brase

The following is what was discussed with Council and requested by Parks & Trails Committee:

- ◆ There is an individual lined up to do a recreation program for next year. Looking at a youth ball program, as well as an adult ball league.
- ◆ The meeting with the DNR went very well, and they are very interested, but they having matching grants (they will match the dollars the City puts in to park and trail improvements).
- ◆ Cost estimate for trails is 1 mile of completed trail would cost \$50,000. It was suggested that this committee could work with college students to do a long range plan with a cost estimate.
- ◆ Requested \$26,000 in Capital Outlay and decrease recreational activities by \$200 for a total budget of \$28,000.
- ◆ The Parks Committee has received \$10,000 from DOGR Committee, \$27,000 from sale of a portion of the west side park property, \$12,000 dedicated from administrative fees from Briggs & Morgan, \$6,000 earmarked from the City and have applied for 2 grants, one from People's Co-Op and another from the Greater Rochester Area Foundation.
- ◆ Bertsinger suggested Parks Committee approach Gold Rush Committee again.
- ◆ Total of \$28,000 would be approximately an 875% increase over last year's budget.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER – Dennis Blanck

The following is what was discussed with Council and requested by the EOC:

- The siren is now paid off. That money will actually be absorbed back into the general fund.
- Communication expenses decreased, everything else remained the same.
- Dennis requested that the supply money be put toward a salary for the EOC director. And Dennis would be willing to purchase what little supplies needed on his own. He has meetings with the fire department on a monthly basis (Dennis is also a member of the fire Department). The Pine Island EOC Director now gets \$500 a year for that position. Novak thought it was well worth the cost to pay for the EOC director's position.
- Clerk Nymann stated that if the Council approves paid position for the EOC Director, it would have to be done via an Ordinance.
- It was also mentioned that Dave Carr, Olmsted County Emergency Director, will be retiring at the end of this year.
- The fire chief is currently reimbursed \$400/yr., the assistant \$200/yr. and they all receive \$5 per training and per call during the year.
- Total of \$730 would be approximately an 85% decrease from last year's budget.

1st RESPONDERS – Gwen Holt, Mary Lubahn

The following is what was discussed with Council and requested by the 1st Responders:

- They haven't used much money in their budget yet this year because they are waiting for the group buy this fall from the consortium.
- With the Hwy. 52 Project, the 1st Responders would like to leave a vehicle on the west side of the highway. However, this would mean purchasing more equipment. This vehicle would not be a replacement for and not used for transport, but be on site until the emergency vehicles arrived. This would be the shared vehicle with the Fire Department.
- Insurance would obviously increase.
- They average 7-8 runs per month. They would like to see an increase in the Director and Asst. Directors Salaries, as well as an increase in the run charges (from \$5/run to \$8/run); so it would be comparable to the fire departments.
- They would like to increase the request for money from the township. (Probably from \$4,000 to \$4,750). That money does not come through the general fund, but goes straight into the 1st Responder Special Fund).
- Total of \$16,215 would be approximately a 7% increase from last year's budget.

Council break at 7:50PM

Council called back to order at 8PM

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE – Paul Pendergrass

The following is what was discussed with Council and requested by Planning & Zoning Committee:

- ✓ There are extraordinary fees in this year's budget due to the Shoreland Ordinance (which cost \$7,907.50). The remainder \$252.95 is a total for maps and workshops). The Clerk will separate these items out in the budget.
- ✓ P & Z will be working on Ordinances next year. Also, with the Highway 52 project there may be some land issues that arise.
- ✓ It was clarified that Ordinance publication is a separate line item under Legal Notices, and not taken out of this budget.
- ✓ Suggested increase in P& Z of \$500, and double the Ordinance Expense.
- ✓ Total of \$5,000 would be approximately a 66% increase from last year's budget.

REVENUES:

Council discussion on the following revenues:

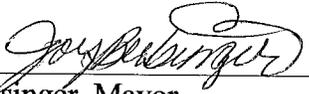
- Addition of passport fees to the budget \$120.00
- Room Rental Increase because of Dog Class, and increase in use to \$2,000.
- Increase fines & penalties to \$500
- Increase interest earning to \$3,0000
- Fire State Aid has increased over the past several years because of increase in number of homes being insured in the City. Increase to \$8,000 (this is a wash with the expenses).
- LGA increased to \$71,671
- Maintenance agreements increased to \$7,000
- PERA increase to \$900
- Council should consider increasing cost of building and zoning permits because expenses for these are currently not being covered. The Ordinance would need to be changed. Clerk will work on this. Gathering permits increased substantially because DOGR may charge residents who rent out property during the event for a gathering license.
- Addition of franchise fees (from PI telephone).
- Well Agreement added to revenues.
- Property taxes increased by 13,557 due to new homes added to tax base.
- Total revenues increased \$27,492 (7.5%) from last year's budget.

The remainder of the budget, and fine tuning of what was requested from tonight's meeting will occur at the next special council budget meeting on Wednesday, September 7th at 6:30PM.

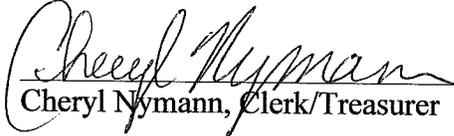
IV. ADJOURNMENT

Bertsinger motioned to adjourn at 9:05PM, McDermott second; all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:



Joy Bertsinger, Mayor



Cheryl Nymann, Clerk/Treasurer