

**City of Oronoco**  
**Special City Council Meeting Agenda**  
**September 3, 2020**  
**6:00 PM**

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Roll Call**

Mayor Ryland Eichhorst, Councilor Lori Novak, Councilor Nancy Quimby, Councilor Trish Shields-arrived late.

**III. Approve Agenda**

Mayor Ryland Eichhorst explains we have the budget to review and then discuss Audio Equipment for the CARES Act.

Mayor Ryland Eichhorst motions to approve Agenda, Councilor Lori Novak seconds it. All in favor, 3 – 0. Approved

**IV. Budget Workshop for 2021**

Mayor Ryland Eichhorst hands out a draft of figures for what the City of Oronoco will levy to Council members for discussion. Mayor Ryland Eichhorst stated himself and City Clerk went through the budget Tuesday morning and then today we had Mike Bubany joined us. \$200,000 is dedicated for Capital Improvements Project (CIP) Fund.

First, we came up with proposed expenditures for 2021 of \$1,109,715. Then reviewed the Revenue, \$215,409.00 less estimated 2021 Property Tax Revenue. That generated an figure of \$894,306.00 for the General Fund Levy vs this years General Fund Levy of \$795,700 which includes a CIP fund figure of \$195,700.00. The proposed Preliminary Total Levy is \$937,639.00, which includes \$894,306.00 for the General Fund Levy, \$32,050.00 for the CIP Go Bond 2013 (Shop) and \$11,283.00 for GO Bond 2017 (Zumbro Hills Road).

Mayor Ryland Eichhorst reviewed the proposed expenditures in detail. He states we can see prior year and what we budgeted for in 2020 and we can see in column next to it what we have used through July of this year. Councilor Lori Novak asked if we were going to ever increase compensation for the Mayor and Council members. Councilor Nancy Quimby stated the same that they put in so much work and they get little back. Council discussed maximum cap for meetings at sixty. City staff will survey other towns our size around us and come back to the next City Council meeting in October.

Mayor Ryland Eichhorst stated you will see increase in Conferences, lodges, webinars, schooling and training.

Cell Phone line expenditures increased due to adding cell stipend to all Employees earlier this year. We increased Health Insurance benefits which include proposed Dental insurance for staff. We did increase Sheriff Contract slightly but will confirm with Olmsted County. Public Works has an increase for a new lawnmower, and locator. Dan Sundt has requested increase for clothing, and Protective Equipment for the Fire Department.

Mayor Ryland Eichhorst stated we allocated \$75,000.00 because 2021 is a seal coating year. Mayor Ryland Eichhorst stated we kept supplies the same at the Community Center. Mayor Ryland Eichhorst stated Dan's salary is on Grounds and Maintenance. Jim's salary is on Parks.

Mike Bubany suggested we show on a line item of \$200,000.00 transferring out, as part of our Expenditures.

Councilor Trish Shields states we frequently used the CIP and she wants to make sure that stays there.

Mayor Ryland Eichhorst stated we have two bonds left and one will be paid off in January 2021.

Mike is estimating the 2021 Net Tax Capacity at \$2,370,000.00. This up 4.1% from 2020.

Proposed 2021 Tax Rate is 0.396 vs this years Tax Rate of 0.369, a 2.7% increase. Mayor Ryland Eichhorst states we have the lowest tax bracket in Olmsted County. Councilor Trish Shields asked about updates on Oronoco Park and Mayor Ryland Eichhorst stated it was discussed that it would come out of CIP Fund. Mayor Ryland Eichhorst stated he penciled in \$90,000 of CIP toward Parks.

#### V. **Audio/Video update for Council room – CARES Funding**

Mayor Ryland Eichhorst stated the next item is the Sound and Media quote for our Council Chambers. A quote from Sound and Media share a quote of \$57,969.87 for new microphones, audio equipment, cameras, recording and streaming equipment.

We had him quote us in May, for far less but it wasn't a quote that would support Zoom or live streaming of our meetings with an exceptional sounds system. We have discussed with him in full length the needs for our City, and how due to the pandemic and desire to live stream and let residents watch our meetings there is a significant increase in cost. He stated all the smaller communities surrounding us are using CARES ACT money for this to update their Council chambers. We will be able to interface with Zoom and have new wiring TV's and so on. We have a resolution we would need to sign and get equipment ordered and it must be installed by November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 in order to use CARES ACT funding.

Councilor Trish Shields states she doesn't want speakers so the Public can hear every single thing. Councilor Lori Novak stated that is the point of audio, we are supposed to be transparent with the Public and we are in a public seat and office. Councilor Trish Shields states there is time she doesn't feel comfortable sharing things with the public. Councilor Lori Novak states everything with our City and Council is public unless we are in a closed meeting. Council continued the discussion over public and speakers.

Councilor Lori Novak stated in the past year in a half there was a lot of crazy meetings that have happen and she feels if we have good audio it will be for the best it makes people be more cautious.

Councilor Trish Shields thinks even when discussion is oppositional, it's healthy discussion.

Councilor Trish Shields stated that is why we are five, it's to look at things in different views.

Councilor Trish Shields just stated she was uncomfortable with the Public hearing every single thing.

Mayor Ryland Eichhorst makes a motion to approve 2020-08 Resolution with the quote of \$57,969.87 from the CARES Act funds. Councilor Trish Shields seconds for discussion.

Councilor Trish Shields stated she would like microphones that can be shut off. Councilor Trish Shields wants microphones to be silenced from time to time. Mayor Ryland Eichhorst called Eric from the quote to ask if Microphones can be shut off or muted or paused during the Closed Meetings. Mayor Ryland Eichhorst stated it's going to be a positive change and feels the residents will benefit from this more then anyone.

The resolution requires a voice vote.

Mayor Ryland Eichhorst, Councilor Lori Novak, Councilor Nancy Quimby, and Councilor Trish Shields – All Voice vote. 4 – 0.

Motion carried.

**VI. Adjournment**

Councilor Trish Shields motion to adjourn, Councilor Lori Novak seconds it. All in favor 4-0.  
Approved.

Meeting adjourn at 7:03 PM