

The City Council of the City of Anamosa met in a Special Session this February 2, 2009 in the Meeting Room at the Anamosa Library at 6:00 p.m. with Bill Feldmann, Danny Young, Brian Harmon, Dennis Hansen, Brady Reynolds and Tom Swisher present. Absent: Mayor Jon Hatcher. Mayor Pro Tem Danny Young presided. Also present were Patrick Callahan, City Administrator, Tammy Coons, City Clerk; Larry Driscoll, Public Works Director; Matt Menard, Police Chief; Police Officers Amy Ford, Jeff Frankfurt, Dave Burkholder and Reenie Breyer; Warren Spurgeon, Parks & Recreation Director; Marge Folkerts, Librarian and Diane First, President of Anamosa Library Board . Guests Present: None. Mayor Pro Tem Danny Young called the special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken with a quorum present.

General Overview of City Budget

Pat stated all salaries in the preliminary budget for F.Y. 2009-10 are frozen across the board except for the departments that have a schedule of step increases. He explained that there is a projected 30% increase in employee health insurance costs. Another big increase is the insurance, workman's compensation, property and liability, which reflects a 10% increase in workman's compensation and all other categories reflect a modest increase. Pat stated that there is no significant increase in the projected cost of utilities. He also reviewed the 4% increase in property tax, which is due to the slight upturn in the rollback amount. No other projected revenues reflected much of change.

Pat stated that in order to balance F.Y. 2009-10 budget, there would need to be some major adjustments. There are very few capital projects in the initial budget proposal. He stated that any capital projects would need to be funded with LOT funds or some type of debt. He then reviewed the summary of tax money needed to fund the departments and that the bottom line is that the General Fund will be short \$160,147. Pat then reviewed the total tax levies by category, showing the total levy amount, which is slightly lower than last year due to the retirement of several G.O. debts.

Police Budget

Pat reviewed the following requests made by the Police Officers – 1) A shift differential for the 2nd shift. 2) A longevity payment for years of employment. Pat stated that the officers present at tonight's meeting are requesting that the Council approve maintaining all seven officer positions.

Matt Menard stated that he is proposing to keep the majority of the F.Y. 2009-10 budget the same as this year, but increasing the software maintenance by \$1,100 increasing the maintenance contract on the defibrulators and offsite back up service. Matt explained that the \$8,000 expenditure for JCERT will be offset by a \$6,000 cost share payment from other participating entities. This will be reflected on the revenue side. Matt is also asking for an increase in the mowing related nuisance abatement, as this was not budgeted in the current budget. He also offered to move the Police Department back to City Hall, on the north side, as long as they could use the office that Local Access currently uses.

Officers Amy Ford, Jeff Frankfurt, Dave Burkholder and Reserve Officer Reenie Breyer addressed the Council asking that all seven positions in the Police Department be filled and maintained as a cut in positions could cause safety issues for the officers. Discussion followed.

Bill Feldmann stated that with the status of the shortfall in the proposed budget, it may be hard to implement the shift differential and longevity payments as requested by the officers. More discussion followed.

Library Budget

Diane First, President of the Anamosa Library Board reviewed the proposed Library budget for F.Y. 2009-10 stating that some revisions had been made. She reviewed the activities, services and projects that the Library provides. She stated that the total tax asking from the City is the same as the current fiscal year, \$121,211. Discussion followed. Danny mentioned the salary increases and the use of LOT money in the proposed budget.

Parks & Recreation Budget

Warren reviewed that there were no salary increases or capital projects listed in the proposed budget. He also stated that the proposed budget was very close to this year's budget. Tammy clarified that the salary budgeted amount for the Recreation Department could be removed from the total as the umpires and coaches were not paid under these line items, rather through the payables area, which is already reflected in a separate line item. Discussion followed.

Public Works Department Budgets

Streets – Pat reviewed that there are 4 full time employees budgeted in the salaries along with 25% of Larry’s salary.

Bill Feldmann asked if the current RUT debt could be refinanced as a G.O. debt to free up RUT money for the streets. Pat stated yes that could be done. Discussion was held on the G.O. debt levy and the RUT funds.

Larry reviewed the changes to the Street Department’s budget. He also asked that each department be allocated their share of the expenses associated with parking lot snow removal, material only. Discussion followed.

Water – Larry reviewed the Water Department budget and the changes made in that department. Discussion followed. Larry asked if the vacant position in the Water/WWTR could be filled in F.Y. 2009-10. More discussion followed.

Wastewater – Larry reviewed the proposed Wastewater Department budget and the needed projects in that department. Discussion followed.

Fire Department Budget

Pat reviewed the Fire Department budget stating that it was pretty much the same as the current year’s budget, except for the increase in the workman’s compensation insurance premium.

Local Access Budget

Pat stated that the Local Access budget is also pretty much the same as the current year’s budget and is self funded through the use of Cable Franchise revenues and the reserves remaining from the split from Monticello.

Debt Service Budget

Pat asked that the Council take the handouts and the packet home for the budget for individual review. He then gave an overview of the debt service levy.

General Administration Budget

Pat quickly reviewed a few specific items in the General Administration budget and asked the Council to review this budget before the next budget meeting. Discussion followed.

Adjournment

Motion by Feldmann, second by Harmon to adjourn at 9:17 p.m. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Danny Young, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

Tammy Coons, City Clerk