

**WORTHINGTON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING, MARCH 1, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m. in City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Alan E. Oberloh with the following Aldermen present: Mike Kuhle, Scott Nelson, Ron Wood, Mike Woll. Aldermen absent: Lyle Ten Haken (excused). Honorary Council Member: Lon Lien.

Staff present: Craig Clark, City Administrator; Brian Kolander, Finance Director; Janice Oberloh, City Clerk.

Others present: Laura Grevis, Daily Globe.

BUDGET

Craig Clark, City Administrator, reviewed a list of possible suggestions for cutting the City's 2010 and beyond budgets in an effort to deal with the Governor's proposed additional LGA unallotments. Mr. Clark noted the City is facing an additional \$474,000 cut from the 2010 budget, and more in 2011. The Items discussed included:

- Eliminate the additional Planner position
- Health Insurance Savings resulting from reduced premiums
- Eliminate the 50% City contribution to the School Liaison Officer
- Not replace a police officer (9 months)
- Move the remaining Economic Development Levy funds into the General Levy
- Reduce the pool maintenance contribution from \$120,000 to \$40,000
- Implement the Street Lighting Utility sooner
- Reduce the overlay program
- One-time use of Liquor Store unreserved fund balance
- Cash from TIF (Thompson)

Total savings could be \$635,000.

Also discussed was the elimination of the City providing and maintaining the down town flowers, which Mr. Clark noted would be planted soon so if they were to be eliminated the decision should be made soon, the City's contribution to the Health Insurance plan and the deductible, a hiring freeze, overtime, PTO, time management issues, contracted services, and reductions in services, programs, etc.

While acknowledging Council's desire to maintain the lowest levy possible, Mr. Clark encouraged them to take a look at the revenue left on the table by not capitalizing on the tax capacity when setting the levy each year. Mayor Oberloh also inquired if early retirement incentives would be something to look at.

Alderman Woll stated that, due to timing issues, he moved to eliminate the downtown flowers from the City's budget and to go with a "3 inch" snowfall removal rule, and that removal be done within

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normal working hours. The motion was seconded by Alderman Wood and unanimously carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion was made by Alderman Wood, seconded by Alderman Woll and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 a.m.

Janice Oberloh
City of Worthington