

**WORTHINGTON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING (BUDGET), AUGUST 21, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 a.m. in City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Alan E. Oberloh with the following Aldermen present: Lyle Ten Haken, Mike Woll, Ron Wood, Mike Kuhle, Bob Petrich.

Staff present: Gary Hoffmann, Interim Administrator; Brian Kolander; Finance Director, Jim Laffrenzen, Director of Public Works; Janice Oberloh, City Clerk; Scott Rosenberg, Park Superintendent (6:55 a.m.), Alice Hoffmann and Kevin Black, Prairie View (7:30 a.m.).

Others present: none.

Brian Kolander, Finance Director, gave an explanation of the levy limits set for 2009, noting we have an extraordinarily large cut to make the first time around. Council determined that instead of cutting as we go along they would meet with department heads to hear their information and then start the cutting process.

BUDGET DISCUSSION PUBLIC WORKS

Jim Laffrenzen reviewed the Public Works budget with Council noting the only increase in the operating budget were for salaries. Mr. Laffrenzen talked with Council about the impact of separate buildings for his department, minimum wage increases and the four-day, nine-hour work week has had on his department budget. He added that they would be requesting Council approval of extending the MOU for the summer hours through September, 2008.

The Equipment Revolving Schedule was discussed, with plans to replace two dump trucks, one identical to the plow purchased last year, which only needs one operator. Mr. Laffrenzen reminded Council that with the new developments there will be additional streets to plow.

The city-wide clean up went well and 100% of those costs are recovered. Alderman Kuhle initiated a discussion on mosquito control in the city. Mr. Laffrenzen will put something together that could be presented to the Health Care Foundation for disease control. He briefly touched on costs associated with enforcement by the Neighborhood Services Officer. Also, significant increases in salt costs will be seen, largely due to the increased fuel costs. Rip-wrap at Slater Park will not be done this year, but Council was in agreement that the Lake Improvement Committee should have input on these projects. Fireworks costs will be up 30% next year. Alderman Woll noted that the Chamber of Commerce currently contributes half of those costs, but they were looking a swapping that out to use those funds for the promotion of the half-cent sales tax as the City cannot expend dollars for that promotion.

Parks - They are looking to purchase 30 more of the blue trash cans, which have been working very well and have cut down on collection time. A lengthy discussion was held on trimming trees around the lake and the impact it has on the shoreline. Alderman Wood requested that the Finance Director provide a list of percentages of levy increase based on department budgets. Mr. Laffrenzen noted

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we can't change fixed costs.

Due to time constraints, at 8:21 a.m., a motion was made by Alderman Wood, seconded by Alderman Woll and unanimously carried to continue the meeting to 6:30 a.m. on Monday, August 25th.

Janice Oberloh
City Clerk

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