

**WORTHINGTON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING, SEPTEMBER 2, 2009**

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 Kuhle, Scott Nelson, Ron Wood, Mike Woll.

2010 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Council and discussed the following 2010 budgets with various staff members:

Prairie View Golf Links

Alice Hoffman and Kevin Black were at the meeting to provide information on the Prairie View budget. Revenues from green fees, carts, and daily fees were down. Ms. Hoffman also noted memberships were down, 112 in 2009 compared to 131 in 2008. The steak fries have had good turn outs, with 65-70 people in attendance. Daily traffic has been up, and the Advisory Board is looking at raising green fees to make memberships more attractive. Operating budget has been reduced by \$40,400 from last year.

Kevin Black noted fuel costs are down and he also dropped chemical costs by \$2,000. Alderman Ten Haken complimented Mr. Black on turning out a great product at Prairie View. The ERS for 2010 includes an add to reserve amount of \$27,607 for greens mowers. Mayor Oberloh stated he hoped there would be no equipment purchased until the survey information comes back.

Public Works Department

Jim Laffrenzen, Public Works Director, distributed information regarding his 2010 budget, noting personnel costs were up in Public Works due to correcting the allocation of his hours for the airport, which had been over stated. He also discussed the use of part time employees for the Park Department, noting they are a great asset but it is getting harder to find qualified applicants. He will continue to work with them, as they are cost effective. There is an anticipated retirement of a full time employee, and staff will evaluate filling the position with a part time employee. Mr. Laffrenzen said he was requesting continuation of the summer work schedule. Discussion was also held on closing of the outdoor pool and its impact on the budget. The State Contract for 2010 is less than 2009, however, Mr. Laffrenzen noted his only planned equipment purchase in 2010 are two box blades.

Airport

The Advisory Board is going to be recommending to Council an increase in the private hangar rents. Farmland rents were up slightly due to the 17/35 project. Mr. Laffrenzen noted the economy has affected fuel sales at the airport, and insurance costs have increased significantly. Personnel costs reflect the re-allocation of Mr. Laffrenzen's hours. Maintenance costs should be down as a reflection of the new lighting with the 17/35 project.

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The credit card control machine will no longer accept cards after June 2010 due to heightened measures to prevent identify theft. Two quotes have been received, the first from a firm in Mankato for \$25,000 and the second more favorable quote from a firm in Sioux Falls, SD for \$18,000. It's anticipated this will be a state funded project but the decision has not yet been made.

Council requested that Mr. Laffrenzen and Scott Rosenberg return to tomorrow's meeting to finish their budget discussion.

Council set the time and date for an additional budget meeting as 6:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 10, 2009.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion was made by Alderman Ten Haken, seconded by Alderman Nelson and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 a.m.

Janice Oberloh
City Clerk