

**WORTHINGTON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING, OCTOBER 17, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Mike Kuhle with the following Council Members present: Alan Oberloh, Chad Cummings, Mike Harmon. Honorary Council Member: McNay Nkashama. Council Members absent: Amy Ernst, Larry Janssen (excused).

Staff present: Steve Robinson, City Administrator; Brian Kolander, Finance Director; Jason Brisson, Director of Community Development, Planning, Zoning and Building Services; Todd Wietzema, Public Works Director; Janice Oberloh, City Clerk; Dwayne Hafffield, Director of Engineering.

Others present: Jay Milbrandt; Dan Livdahl; Alyssa Sobotka, The Globe.

Mayor Kuhle welcomed McNay Nkashama as the Honorary Council Member for October, November and December 2018.

CARP POPULATION CONTROL

Dan Livdahl and Jay Milbrandt were present at the meeting to present and discuss information regarding a carp control program for Lake Okabena. Two surveys on the lake showed a carp biomass of approximately three times higher than the goal for good water quality. Approximately 179,000 pounds of carp need to be removed from the lake to meet the water quality goal. Mr. Livdahl said a full lake draw down was not an option here because of the recreation on the lake.

The program would include population assessment, population tracking, removals, aging, and implementing controls - blocking access to reproduction sites, stocking predator fish and installing aeration. A proposal was received from Wenck Associates, Inc. for implementation of the program which included 2019 - 2020 budget of \$52,000. Staff noted there is currently \$326,000 plus in the lake fund, with an additional \$85,000 to be added in 2018. Discussion was held on potential partners for funding and on-going management.

Following discussion, the motion was made by Council Member Oberloh and seconded by Council Member Cummings to commit \$52,000 of the 2019 clean water budget for the carp management program. Dwayne Hafffield, Director of Engineering, noted that protocol would be for the Clean Water Partnership to bring forward a recommendation to Council, and they should be meeting soon. Council Members Oberloh and Cummings amended their motion and second to include that it be subject to the Clean Water Partnership's recommendation to move forward, and that they continue to look for partners for the program. The motion was unanimously carried.

2019 STORM WATER BUDGET APPROVED

Staff presented the proposed 2019 Storm Water Budget for Council consideration. Dwayne Hafffield, Director of Engineering, said the budget requires \$659,613 in utility operating revenue, or \$25,885 more than the 2018 budget. The major budget changes include the addition of debt service payments

(2019 interest payment and increase in reserve for early 2020 P&I payment) and a partially offsetting decrease in the amount set aside (increase in reserves) for capital improvements. The debt service is that associated with the financing of a portion of the County Ditch 12 Flood Mitigation project.

The base rate (annual residential rate per acre) required to meet the 2019 revenue requirements is \$276.00, or a 4.55% increase over the current residential rate of \$264.00 per acre. Mr. Haffield said if Council would choose to go with the proposed budget Staff would need to bring back a proposed ordinance for the new rate. He also reminded Council that they have the option of adopting an ordinance that would allow for these rate increases to be approved by resolution instead of by ordinance as has been done since 2003.

Council could look at variations of the proposed increase, which if adopted, would generate \$17,666 in reserves for capital improvements. It was noted that we are losing ground on our storm water reserves every year. Reserves are currently well over \$1 million, but with \$780,000 of that being committed to the County Ditch 12 project, they are projecting just over \$200,000 to be left in reserves. Mr. Haffield stated that following approval, the ordinance readings need to be started so they can be completed for implementation at the first of the year.

Following discussion, the motion was made by Council Member Cummings and seconded by Council Member Harmon to approve the 2019 Storm Water budget utilizing a 4.55% storm water utility rate increase. Council Member Oberloh expressed concern that a full Council was not in attendance for approving the increase. Mr. Haffield said Council could amend the ordinance at the time it is presented for a first reading if there was objection to that rate. The motion was unanimously carried.

DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

Staff was requesting that Council declare an 8-door cooler and a 13-door cooler from the former liquor store as surplus property, and to authorize disposal of them via Sale by Quotation. Steve Robinson, City Administrator, said the request is per the City's Property Disposal Policy. Estimated value of the coolers is less than 10,000.

Council Member Oberloh stated that when Council authorized purchase of the coolers, it was because they were going to be moved to the new liquor store when the time came. Mr. Robinson said that doing so would have meant the Liquor Store would have been closed for weeks to accommodate that move, adding that, what Council was told was not practical. Council Member Oberloh requested information on the original cost of the subject coolers, their age, and if they were depreciated out, which would make this more acceptable.

Following discussion, Council determined to take no action on this until the information could be provided.

FRIDAY AFTER THANKSGIVING

Steve Robinson, City Administrator, said the Friday after Thanksgiving issue came up with our employee compensation committee some months back. That Friday is not a legal holiday within the City of Worthington, however, we have officially closed the offices on that day in the past. We can't force employees to take that time off and use PTO or unpaid as it is not an official holiday, so have also allowed employees to work that day but no public business could be transacted. Concerns were raised that we had people working unsupervised, and for shop workers there may be injury concerns. The City adopted the resolution in 2004 declaring that the Friday after Thanksgiving is not an official holiday. Mr. Robinson said they went to the employees last year when they were entering into negotiations with the idea that the current floating holiday would cease to exist, and instead the Friday after Thanksgiving would be come an official holiday. The 49r's accepted the proposal, however the LELS groups did not. Mr. Robinson pointed out that the LELS groups would have people working on that day regardless. If approved, the change would be implemented January 1, 2019.

The motion was made by Council Member Oberloh, seconded by Council Member Harmon and unanimously carried to move forward with declaring the Friday immediately following Thanksgiving as a legal holiday for the City.

DECEMBER 24, 2018 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The second regular City Council meeting in December falls on December 24th, Christmas Eve day, and per the Employee Handbook, City offices close early that day for the holiday. Staff was requesting that Council determine the rescheduling or cancellation of the December 24th meeting.

Following discussion on options, the motion was made by Council Member Oberloh, seconded by Council Member Cummings and unanimously carried to set Tuesday, December 26, 2018 as the tentative date for the second meeting in December.

Should there be no business to bring before Council, the meeting may be cancelled.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion was made by Council Member Cummings, seconded by Council Member Harmon and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:38 p.m.

Janice Oberloh, MCMC
City Clerk