

**WORTHINGTON CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING, OCTOBER 30, 2012**

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: Lyle Ten Haken, Mike Kuhle, Scott Nelson, Mike Woll. Council Members absent: Ron Wood (excused).

Staff present: Craig Clark, City Administrator; Brian Kolander, Finance Director; Brad Chapulis, Director of Community/Economic Development; Dwayne Haffield, Director of Engineering; Janice Oberloh, City Clerk; Dan Wycoff, Liquor Store Manager (7:30 a.m.).

Others present: Kayla Strayer, Daily Globe; Chris Witzel, WREDC; Glenn Thuringer (7:12 p.m.).

**BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Storm Water - Dwayne Haffield, Director of Engineering, reported that there was not a lot of change, the biggest was regarding street sweeping. Mr. Haffield said the sweepings were going to the tree dump but should actually be classified as garbage with all the dirt and dust in them. Discussion was held on the potential of screening the sweepings before hauling them to the land fill to save costs. The big item for the capital improvements budget is to put aside \$250,000 for land acquisition and some of the County Ditch 12 improvements. What they're proposing at this point in the budget is to use reserves as there is a fair amount of reserves accumulated from budget under runs. Mr. Haffield said they also wanted to discuss a potential rate increase as the capital improvements are not always going to stay down, and there is no other commitment to increase those reserves, should a moderate increase be considered to offset the \$250,000 draw down. Mr. Haffield said these were options for Council to consider going forward. The City will be looking at acquiring properties along the ditch in some areas along I-90. Council considered a possible rate increases for 2013 and determined to go with a 3.95% increase. The rate change will be by ordinance and will require three readings before going into effect.

Street and Airport Capital Improvement Plans - Mr. Haffield noted that we are looking at a mill and overlay project on Tenth Street, on First Avenue Southwest, and a reconstruction in front of Eckerson First and Second Addition. They met with the FFA to discuss CIPs and where we're at. Hoping to get their federal project for maintenance at 90%. In addition, we are pushing out our Taxi C extension one more year. Mr. Haffield said we could shift into a preservation mode for awhile with the airport as all the major projects are done except the Taxi C project.

WREDC - Chris Witzel, Interim Director of WREDC, presented their proposed budget for 2013, which included the reduction in the administrative to \$91,200 from \$112,000. Stake holder revenue included \$80,000 from the City's Economic Development Levy, \$32,000 from Nobles County, \$40,000 from Worthington Public Utilities, together with membership and dues for total amount of \$183,020 in funds. Glenn Thuringer noted the biggest change was they had zeroed out the BioScience Conference, however, the college has indicated they would like to continue the conference for a fee of \$10,000. Council determined that \$5,000 should be held back from the contribution to WREDC to be used for sponsorship if the college would run the Conference.

Liquor Store - Dan Wycoff, Liquor Store Manager, reported the business was doing well - they are trying to get by with one less full-time person and 6 part-time people. The walk-in cooler and compressor needs to be replaced, which would take an estimated five days, along with the furnace/roof air conditioning compressor. The new cooler could be moved to a new location should the City determine to move the store.

City Signs - Council Member Nelson reported the Chamber met on Wednesday and are looking at two city signs instead of four, and are looking at placing them on private land so they can be bigger than 250 square feet. MnDOT will assist with the sign design. They also discussed private sector funding and service club advertising. Craig Clark, City Administrator, noted that of the 2% in the preliminary levy, \$25,000 of it could be shifted over for signage. The signs would be placed at the north and south Highway 60 entrances to town.

#### **FINAL CERTIFICATION**

The motion was made by Council Member Ten Haken, seconded by Council Member Woll and unanimously carried that the final levy for 2012 collectible in 2013 will be certified at 2%.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The motion was made by Council Member Kuhle, seconded by Council Member Woll and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 a.m.