

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING/BUDGET AND LEVY HEARING  
December 7, 2009

A regular council meeting was duly called to order by Mayor Robert Roesler on Monday, December 7, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. Members present, Robert Roesler, Jim Poirot, Kurt Olson, Carroll Behne and Brad Ringnell. Absent, none. Also present, City Admin/EDA Dir Jamie Letzring and Deputy Clerk Irene Schlaphoff.

In Public Forum, Richard Zehms was present regarding placement of a snow fence on his property to reduce drifting on South Street and Cargill Street.

Motion by Poirot to approve the agenda, second by Olson, carried.

Motion by Ringnell to approve the minutes for the November 2<sup>nd</sup> EDA meeting, the November 2<sup>nd</sup> council meeting and the November 19<sup>th</sup> council meeting, second by Poirot, carried.

Consent agenda including payment of bills and Kum & Go cigarette and beer licenses for 2010 was declared approved.

At this time the Budget and Levy Hearing was called to order with a presentation by City Adm/EDA Dir Jamie Letzring, who explained the difference between the Budget and Levy Hearing and the former Truth in Taxation meetings, and also explained the changes from the proposed budget and the final budget figures. Mrs. Letzring illustrated the LGA and tax levy trends that have occurred over the last ten years, and explained the steps that have been taken to reduce the budget and keep the levy increase to a minimum, both in 2009 and 2010 when local government aid was reduced. She informed all present that further reductions in local government aid are anticipated.

In response to a question regarding the engineering activity on W First Street, infrastructure studies are being conducted in conjunction with the wastewater treatment plant upgrades to determine inflow and infiltration issues in that area. Mayor Roesler then further explained the LGA formula and how the amounts are determined. He reiterated that the levy increase will not cover any future LGA cuts that may occur. With no further questions, the Budget and Levy Hearing was declared closed at 7:30 p.m.

Motion by Ringnell to approve Resolution 2009-19 Adopting the Final Tax Levy Collectible in 2010 in the amount of \$504,734, second by Poirot. Poirot, yea; Olson, yea; Ringnell, yea; Behne, yea; Roesler, yea; Resolution 2009-19 approved. This amount represents an 11.1% increase.

Dale Schumann and Robert Smith were present on behalf of the VFW to inquire if they would be allowed to sell the Club liquor license with the building. They were informed that Club licenses are exclusive to qualifying veterans organizations, and that no liquor license is transferrable. City Code allows one on-sale liquor license in the city; eligible restaurants may obtain a beer and wine license.

Motion by Ringnell to approve Resolution 2009-18 Application to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority for a loan from the Clean Water Revolving Fund for improvements to the wastewater treatment system in the amount of \$980,000 or the as-bid cost of the project, second by Behne. Behne, yea; Ringnell, yea; Olson, yea; Poirot, yea; Roesler, yea; Resolution 2009-18 approved.

Motion by Poirot to approve the updated Middle 9 Emergency Service Mutual Aid Agreement, second by Olson, carried. This agreement was modified by the addition and removal of cities due to boundary changes.

Mayor Roesler recognized and commended the council and staff for their many hours of extensive budget work over the last months, and for their ideas, ways and means of budget reduction.

Admin report:

- Council will be kept informed of any further LGA unallotments as the information is posted.
- It has been learned that an additional audit may be necessary as a result of any federal dollars received for the wastewater treatment system upgrades; these audit costs may exceed \$5,000.
- If all are in agreement, direction is needed regarding attic insulation at the Community Hall: Motion by Behne to direct City Admin Letzring to seek insulation quotes for the Community Hall/Theatre attic and walls, second by Poirot, carried.
- Community Hall, Theatre and Nutrition Site facility use has increased immensely since November, and additional time has been spent coordinating these events, as well as coordinating the cleaning schedule.

Motion to adjourn by Ringnell, second by Poirot, carried. Meeting declared adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Deputy Clerk Irene Schlaphoff