

Minutes of the Budget Workshop

Special Meeting
August 26, 2015

The August 26, 2015, Budget Workshop, Special Meeting, of the Good Thunder city council was called to order, at 5:30 p.m., by Mayor Robert Anderson. The meeting convened in council chambers located at 130 Ewing Court, Good Thunder, Minnesota. Council members present, Kim Hernandez; Kenton Giese; Sarah Karels, Jim Prom. Also in attendance, Hunter Chaffee, City Maintenance and Cheryl Barnard, Clerk-Treasurer.

Clerk-Treasurer stated that a budget is a “guide” in running the city’s finances. Following is a list of items proposed to the council for consideration.

- The proposed budget presented reflected a 5.7% increase from the 2015 budget of \$293,444.
- Insurance estimated costs for the city have not been received as of this meeting date.
- In meeting with the Police Commission it was decided that the police department would raise the budget 2.5%.
- In the Fire Department – Debt service is completed on the Fire Station building.

After reviewing each department, the following suggestions were made:

Council member, Ken Giese, stated that he felt more money should be set aside for street improvements and the council agreed with this statement.

- Under Future Improvements. It was decided to move the \$4,000 allocated for personal protective gear to Street Improvements/Dust Control. The Fire Department is budgeted \$21,000 in Personal Protective Gear under Machinery and Equipment in the Fire Department.
- Under the Water Department it was decided to allocate the \$2,048 as proposed for fire hydrants also to Street Improvements/Dust Control. As of 2015 the Fire Hydrant line item has \$24,766 allocated for fire hydrants.
- In adding the discussed changes for the Street Improvement/Dust Control Future Improvement line item it would increase the propose amount from \$29,921 to \$35,969.
- Council members discussed wage increases and decided that a 3% raise be included for personnel.

The council discussed the 5.7% total budget 2016 increase. Council member, suggested decreasing the amount being set aside in Park Lighting so that the budget is increased by only 3%. Discussion followed.

Council member, Ken Giese made a motion to set the proposed 2016 budget at a 3% increase from the 2015 budget. City employees are to receive a 3% wage increase for 2016. Council member, Sarah Karels, seconded the motion. Motion carried. The council directed Clerk-Treasurer Barnard to decrease the proposed 2016 budget to 3% and to make the necessary correction in Ball Park Lights-Future Improvements.

Council member, Ken Giese made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Council member, Kim Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

Cheryl Barnard, Clerk-Treasurer