

**NOVEMBER 1, 2011**

Special Budget meeting was called to order by Mayor Meyer at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall Plaza.

**PRESENT:** Michael Feirer, Alanna Feddick, Dave LaFontaine, Gordon H. Earll, Ed Wagner, Russell Stauber, Gary Cummings, John Spiros, Tom Buttke and Pete Hendler

**ABSENT:** None

The flag was saluted and the pledge given.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Gary Gray of 507 W. Park Street. The budget is useful to the taxpayers and to the decision makers (Common Council). The decision makers need more information than the taxpayers because they are making the decisions. In the transmittal letter there were two principal goals stated: 1) maintain the same tax rate; and 2) maintain outstanding services. Both are good goals but the word outstanding could be interpreted in different ways. Does it mean good services or exceptional services? Does it mean that some of the services that were in existence were not funded for next year? It would be nice to have some type of comparison between last year's budget and the proposed budget. There is a revenue item that has a line item called taxes. It includes property taxes and PILOT payments but he had to find that information in the summary. Perhaps this could be better explained on the page where the line item for taxes is shown. It would also be beneficial to have a listing of the past five years of PILOT payments.

Mayor Meyer turned the chair over to Alderperson Spiros, Chairperson of the Finance, Budget and Personnel Committee.

City Administrator Barg presented suggested adjustments to the 2012 recommended budget.

**CC11-254** Motion by Wagner, second by Buttke to make the following changes to the 2012 budget:

Reduction: Library Budget 1015511060	\$(8,878)
Transfer To: Contingency 1015156008	\$ 8,878
Reduction: Emergency Management 1015291020	\$(10,200)
Reduction: Fund Balance Applied 1014900008	\$(10,200)

Aye - 10

### **Motion carried**

Each alderperson was asked if they had any changes to the budget.

### Alderperson Wagner

In the CIP there is approximately \$1,014,000 over the next 5 years for repairs to the City Hall building. In non-years there is approximately another \$700,000 for this building. He recommended to the CIP Committee that they start looking at City Hall at what the long-term costs for this building is over the course of the next 5-10 years.

### Alderperson Stauber

No changes to the budget. He complimented the Administrator and staff on the new format of the budget and he appreciates the work that went into.

Aldersperson Earll

No changes to the budget. He congratulated the Administrator and staff for the great job in putting this budget together.

Aldersperson Cummings

No changes to the budget. He also appreciates the work that the Administrator and staff have done on the budget.

Aldersperson LaFontaine

No changes to the budget.

Aldersperson Buttke

**CC11-255** Motion by Buttke, second by Wagner to reduce by \$4,000 the city's contribution to MEDA in the Economic Development Fund 205 (from \$25,000 to \$21,000) and use that \$4,000 in the Economic Development Fund 205 for travel.

**CC11-256** Motion by Feddick, second by Hendler to amend the motion to transfer the \$4000 to the Job Center contribution in the City Administrator's budget. Aye - 10

**Motion carried**

Vote on motion **CC11-255 as amended**: Aye - 10

**Motion carried**

Aldersperson Feddick

**CC11-257** Motion by Feddick, second by Wagner to remove the \$10,000 for the Wellness Program from the City Administrator's budget. Aye - 3 (Feddick, Wagner, Spiros); Nay - 7

**Motion failed**

Aldersperson Hendler

He thanked the City Administrator and staff for doing an excellent job with this new format. It was one of his better experiences in six years.

He talked about the Cable TV budget. There is a residual amount of money in the Cable TV fund that he would like moved over to a more secure location.

Finance Director Strey responded that historically the Common Council has given the Cable TV Committee control of all the cable franchise fees. The Common Council has ultimate control of those fees pending any legal review on ordinances, etc. The Cable TV Committee put together a \$90,000 reserve to meet lease obligations in the future. The Council could make that a fixed commitment so that the Cable TV Committee couldn't unilaterally change that, only the Council could. You could also transfer it to another fund within communications.

A strategic plan needs to be created for the Cable TV Committee.

Aldersperson Feirer

No changes to the budget. He thanked staff for doing a great job on the budget. It was easy to read. He also thanked the Council for adding more funding to the Job Service Center because it is greatly needed.

Aldersperson Spiros

He thanked the Administrator, staff and everyone that participated in the budget process.

**CC11-258** Motion by Stauber, second by Wagner to set the date of November 22, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. for the public hearing on the proposed 2012 City budget and tax levy.

**Motion carried**

Mayor Meyer resumed chairing the meeting.

**CC11-259** Motion by LaFontaine, second by Hendler to go into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (1)(e) deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Specifically, the City Administrator had requested a closed session to 1) Discuss collective bargaining strategy with Firefighters Local 1021, IAFF and 2) Consider an offer to purchase City-owned property. Roll call vote, all Ayes (Time: 7:35 p.m.)

**Motion carried**

Present in closed session: Alderspersons Feirer, Feddick, LaFontaine, Earll, Wagner, Stauber, Cummings, Spiros, Buttke and Hendler, City Administrator Barg, Mayor Meyer, City Clerk Hall, Finance Director Strey, Human Resources Manager Baehr and Fire Chief Schmidt.

Human Resources Manager Baehr left the closed session at 8:44 p.m.

Director of Public Works Knoeck, Director of Planning and Economic Development Angell and City Engineer Turchi joined the closed session at 8:44 p.m.

**CC11-260** Motion by Spiros, second by Wagner to return to open session. Roll call vote, all Ayes. (Time: 8:54 p.m.)

**Motion carried**

**CC11-261** Motion by Spiros, second by Cummings to accept the Offer to Purchase from Innovative Holdings, LLC for the property at 412 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Ayes – 7; Nay – 3 (Feddick, LaFontaine, Earll)

**Motion carried**

Motion by Spiros, second by Wagner to adjourn at 8:56 p.m.

**Motion carried**

Deb M. Hall  
City Clerk