

**CITY OF LAKE ST. CROIX BEACH
16455 20TH STREET SOUTH
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 10, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom McCarthy, Charles Brown, Michelle Kline, Cindie Reiter, Jim Unker

STAFF PRESENT: Susan Schuler, Amy Truhlar

OTHERS PRESENT:

CALL TO ORDER by Mayor McCarthy at 5:55 p.m.

PRELIMINARY 2016 BUDGET

City Clerk-Administrator Susan Schuler presented the proposed 2016 budget and levy. She noted that the city is \$169,000 over-budget based on the 2015 budget approved in December, 2014. To date, the City has spent over \$26,000 opposing the Afton Wastewater Treatment System, and the City paid off the City Hall bond in February. The City Council had not budgeted for either of these items.

The City Council reviewed and discussed the proposed budget by going through it line-by-line. Further discussion included the following:

- Many services will be increased in 2016, and a staff COLA wage increase of 3.5% was proposed
- Unemployment payments were discussed, and \$1,000 was added to the budget for this
- A presidential election will be held in 2016. The elections line-item was increased to \$4,000 based on expenses in previous election years
- Attorney fees will be increased by 3.2% in 2016 to \$160 per hour, and the attorney fees line-item was increased to \$35,000
- The newsletter was discussed regarding whether it was necessary. It was noted that without the newsletter, the City may need to publish their minutes in the newspaper. Staff stated they would look into the statute requiring publication of minutes and check on any options, including costs to publish in the newspaper
- Publishing and Printing was increased to \$1,500 because there will be additional public hearing due to the recodification project

- Engineering expense was increased to \$35,000 due to possible additional costs for bluffland restoration and street projects
- \$5,000 was budgeted for City Hall renovations
- Dog tags, whether they should be one-year tags, and how much should be charged for each license
- \$5,000 was budgeted for Clean-Up Day
- Right-Of-Way Trimming and Park Maintenance and Supplies
- Streets Capital Improvement Plan (Streets CIP)
- Zoning application revenue was increased
- Building permit fee revenue was increased
- Cable Commission Grants were increased to \$10,000

PURCHASING POLICY

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER REITER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BROWN, TO ADD THE PURCHASING POLICY TO THE AGENDA FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON AUGUST 17, 2015. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER BROWN, SECONDED BY MAYOR MCCARTHY, TO TABLE THE REMAINING AGENDA ITEMS UNTIL THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The City Council agreed that they should hold another worksession before adopting the preliminary budget for 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY MAYOR MCCARTHY, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BROWN, TO ADJOURN THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING AT 8:43 P.M. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Thomas McCarthy, Mayor

Susan Schuler, City Clerk-Administrator