

**CITY OF ELKHORN**  
**Committee of the Whole**  
**Council Chambers, 9 S. Broad Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin**  
**October 28, 2013**

The Committee of the Whole was called to order at 5:00 p.m. followed by roll call.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Howie Reynolds, Aldermen Brian Olson, Jim Boardman, Jim D'Alessandro, Scott McClory, Hoss Rehberg, Gary Payson, Sr.

Also present: City Administrator Sam Tapson, City Clerk Darlene Igl, Finance Director Mary Hinske, Fire Chief Rod Smith, Police Chief Joel Christensen, DPW Director Terry Weter, Rec Director Wendy Ard, Attorney Ward Phillips, Electric Utility Director John Murphy, Chamber Director Chris Clapper.

**REVIEW 2014 PROPOSED BUDGET**

***Public Works***

DPW Director Weter provided an overview of changes in the 2014 budget. It was stated that all salary/benefits for the DPW Director and Secretary will be in the Public Works budget instead of being included in the water department budget. He stated that vehicle maintenance for the Parks Department was added back in for 2014. It was stated that contractual services for solid waste collection increase per contract. Director Weter stated that he plans to utilize more part-time and seasonal staff to operate the yard waste site to reduce costs.

Administrator Tapson provided the Committee with information regarding the preliminary 2014 WalCoMet rate structure which reflects an increase of 5.4% for the City. Rate option data was provided including a proposed 2014 sewer rate reflecting an increase of 6% - 7% depending on the class of user. The Committee discussed implementing a multi-year rate structure versus setting sewer rates on an annual basis. Administrator Tapson stated that the 2014 sewer rate should be adopted in November or December to be effective January 1.

***Utilities***

Electric Director Murphy provided an overview of the department's budget. He stated that the department's full-time staff equivalent is down to 9.94 compared to 11.3 in 2012 and 12.3 in 2011. Data related to purchased power cost and peak demand was reviewed. Detailed goals and objectives were provided. A rate comparison of municipally owned electric utilities indicates that Elkhorn is rated as the 13<sup>th</sup> lowest cost in charges to customers out of the 81 municipal utilities in Wisconsin.

***Recreation***

Rec Director Ard identified several groups that she is working with both internally and externally that she often partners with to host programs/events. She outlined improvements made in the department including programming and advertising. It was stated that the return goal for recreation programming is 80%.

**ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

Motion (Olson/McClory) to adjourn to closed session by roll call vote per §19.85(1)(e) for "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." Roll call vote: Olson, yes; Boardman, yes; D'Alessandro, yes; McClory, yes; Rehberg, yes; Payson, yes. Motion carried. Adjourn to closed session at 6:26 p.m.

**RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

Reconvened in open session at 6:37 p.m.

**ADJOURN**

Motion (D'Alessandro/Rehberg) to adjourn at 6:37 p.m.

Darlene R. Igl  
City Clerk