

CITY OF ELKHORN
Finance & Judicial Committee
First Floor Conference Room, 9 S. Broad Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin
September 26, 2011

The Finance and Judicial Committee was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Alderman Taylor, followed by roll call.

ROLL CALL

Present: Aldermen Julie Taylor, Kim DeHaan, Scott McClory

Also present: Administrator Sam Tapson, Fire Chief Rod Smith, Dave Fladten, Electric Utility Director Art Schmitz, City Clerk Darlene Igl.

TREE & STUMP REMOVAL BIDS

It was discussed that the fourth bid referenced in the monthly report was an error as there were only three bids received. The Committee agreed that the original recommendation to Council that the bid be awarded to Arbor Images in the amount of \$11,650 and that a budget adjustment in the amount of \$3,325 be made.

EMS STIPEND PROPOSAL

A budget request regarding proposed stipend payments for shift sign-up for EMS coverage was discussed. Payments would be offered for shifts Monday through Thursday from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. (\$25 per shift) and 6:00 p.m. Friday through 6:00 a.m. Monday (10 6-hour shifts at \$25 per shift). The total projected cost to provide stipend payments would be \$36,400 which is recoverable as net income realized from covered calls averages \$300.00 per call. Administrator Tapson stated that this proposal is included in the draft of the 2012 budget. It was requested that information regarding the sign-up and number of calls be added to the Fire Department monthly reports. Motion (DeHaan/McClory) to recommend to Council that a stipend payment for shift sign-up be implemented with the 2012 budget. Motion carried.

FINAL DRAFT 2012 BUDGET

The final draft of the 2012 budget was provided to Committee along with modifications.

LEVY LIMITS: APPLICATION OF TAX AUTHORITY

Administrator Tapson provided information on changes to the state's Levy Limit Law and the impact of those changes on the City. Initially it was proposed that the use of TID 2 surplus be used to reduce the impact of increased debt service expenses on the 2011 levy, however, with the changes to the law, that strategy would likely have a long-term negative impact on the City. The option of including the debt service into the levy was proposed which would require a 12% levy increase. Additionally, taxing to the maximum level was considered which would require a 17% levy increase. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee that the debt service be included in the levy.

ELECTRIC RATE INCREASE

The Electric Rate Increase Study was received from Schenck & Associates with a proposed rate increase of 5%. Motion (McClory/DeHaan) to recommend that Council authorize the filing of an Electric Rate increase application with the Public Service Commission. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion (McClory/Taylor) to adjourn at 5:55 p.m. Motion carried.

Darlene Igl
City Clerk