

City of Elk Run Heights
Budget Workshop
Eddis Winstead Council Chambers
January 22, 2019 - 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Swope called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call of Council Members: Present – Schellhorn, Smock, Wilson, Ratchford, Wilson, and Bass. Quorum present.

Wilson/Ratchford motion to approve the January 22, 2019 Agenda. Ayes-5. Motion carried.

Ratchford/Wilson to approve request from Mayor to approve a modification in payroll from bi-monthly to bi-weekly. Mayor Swope discussed how the employees had been paid in the past and the purpose of converting to bi-weekly payroll. Councilor Ratchford stated that he had experienced both payrolls in the past and bi-weekly is more efficient. Councilor Smock agreed. Councilor Wilson stated that he was in favor of either method. Ratchford also stated that the city should opt for direct deposit. The consensus of council was to explore moving to direct deposit. Councilor Shellhorn stated that it should be stated semi-monthly to bi-weekly. Ayes-Five. Motion carried.

FY2020 Budget Workshop: Councilor Ratchford stated that he had been researching similar sized cities for the mayors pay and found that our mayor is underpaid for what he does for the city. Mayor Swope responded that he liked what he does. Wilson stated that he has been a full-time mayor for the city and going above and beyond what was expected of him. Ratchford stated that he does a lot for the city that he doesn't get compensated for and that his wages should be more like \$10,000 instead of the \$5,000 he has been paid. Mayor Swope responded to the comments and asked that the council just think about it and come back to it. Swope questioned the council to what the employees raise should be. Councilor Smock responded that we don't discuss raises anymore because their increase was based off the employee evaluations. Three percent for those who scored 90% or higher. Two percent for those who scored 80% to 89% and the personnel policy reflected the changes. Smock discussed park improvements that consisted of frisbee golf, trails through the park and the restroom upgrade they discussed and would like to budget for the improvements. Council also discussed building the new bathrooms at Mayor's Park. Swope responded that we would get the lines run in the spring for the bathroom improvements. Ratchford stated that he would be in favor to budget another \$40,000 for park improvements next year. Councilor Bass discussed that getting the public involved with the trails/sidewalks through the park would include them in the project. They also discussed planting trees and possibly having trees available to the public.

Clerk Kobliska went through the budget with the council, increases in budget line items were discussed. No major changes were made to budget. Smock suggested small projects be completed in current budget. Discussion was held on purchasing a new tractor and splitting the expense between parks and road use.

Much discussion was held on the waste water treatment plant project. Bass felt the time was getting near and this was the priority the city should be focusing on and allocating as much to that project as possible.

The next budget workshop was scheduled for February 4, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Ratchford/Schellhorn motion to adjourn at 8:18 p.m. Ayes-5. Motion carried.

Tim Swope, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

DeAnne Kobliska, CMC, City Clerk