

City of Elk Run Heights
Budget Workshop
January 28, 2015
City Hall 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Swope called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. Roll call of Council Members: Present – Bass, Smock, Heideman, Heth, and Wilson. Quorum present. Wilson/Heideman motion to approve the January 28, 2015 Agenda. Ayes –5. Motion carried.

Mayor Swope informed the council the city will be reimbursed for the removal of Trailer #11 by the owner.

Mayor Swope updated the council on the hiring of the Water/Waste Water Operator. He conducted an interview and is hopeful the candidate will accept the position.

City Clerk Lundy asked if council had any questions regarding the proposed budget changes. Smock commented she was pleased with the overall budget. City Clerk Lundy explained the city will have to get a loan for the Plaza Drive project. We will have a better estimate of the cost of the project after the bid letting. The engineer's project estimate is \$850,000, the engineering fee is \$86,490, and the city will receive 62% federal funding for the project.

Mayor Swope reviewed the city tax rate history. Ten years ago the council was able to reduce the tax rate to 6% and has been able to abstain from any increases. He commended the previous councils for this endeavor.

Council reviewed projects for the new fiscal budget. It was determined to hold off on the lift station back-up generator project. Projects approved were replacing the 1999 S-10 truck, build a salt bin, the Dubuque Road Bridge Repair, replace and install 100 new radio read water meters, repair the block shelter at Mayor's Park and research putting in new bathrooms and request gaming grant funds and a \$2.00 per hour salary increase for the Deputy Clerk and 2% salary increase for other employees.

Discussion was held on increasing the tax rate to 7%. Bass could not justify asking for a tax increase.

Discussion was held on the employee health insurance benefit. Consensus was to set the City premium portion at 95% and employee portion at 5% for a single policy. City Clerk Lundy presented a quote for dental, vision, life and disability which the employees currently do not have. The personnel committee will review the information and make a presentation to the council.

Smock/Heth motion to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. Ayes – 5. Motion carried.

Tim Swope Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Kristi Lundy, CMC, City Clerk