# SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

**OCTOBER 11, 2011** 

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Moede at 7:10 p.m. with the following Roll Call: Members Present: Ald. Toellner, Ald. Sertich, Ald. Schmidt, Ald. Schaefer, Ald. Pasbrig,

Ald. Redeker

Members Absent:

Others Present: Mayor Moede, Deanna Boldrey, Kathie Wild, Mike Kurutz, Grant Larson, Alixe

Bielot, Chris MacNeill, Lisa Schmitt, David Pieper, Mary Beth Gehl, Ben Brown,

Katie Leb, Megan Sheridan, Craig Warmbold

# <u>Item #2 – Budget Remarks by the Mayor.</u>

Mayor Moede commented that there are items to work on before next week. He noted that tonight the Council will continue the 2012 budget discussion.

<u>Item #3 – Continue the Discussion/Review/Recommendation of the Draft of 2012 City Budget.</u>
With no objections from the Council, Mayor Moede temporarily turned the gavel over to Ald. Sertich, Finance Chair.

Ald. Sertich explained that the Council will go down the list.

## Fire Department

She noted that the first item is Fund 75 for the Fire Department Donation Funds. The Fire Department is asking for the life insurance to be paid out of the general fund. We have not done this for the EMS or the Fire Department before. Ald. Pasbrig questioned if there was anyone here from the Fire Department. Ald. Pasbrig noted to table it. Ald. Sertich noted that she did not believe it was fair for the tax payers. Kathie Wild noted that right now it is coming out of the Fund 75. There was general consensus that it should stay in their fire trust account (Fund 75).

#### Library

Item 57-808 Books of the library budget was then discussed. The question is the \$8,000 from book funds and why going to their funds rather than the general fund. Fines from other departments go to the general fund. The agreement was that the \$8,000 could be used to offset the \$10,000, and reduce the item to \$2,000. The fines would stay in their fund. Grant Larson was invited to the podium to speak on behalf of the Library Board. Grant noted that any fines or donations for the library cannot be co-mingled. It was presented that the City would cut the budget by \$8,000 and the library funds could make that up. Grant gave history that some time ago the fines were co-mingled and then the City Attorney checked into it, and they were told the Library could no longer do that. Ald. Sertich noted that most other areas on the Library Budget are the same and the only major change is the \$8,000 in the book budget. Alixe was then invited to the podium. She stated that the budget has always been flat. She asked about giving the staff raises. Ald. Sertich commented that it is up to the Library Board on how the budget is managed. Alixe noted that if they decide to give any type of increase they have to find it in their budget. Ald. Sertich commented that the Library has very good trust funds. Ald. Sertich commented that a dollar amount is allocated and the board decides how it is managed.

Grant Larson came back to the podium and noted they were asked not to give raises the past couple of years and if they worked with the City then funds would be provided. He is not sure if other departments are getting raises. Ald. Sertich noted that very little has been done for the employees. Grant noted they did have control the past couple of years and they elected to stay in line with the City on zero increases.

The Mayor noted that the Library did the same as the City for their employees. Grant noted that historically any raises were in line with the City budget. Grant commented that last year we were told we do not have control. This year we are told we do have control. Mayor commented that they tried to make everyone on the same page.

Ald. Sertich noted that there were not any requests. Grant commented that last year they were told not to put in any raises. He continued that they been asked not to give raises. Ald. Sertich noted she did not have any

Page 2

conversations last year at budget time with the library. Ald. Pasbrig noted they talked about the contingency fund. Ald. Schmidt commented that if \$8,000 then they have no room at all for raises. Kathie Wild commented that the City sets their bottom line budget and they allocate the money. Ald. Pasbrig if we do any increases they need to know that. This item will come back to the next meeting.

# Police Department

Item 21-107 – Standby pay. The next item is the Police Department dispatchers receiving stand by pay. The dispatchers are required to come in over the weekend and process reports for the District Attorney to have by Monday morning. In 2011 to date they have processed over 6,000 reports which is a 7% increase. Arrest complaints have increased 19% from last year. The responsibilities have significantly increased. They do alternate weekends. Also, if there is severe weather or tornados they are required to come in. Chris noted that this shows that we care and appreciate them coming in. They are paid when they come in. Ald. Pasbrig noted that the item is ok for now. Ald. Redeker noted that he does have a problem with the item.

Item 21-206 Police Department Education. Chris MacNeill distributed information on the education item. The end result of the classes is a master's degree for Chris. Ald. Sertich noted that last year the Council went with \$3,600 for three classes. Chris noted that this will be the last time he will be requesting this amount of money. Ald. Redeker noted that they may be budgeting for this prematurely. He questioned if it was a wise decision at this time. Mayor noted that Chris is asking for the City to pay for his Master's Degree, and it is too early to decide. Chris noted that he has stepped aside and let other officers continue their education. Chris noted that regardless his standing on the department this is something that will benefit the City of Mayville. Ald. Sertich commented that there is some language in the manual and union contract that allows for education. She noted the concern is the dollar amount and she remembered it was backed down last year. Chris noted the importance of staying with a group in the program. Ald. Toellner questioned if it would be on Chris's own time. Chris noted that it would be on his own time in the evening, and he would be available if the PD needed him. Ald. Toellner questioned if Chris was putting any of his own money toward the classes. Chris noted that he pays for the books and mileage. He makes too much to qualify for financial aid. He is currently enrolled and can cancel out if needed. The item will come back.

Item 21-302 Membership. The next item is the Military Surplus program that is listed under membership 21-302. The Membership 1033 program was then discussed. Chris MacNeill distributed a report to the Council showing items from the program which included a gator. Chris explained the program. The items were received at no cost. This is military equipment that is given to law enforcement from Federal and State government. Cost is \$500 per year. Discussion of the gator ensued. It was noted that the City received the gator at no cost. The gator can be shared with the parks department as well. The item was noted as ok.

Item 21-348 Police Department Uniforms. The next item is the Clothing & Uniforms under item 21-348. The request is for bullet proof vest for new officer and other needed equipment and uniform needed for a new officer. The item was noted as ok.

Item 21-820 Equipment Auto. The Chevy Tahoe Lease was then discussed under item 21-820 Equipment Auto. Chris distributed information to the Council. He noted that the 1998 Ford Explorer has a V6. He just had the exhaust repaired. A dependable 4-wheel drive vehicle is needed. Chris noted the cost savings if ordered before November. No payment is due until the vehicle is delivered. There was general consensus from the Council.

Item 21-331 Supplies Vehicle. The new squad equipment was questioned under item 21-331 Supplies Vehicle. It was noted this is needed because Ford no longer makes the crown victoria and the equipment items will not fit to the new vehicle. The striping for the Tahoe is also under this item. This item was noted as ok.

Page 3

# **TAG Center**

The Fee Increase was noted to offset expenses. Lisa noted that they were looking at no fee increase this year. She noted that the Silver Sneakers Program has helped to bring people to the TAG Center. It was noted that the daily fees and swim fees could be raised. Lisa noted that we do not include classes with membership. The YMCA does. She noted that it could be too soon for the fee increase. Ald. Sertich asked David Pieper what his opinion was to offset the supplies. Dave noted to raise the swim fee to \$5. Dave also noted that the economy is bad. Ald. Redeker noted that he was on the park board last year and remembers Lisa coming before the park board in regards to raising the fees. Lisa did note the recent cancellations. Lisa commented that some other facilities have a sign on fee. They have not done that before. Discussion ensued of sign on fees and cancellation fees.

Item 49210-96 Admin & General Transfer to the General Fund. The transfer from the general fund will come back.

Also it was noted to bring back cancellation and sign on fees.

#### **Parks**

Item 903 Parks Pool Transfer to TAG will also come back.

## Streets and Roads

Item 33-804 Equipment Other was then discussed. This is for one SCAG mower in the general fund. Mike reminded the Committee of the Whole that there is no assurance of having a mower from SCAG next year. The mower was in the general fund at \$6,000. Mike has a new quote showing the amount at \$4,575. This item was noted as ok.

Item 33-806 Equipment Shop – which is the lift for the shop. Mike distributed new information to the Committee of the Whole. Mike described the equipment and its use. The safety was noted. This item was noted as ok.

The wheel tax was then discussed at length. Ald. Sertich gave history to the item. She noted that the City of Bielot has a wheel tax of \$10; City of St. Croix has a wheel tax of \$10; and the City of Milwaukee has a wheel tax of \$20. She explained that of the \$10 collected the Department of Transportation keeps .10 and the remaining \$9.90 comes to the City. Kathie Wild reported that every July she gets a report from the Department of Transportation that estimates the number of vehicles. Ald. Sertich commented that this is a way to capture everyone in the City, even renters. The tax has helped with the salt costs. In 2009 sand was used on the roads and there was not any money in the budget for paving. In 2010 the City was able to put paving back in. Ald. Pasbrig noted that no one likes a tax. A straw poll was taken from the Committee of the Whole. Ald. Sertich, Ald. Schmidt, Ald. Pasbrig, Ald. Schaefer all voted in favor of keeping the wheel tax. Ald. Redeker and Ald. Toellner both voted to repeal the wheel tax.

### General Admin

Main Street Mayville and Chamber budget requests were then discussed. It was noted that it would be nice to do more and it would be nice if they could work more together. Both organizations bring great value to the City. The Mayor noted that he would like to give both organizations \$7,500. Ald. Redeker noted that they could combine efforts and for the City to give them \$10,000 total. Straw poll noted all in favor of both budgets remaining at \$6,000.

Graceland Cemetery was then discussed. Ald. Sertich noted that she went to three of their board meetings and helped them through. The City is removing the snow and assisting with the tree removal and dirt. They are going through the County Program for clean up. The Mayor noted that more people are getting cremated. The item was noted as ok at \$11,125.

Page 4

#### Elections

Item 05-307 Election Meals. The election meals came back under item number 05-307. It was noted to raise the election meals to \$550. The item was noted as ok.

### Sr. Center

Item 15-320 Sr Center Janitor. The Sr. Center Janitor item came back for discussion. It was noted that the Sr. Center would like the City to pay for twelve months of the janitor service rather than the Sr Center taking \$700 per year out of their Fund 72. They did change their meetings to every other month. Fund 72 is from donations. A straw poll was taken as Yes for the \$700 to be from the general fund or No to keep out of the general fund, meaning the \$700 would be from the Sr. Center Fund 72. Voting Yes were Ald. Schmidt and Ald. Redeker. Voting No were Ald. Toellner, Ald. Pasbrig, and Mayor. Ald. Sertich did not vote as the Mayor had already cast a vote. Ald. Schmidt noted the vote was illegal as the Mayor should not have cast a vote prior to the Council.

The General Property Tax item will come back.

The Landfill Attorney Fees was then discussed. Ald. Redeker noted he believed it was probably high. There was consensus to leave as is.

At the end of the meeting the surplus number was at \$302,141.

## Item #4 – Adjournment

Motion by Ald. Schmidt, second by Ald. Toellner to adjourn at 9:14 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Deanna Boldrey, City Clerk