

Mayor Jan May called the 2016 Budget Workshop Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Council Members present were John Housden, Avis Erickson, Art Smyth and Tim Rieb. Council Member Ramiro Villagrana was excused. A quorum was present. Also present were City Clerk Misty Ruiz, Deputy Clerk Desha Dawson, Public Works Director Lee Webster, Chief of Police Nattalie Cariker and City Attorney Chuck Zimmerman.

Mayor May noted that there will be no formal action taken at this meeting.

At 6:05 p.m. Mayor May stated that the meeting would adjourn approximately 15-minutes for a brief discussion regarding the Collective Bargaining.

At 6:25 p.m., the discussion was extended for other 15-minutes.

At 6:45 p.m., the meeting reconvened back into Regular Session.

2016 BUDGET WORKSHOP DISCUSSION:

Mayor Jan May reviewed the budget workshop process, past and current. City Clerk Treasurer Misty Ruiz went over the projected beginning fund balances and reserves as well as projected revenues and expenditures.

Council Member Housden asked about setting our water and sewer reserves. Ruiz explained the process of the reserves to him. She also stated that ultimately, it is the Council's discretion how these are set. She will do whatever they decide. Housden stated that with respect to the water and sewer rates, he would like to review this at the November Council meeting. It had previously been discussed and decided to review them both once the recommended rate increases by the FCS Group were implemented. He would like to review them to help decipher whether the rates are sustainable, or if they need to be adjusted one way or the other.

Police Chief Cariker reviewed her department budget for 2016, noting the only real area of concern will be the need to stay flexible in the overtime and training budget. There is going to be a great need for increased training, and she will do her best to find courses that are in our area and within our budget. Overtime will, as always, be fluctuating due to the number of employees and unavoidable coverage issues with sick days, holidays, etc.

Public Works Director Lee Webster stated that his budget is in line with years past, however, he does note that things can change with unexpected repairs and/or employee changes as well.

Mayor May expressed her concern over spending, considering the number of large projects we have coming up in the near future – in particular the reservoir replacement/repair and the need to prepare for any matching funds that will be required. She is also hoping to address the manganese issues as well.

Council Member Erickson stated that she had met with Ruiz the week prior and reviewed the entire budget from top to bottom. Erickson stated that the budget going into 2016 is solid and accurate. Council as a whole agreed we should hold the line on our 2016 budget and take care of the current debt that we have, as well as keeping our finances in line for the possible upcoming expenses and repairs.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business to come before the Council, the Budget Workshop Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Mayor Jan May

ATTEST:

City Clerk/Treasurer Misty Ruiz