

CITY OF MONTEVIDEO
CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSESSION
August 15, 2011

The city council met in a budget worksession at 5:30 P.M. on Monday, August 15, 2011 in the conference room at city hall. This date/time was set by motion of the council on July 5, 2011.

Council members present: Sandra Hodge, Al Johnsrud, Karen Nieuwbeerta (5:50 P.M.), Marvin Garbe (5:40 P.M.) and Bryce Curtiss. Absent: None. Mayor Debra Lee Fader absent.

Also present was City Manager Steven C. Jones and City Clerk Glennis A. Lauritsen.

Department Heads present: Finance Director Jan Flaherty, Public Works Director Greg Schwaegerl and Senior Citizen Center Coordinator Diane Ostlie.

Diane Ostlie reviewed the Community/Senior Center budget and Senior Citizen Grant budget with the council, highlighting the newer grant programs in 2011 which included a Telephone Reassurance Grant and an In-Home Respite Grant. She noted that no major changes are planned for the Center in 2012.

Greg Schwaegerl then reviewed and discussed his department's proposed 2012 budgets, which included Streets, Street Lights, Downtown Maintenance, Cemetery, Parks and Municipal Swimming Pool. Prior to the discussion, the following materials were distributed: Revenue/Expenditure computer printouts; a memorandum from Schwaegerl dated 7/18/11 addressing the purchase of a loader/snow blower and utility tractor w/mower; 2011-2016 CIP/CEP information (Streets/Park/Cemetery/Pool); and, a 2012-2016 Draft Street Construction Plan.

Streets:

Schwaegerl highlighted several line items, including 2120 - Motor Fuels, 2160 - Mosquito Control; 2210 - Repair & Mtce/Equipment Parts; and, 2240 - Repair & Mtce/Streets. He added \$5,000 to the motor fuels line item to reflect actual cost of fuels, discussed mosquito control procedures/cost briefly, and noted that \$3,600 has been added to the street maintenance line item to reflect the new sign reflectivity requirements/sign change-out issue.

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Street Lights:

This budget covers the cost of repairs/maintenance of the lamps/poles, as well as Xcel Energy charges. The budget was cut by \$1,750.00. Schwaegerl noted that the cost to replace one of the decorative light poles is roughly \$3,000.00.

Downtown Maintenance:

This budget has basically been removed since funds for hanging baskets on main street were cut.

Cemetery:

No changes proposed; only a slight increase in personal services.

Parks:

Schwaegerl noted he had requested funds for four (4) temporary/seasonal employees to help with the lawn mowing duties; however, that request was denied. He stated that it was particularly difficult to keep up with the mowing duties this year due to all of the rain. Some discussion took place about what to do with the city-owned lots in Smith Addition, with the possibility of allowing them to be prairie grasses, etc.

Municipal Swimming Pool:

Schwaegerl discussed pool operations, fees, proposed improvements, etc., noting the General Fund transfer in 2011 was \$69,285.00 and \$67,300.00 is proposed for 2012. He suggested it may be time to increase fees. Current passes are \$50.00 for the season; daily admission is \$3.00; and the wading pool daily admission is \$1.00 (which has been the same since the pool opened.) Council discussed briefly the fee structure and possible fee increase amounts. Improvements proposed include painting the pool basin; and a mower is also targeted for purchase.

At this time, Schwaegerl's memorandum was discussed, which addressed his requests for the purchase of a tractor and mower, as well as a loader with snow blower, in 2012. The CEP called for replacement of the snow blower in 2014 and replacement of the loader in 2010 (which had been pushed back due to uncertainty with LGA funding.) Following discussion, council consensus was that Schwaegerl should go ahead with pursuing both purchases, as outlined in the

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memorandum.

The CIP/CEP and Draft Street Construction Plan documents were reviewed and discussed briefly, along with the need to encourage Mn/DOT to make improvements to Highway 29.

Finance Director Flaherty discussed the future Market Value Homestead Credit (MVHC) scenario, stating that residential properties will still receive a market value discount, but the commercial and industrial properties will absorb the former MVHC received from the state.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

Glennis Lauritsen, Secretary

Approved by council September 6, 2011:

Sandra Hodge, President