

CITY OF MONTEVIDEO
BUDGET WORKSESSION
August 7, 2023

The city council met in a worksession on Monday, August 7, 2023 in the council chambers at city hall. Council President Schmidt called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. The worksession had been set by the council on July 10th.

Council members present: Nathan Schmidt, Steve Sulflow, Dan Sanborn, Beverly Olson and Bryce Curtiss. Absent: None. Mayor Winter present.

Also present was City Manager Robert Wolfington, Finance Director Jill Strand and Secretary Glennis Lauritsen.

Staff present: Public Works Director Aaron Blom..

Public Works Director Blom reviewed and discussed the CIP/CEP for the Municipal Swimming Pool Fund. The CIP projected setting aside \$100,000/year over the next 10 years to begin addressing improvements to the 30-year old facility. Discussion was held on the needed types of improvements, with an emphasis on a user-friendly area for smaller children. The existing wading pool is not user friendly and staff proposed adding a splash pad, to either replace the wading pool area or to be constructed outside of the structure. With costs unknown for such an amenity, it was agreed that costs need to be determined to begin those discussions. It was noted that the outdoor pool provides a great attraction for the community, and the council indicated its desire to continue to maintain and upgrade the facility now and into the future. The revenue/expenditure worksheets for the Fund were also reviewed and discussed.

CIP/CEPs were reviewed for the Public Works Department, which included Street, Parks (Equipment & Facilities), Street Lights and Cemetery. Blom discussed projected equipment needs/capabilities/plan/schedule for the bigger pieces of equipment within the public works department. Council members gave their opinions on leasing vs. purchasing the various pieces of equipment and the possibility of sharing equipment and/or services with neighboring communities. It was the overall consensus to continue with a purchase/replacement schedule for the larger equipment.

Some discussion took place on the salt storage building adjacent to the fairgrounds. This building is in poor condition and needs a new roof. Ideas were shared for storing these types of materials, including the repair of the existing building, constructing a new building and sharing a

facility with Chippewa County. It was noted that the city already coordinates with the county on some material preparation and, therefore, could further discuss the matter with them.

Discussion took place on city park facilities/equipment. Playground equipment is aging, and a number of the facilities need upgrades. In order to be able to improve/replace the equipment, it may be necessary to obtain grant funding assistance due to the high cost of the equipment. Council member Sanborn stated that there is a need for park facilities to serve the south part of the community; so much of the emphasis is to Windom Park. He noted that there is a group of individuals working toward improving the Larson Park area that would soon be reaching out to the council with ideas/proposals. It was noted that the city's has a five-member park advisory board that has historically met only once/year. Currently, there are three (3) active members. It is staff's intent to schedule quarterly meetings to discuss this matter and other park-related matters.

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Blom next reviewed the budget revenue and expenditure worksheets for his department, highlighting changes and addressing questions/concerns raised.

Staff noted that all proposed 2024 Budget materials had been presented and reviewed; therefore, an additional budget worksession was not necessary.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 P.M.

Glennis Lauritsen, Secretary

Approved by council August 21, 2023:

President - City Council