

Worksession
September 2, 2014
Municipal Center &
Arizona Grand Resort, Phoenix AZ

- Call to Order The Champlin City Council met in Worksession and was called to order by Mayor ArMand Nelson at 6:00 p.m.
- Roll Call It was recognized by Mayor Nelson that Councilmember Eric Johnson would be meeting remotely via Go To Meeting from the Arizona Grand Resort, Phoenix, AZ because of his work travel schedule.
- Present were Mayor ArMand Nelson and Councilmembers Kara Terry, Eric Johnson, Ryan Karasek, and Bruce Miller.
- Absent: none.
- Staff Present: City Administrator Bret Heitkamp, City Clerk Roberta Colotti, Finance Director June Johnston, and Police Chief Dave Kolb.
- Approval of Agenda
(September 2, 2014)
Motion Motion by Councilmember Miller and seconded by Councilmember Karasek to approve the agenda for the September 2, 2014 Worksession as presented. Voting in favor were Mayor Nelson, Councilmembers Terry, Karasek, Johnson, and Miller. Voting against: none. Motion carried.
- 2015 General Fund
Operating Budget The City Administrator provided an overview of the 2015 Proposed Budget and Levy. He stated that on September 8th the City Council will be asked to adopt the Preliminary Levy for certification to the County. The Final Levy can be reduced but not increased from the adopted Preliminary Levy amount. He noted that because of the lower than expected level of residential development in 2014 we will be looking at 2015 being the continuation of the bridge between the economic related downturn and a potential for development revenues.
- The City Administrator stated that this evening the Police Department's 2015 budget will be highlighted. He stated that in 2013 and 2014 the City Council adopted a series of consensus statements regarding the Police Department services. He stated that the Police Chief is present this evening to discuss the Police Department service allocations for 2015 and beyond.
- The Police Chief provided a historical view of the Police Department staffing levels showing that prior to 2007 the Department had 26 Licensed Police Officers, 2 CSO FTE's, and 4.5 Clerical staff and today the Department has 25 Licensed Police Officers, 1.5 CSO FTE's, and 4 Clerical staff.
- The Police Chief said he looked at measurable results including (1) Patrol Response Times, (2) Investigative Clearance Rates and (3) Safety (traffic & others). He also reviewed intangibles such as the Departments reputation, goodwill, perceptions/misperceptions, crime rates, and connectivity "community orientation". Based on this review he has drafted a plan for reallocating services to better serve the community in the future.
- The Police Chief stated that one of the goals of the 2015 budget proposal is to maintain the Patrol Response Times, improve Investigations and maintain the Safety (traffic & others) levels. He proposed that investigation, case management, solvability, clearance rates and feedback be managed and improved through the reallocation of resources to create an Investigative Sergeant position.
- Mayor Nelson questioned the impact of technology upgrades that were made in prior years on the staffing levels.
- The Police Chief acknowledged that the clerical staff did benefit from the introduction of the ticket writer program however the department is still feeling the squeeze from a reduced staffing level. He stated that the Department is working to be as effective as possible.

The City Administrator summarized the requested budget amendments for 2015 to achieve the goals of the Police Chief as outlined. He stated that the proposed budget reflects a \$20,000 reduction in revenue to give the Chief the flexibility to reduce traffic enforcement assignment and reallocate these services to areas of the department as outlined. The proposed budget has a focus on developing the Community Oriented Policing efforts. These include implementation of a community outreach program that would be primarily focused around the use of social media and an increased focus on more community interaction and community partnerships being established with the Police Department and the residents and businesses.

Council Consensus

It was the consensus of the Council to support the 2015 Police Department budget requests and proposed reorganization as presented by the Police Chief. With notation by Councilmember Karasek that his support is contingent upon maintaining the current level of safety.

The City Administrator and Finance Director reviewed the proposed 2015 budget and levy in detail. They reported that property values are beginning to rebound. The tax capacity for the City of Champlin is increasing by approximately 8.70% for payable 2015 according to Hennepin County. The proposed budget shows a \$211,413 or 3.41% levy increase for 2015. There is a 4.86% decrease in the tax rate. A 1.31% decrease in fiscal disparities. The water and sewer utility rates are being analyzed at this time. The refuse/recycling/street light/storm sewer rates are identified to have a zero increase in 2015. A 2% COLA is outlined per employee contracts. The budget accounts for the addition of a Police Investigative Sergeant in October. There is \$25,000 added to the infrastructure transfer for the Ice Forum. There is \$75,000 added to the infrastructure transfer for Capital Improvement Streets. It is proposed that there be a delay in the proposed 2013 scheduled increases in Capital Equipment Fund in the amount of \$115,000 and \$70,000 to the Capital Improvement Streets. There is a zero increase in the budget for supplies and services. The Council Contingency allocation is set at ½% for the year 2015 but should be increased in 2016 and beyond.

The City Administrator sought Council consensus on the proposed preliminary budget and levy to be formally presented for action on September 8th.

Council Consensus

It was the consensus of the Council to move forward with the 2015 preliminary budget and levy as presented for formal action on September 8th. Councilmember Terry expressed a dissenting opinion as she did not support the budget and levy as presented, instead favoring a lower budget and levy number.

Mayor Nelson directed staff to prepare an analysis by department of what costs could be reduced and/or revenues generated to allow the City to reduce the levy from a 3.41% to 1.99% increase for 2015. He noted that the final budget will be set on December 8th and that it can be reduced but not increased between now and then.

Adjournment

The Champlin City Council adjourned the Worksession at 8:27 p.m.

ArMand Nelson, Mayor

Attest:

Roberta Colotti, CMC, City Clerk