

CITY OF IOLA

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07/17/2019

A special called meeting of the City Council of the City of Iola was held on July 17, 2019, at 6:00 p.m., at the Riverside Park Community Building 510 Park Avenue, Iola, Kansas. The purpose of said meeting was to discuss 2020 Budget.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Wells called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Wells and Council Members Peters, Peterson, Ford, Mathew, and Martin were present. Also present were Administrator Fleming and City Clerk Hutton. Council Members Ballard, Myrick, and Franklin were absent.

BUDGET 2020

Administrator Fleming discussed the Draft Budget with the Council. He started with the funds that are not a significant part of the budget.

Mayor Wells noted that the \$50,000 budgeted in the Industrial Projects was a placeholder in case a company/individual came to the City wanting assistance with starting their company.

The Employee Insurance City Contribution shows a 12.5% increase from the 2019 Budget.

The Cemetery Trust Fund shows a software update for plot management.

The Special Trafficway Fund has a budget for a mill and overlay project. Staff has not determined exactly which street will be done. State Street is needed, however; there is a large water line under the street that will need to be replaced at the same time as the mill and overlay project.

The Stormwater Fund has been building up funds to do a larger lining project in 2020.

Administrator Fleming noted that the Capital Projects Fund is supported by the local sales tax. The tax was approved last year at the General Election and continues through 2029.

Council Members discussed phasing out the support to the hospital. With the possible management agreement that may take place the City may be able to stop the support that it has provided for the last 10 years.

The Gas Fund revenue from Gas sales has been estimated closer to actuals.

Administrator Fleming noted that Personnel in all funds includes a 2.5% COLA along with the regularly, scheduled step increases for those individuals that are not maxed out.

Administrator Fleming noted that the non-gas cost has not been adjusted in several years. Staff will need to consult with Scott Shreve of EMG to determine an increase to this cost adjustment so that it will reflect actual costs to provide the utility to customers.

The Electric Distribution fund has a Chipper Truck budgeted.

The transfers out remain the same. CIP is budgeted for a possible third generator. A Master Plan and possibly extending a third phase to City of Gas.

The breaker replacement on the operations side is budgeted to be finished in 2020.

The Wastewater Fund includes the Solar Bees Contract Services included as in previous years. With the completion of the Wastewater Master Plan in August staff will have a better understanding of what is needed for the system.

The Water Fund shows the restoration of the transfer to the General Fund but does not include transfers to the CIP Fund. The KDHE Loan Payment will consume a large amount of the fund. He stressed that the rates need to be increased for the fund to meet expenses. This fund should stand on its own. Including supporting transfers to the General Fund to assist paying for services provided within the General Fund and transfers to the CIP Fund to fund large projects necessary to improve the system.

Motion made by Council Member Mathew and seconded by Council Member Martin to adjourn the Special Called Meeting until Thursday, July 18, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Wells called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Wells and Council Members Peters, Peterson, Ford, Mathew, Franklin, and Martin were present. Also present were Administrator Fleming, and City Clerk Hutton. Council Members Ballard and Myrick were absent.

Administrator Fleming told the Council that the mill levy will remain flat, however; the City will see an increase in revenue due to a higher valuation.

Didn't want to inflate the Sales Tax Receipts just because of the higher than normal revenues the last two years. More than likely the increased revenues are due to construction crews in the area for short term projects.

The General Fund includes a transfer from the Water Fund and a decrease of the Sanitation Fund transfer.

Council Member Ford noted that the Council needs to look at the wage study closely and see where the City can save money through retirements and attritions.

The Police Department is looking into obtaining a K-9 Unit. The patrol car will need to be equipped for the K-9 Unit. It will cost about \$4,500 to maintain the Unit each year. Part of the initial expense will come from the Police Seizure Fund.

Council Members stated they would like to have a presentation from the Police Chief.

The Street and Alley budget includes equipment transfers and the chip and seal program.

The Parks budget includes a new RTV and replacement of the roofs on the shelter houses.

The Fire/EMS budget includes the current contract with the county. That contract expires in 2020.

Council Member Ford wondered if having the Fire Department work 12 hour shifts as opposed to 24 hour shifts would cut down on the overtime.

Administrator Fleming noted that changing to a 12 hour shift would necessitate more employees. It is becoming difficult to find staff for the department now.

Council Member Ford stated that the website maintenance seems high considering it seems outdated and broken links.

Council Member Franklin inquired if the Chamber and the City could combine websites. Administrator Fleming noted that the Chamber has a need for a separate website.

The Administration Budget includes \$2,500 to bolster the savings to replace the Taurus, move the current minivan to another service and purchase a new vehicle for Administration as well as other departments for out-of-town travel.

Mayor Wells noted that the Green Space is on the path to change into an insect butterfly area which will cut down on the greenspace mowing expense.

The Water Fund rates were discussed. Mayor Wells noted that if the Water Fund transfers funds to the General fund, pay the bond payment, and sets aside money for Capital Projects, the fund loses money.

DATE / TIME OF NEXT MEETING

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 22, 2019

City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 12, 2019

7:24 pm. Motion made by Council Member Ford and seconded by Council Member Martin to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approved by the City Council of the City of Iola, Kansas this 12th day of August 2019.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nathan Wells", written over a horizontal line.

Mayor Wells

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Roxanne Hutton", written over a horizontal line.

City Clerk, Roxanne Hutton