

BUDGET WORKSHOP
CITY OF CROSSLAKE
MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 2022
3:00 P.M. – CITY HALL

The Council for the City of Crosslake held a Budget Workshop on August 29, 2022. The following Council Members were present: Mayor Dave Nevin, John Andrews, Marcia Seibert-Volz, Aaron Herzog, and Dave Schrupp. Also present were City Administrator/Treasurer Mike Lyonais, City Clerk Char Nelson, Fire Chief Chip Lohmiller, Park Director TJ Graumann, Police Chief Erik Lee, and Public Works Director Patrick Wehner. There were two people in the audience.

Mayor Nevin called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

Mike Lyonais presented the draft budget dated August 29, 2022 and reviewed the Revenue and Expenditure Assumptions used to complete the document.

The Draft 2023 Budget showed a fully-loaded version, including a Full-Time Fire Chief with salary and benefits, a new vehicle for Fire Chief, funding for road projects, a new fire truck and an administrative staff person to be split between police and fire departments. This version is \$681,102 over last year or 15.25%.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the Joint Maintenance Facility and the lease with the County. Mike Lyonais stated that staff is working with the County and the County has given no indication that they want to move out of the building. Mr. Lyonais stated that the big question that they are trying to answer is how to maintain the building, who is in charge, how charges will be divided.

Erik Lee reported that he included 2 radios, 2 bullet proof vests, computers for squad cars, and 2023 squad car in his 2023 Capital Outlay Budget. Marcia Seibert Volz asked what would be left in the Police Equipment Reserve Fund at the end of this year and Chief replied that is unknown because equipment has been ordered and not paid for this year.

Chief Lohmiller told the Council that he would like to purchase the new fire truck in 2023 because the price will continue to increase. The replacement has been in the capital plan for years to be purchased in 2024. The fire department will sell Engine 2 and Tender 4 for approximately \$145,000 and reduce the cost of the truck to about \$500,000. A discussion ensued regarding the hiring of a full-time employee to help in both the fire and police departments. Marcia Seibert-Volz suggested hiring one part-time employee and see how that worked. John Andrews stated that the City needs at least one full-time employee, if not more. Chief Lee stated that he could use a ¾ time staff person. A brief discussion ensued regarding what the duties of a full-time fire chief include. Chief Lohmiller explained that the increase in number of calls that the firefighters respond to compared to when most joined the department is almost double and it is causing burnout. The Council needs to look at other fire department models. Chip Lohmiller suggested an increase of \$5.00 per call in 2023 to coverage mileage that the firefighters currently do not receive. Dave Nevin stated that the County gets approximately 20% of the City's property taxes and that the City should get more services from them.

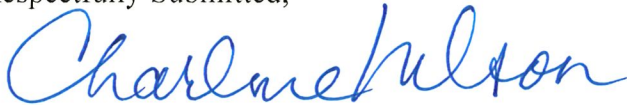
The meeting was turned over to Patrick Wehner to discuss Public Works Budget for 2023. Tom Swenson of the Public Works Commission stated that the commission discussed budgeting for maintenance rather than for reconstruction of roads. Mr. Swenson stated that if the City plans to extend sewer down Kimball Road in the near future, they may want to just fix the bad parts of it now or do a overlay from the damage of the detour. Mr. Swenson suggested that the Council put a certain dollar amount in the annual budget and carry it over if not spent, rather than bonding for every project. A brief discussion ensued regarding bonding for this year's projects and decisions that the Council still needed to make.

Patrick Wehner gave an update on projects being done now and equipment he could still purchase this year, including a Chevy 4500 rather than the One Ton that was budgeted, a 9' sickle mower, and roof repairs at the sewer plant.

Mike Lyonais stated that TJ Graumann had to leave the meeting early, but left a quote for the Council to see for the purchase of two new HVAC's this year and two next year.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 5:20 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Charlene Nelson
City Clerk