

BUDGET WORKSHOP  
CITY OF CROSSLAKE  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2023  
9:00 A.M. – CITY HALL

The Council for the City of Crosslake held a Budget Workshop on August 30, 2023. The following Council Members were present: Mayor Dave Nevin, Sandy Farder, Marcia Seibert-Volz, Aaron Herzog, and Jackson Purfeerst. Also present were City Administrator/Treasurer Mike Lyonais, City Clerk Char Nelson, Fire Chief Chip Lohmiller, Park Director TJ Graumann, Police Chief Jake Maier, and Public Works Director Patrick Wehner. There was one person in the audience.

Mayor Nevin called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. Marcia Seibert-Volz stated that items 5 and 6 on the agenda should be removed because they were not properly noticed according to the Open Meeting Law.

Public Works Director Pat Wehner presented his requests for capital purchases for 2024. The Council agreed to add a snow pusher in the amount of \$12,230 and a shouldering machine in the amount of \$37,500 to the 2024 Budget. Mr. Wehner stated that the snow pusher attaches to the loader and will be used to clean the roads in Town Square. Mr. Wehner presented a quote in the amount of \$77,246 for a Ditch Witch HX30 which cleans and jets ponds and sewer lines. There are grants available to help cover the cost. Dave Nevin stated that staff does not have time to take on more work and that the City should continue contracting for these services. It was the consensus of the Council to not include the Ditch Witch in the 2024 Budget. Aaron Herzog stated that the Council should start setting money aside each year for large equipment purchases. Tom Swenson of 35533 Sand Pointe Drive stated that the City should not have taken over the maintenance of the roads in Town Square and that staff should get an easement from Town Square for the storage of snow.

Mike Lyonais provided information from the 2022 Financial Statements regarding general long-term debt balances for Council information.

Marcia Seibert-Volz asked a question about funds levied in 2023 for the Fire Department Command Vehicle. A discussion ensued regarding Fire Department expenditures to date. MOTION 08SP5-01-23 WAS MADE BY MARCIA SEIBERT-VOLZ AND SECONDED BY JACKSON PURFEERST TO DIRECT STAFF TO PUT \$25,000 FROM FIRE DEPARTMENT 2023 BUDGET IN RESERVE ACCOUNT AND TO REDUCE FIRE DEPARTMENT 2024 BUDGET FOR COMMAND VEHICLE TO \$30,000. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

Chip Lohmiller presented an updated quote of \$87,827.68 for radios to be purchased in 2024 and reported that he will receive a grant of \$5,000 from the DNR towards the purchase of them. MOTION 08SP5-02-23 WAS MADE BY MARCIA SEIBERT-VOLZ AND SECONDED BY SANDY FARDER TO DESIGNATE THE \$107,910 OF PUBLIC SAFETY AID FOR PURCHASES OF TASERS AND RADIOS. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

It was the consensus of the Council to support the requests of \$3,500 from the Chamber of Commerce and \$1,650 from the Initiative Foundation for 2024.

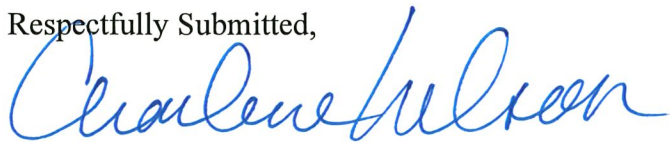
A lengthy discussion ensued regarding 2024 road improvements. Phil Martin, Pat Wehner, Tom Swenson, and Mike Lyonais met on 8/28/23 and discussed road priorities, costs, and payment options for 2024. The Public Works Commission will review the information at their meeting on 9/5/23 and make a recommendation to the Council. Tom Swenson stated that they discussed creating a 5-Year Road Improvement Plan that would include approximately \$1,000,000 in projects each year. Mike Lyonais explained State Statutes 429 and 475 for bonding and assessing projects. Marcia Seibert-Volz noted that there is \$123,000 in Bridge Maintenance reserve account. Mr. Lyonais stated that Milinda Shores Bridge is in need of repairs including new abutments and guardrails at an estimated cost of \$130,000. Mr. Lyonais noted that the funds in the reserve account were derived from the assessments paid on Sunrise Island Bridge and Dream Island Bridge and were intended to be used for future repairs to those bridges. MOTION 08SP5-03-23 WAS MADE BY MARCIA SEIBERT-VOLZ AND SECONDED BY JACKSON PURFEERST TO USE \$100,000 FROM BRIDGE MAINTENANCE RESERVES TO PAY FOR MILINDA SHORES BRIDGE REPAIRS. MOTION CARRIED 4-1 WITH HERZOG OPPOSED. Aaron Herzog stated that the funds should be left in the account for emergencies.

TJ Graumann gave an update on the Park's 2024 Budget. Mr. Graumann reported that he is obtaining quotes for 2-HVAC units and would like to replace those in 2023 using Parks General Capital Expense Reserve Funds. Mr. Graumann is also getting quotes for installation of insulation in roof of Community Center to be done in 2023, rather than 2024, to avoid additional ice dams and roof damage. Mr. Graumann reported that the current lawn mower should last one more season and could be replaced in 2025. These changes would decrease the Park Department 2024 Budget by \$39,000. Mr. Graumann asked that the Council consider adding \$3,000 in the 2024 Budget for signage for marking of public rights-of-ways and \$2,000 for Summer Youth Coordinator position.

The Council had a lengthy discussion regarding whether to keep the levy amount the same as last year or whether to keep the tax rate the same as last year. Marcia Seibert-Volz was in favor of keeping the levy amount the same. Approximately \$524,844 could be generated if the same tax rate of 20.88% was used for 2024. Council discussed compromising between the two ideas. MOTION 08SP5-04-23 WAS MADE BY AARON HERZOG AND SECONDED BY SANDY FARDER TO DIRECT STAFF TO CHANGE THE TAX RATE TO 19.86% FOR THE PROPOSED 2024 PRELIMINARY LEVY. MOTION CARRIED 4-1 WITH SEIBERT-VOLZ OPPOSED.

There being no further business at 11:20 A.M., MOTION 08SP5-05-23 WAS MADE BY JACKSON PURFEERST AND SECONDED BY MARCIA SEIBERT-VOLZ TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

Respectfully Submitted,



Charlene Nelson  
City Clerk