

Eldora City Council
Special Council Meeting
February 23, 2021 -- 6:00 pm

Eldora City Council met in Special Session in the council chamber with Mayor David Dunn presiding. Council members Greg Priske, Cindy Johns and Melody Hoy were present, also present was City Administrator Aaron Budweg, Chandra Kyte and citizens and newspaper reporters.

The council discussed the Storey Kenworthy bill for the EMS. The council wanted to know how much from LOST was spent on the project. They also would like to know what is needed to finish the project and how much more funds are needed to finish the project. After further discussion, the council is waiting on more information before approving this bill.

The other item on the agenda was to review the budget. Aaron and the Finance Committee review each department and how the final budget came about. They answer questions from the council. The final Levy Rate is 21.48613 for the 2021/2022 year. So, of the items discussed, the Fire Dept revenue was first. The Fire invoices may get paid in full or at the rate the insurance company pays for them. Some are not paid at all. They gave the Fire Dept an equipment budget of 40K and would let them decide on which equipment to get. They looked at contracting out mowing this summer but will leave it as the Street Dept mowing it. For the Pool, they looked at opening earlier on weekends in May and staying open longer in August on weekends, depending on finding lifeguards. They looked at businesses sponsoring a day at the Pool. The advertisement was corrected from 3,000 to 300. Discussed painting the pool before it opens. Economic Development discussed the EACC taking over the basket of flowers that hang up town. The City could still water them. The Office budget raised the training expense line since Aaron is new and would be taking more classes this year. Repair and maintenance was also raised for the Office. IT is looking at Hardin County to help with the City's IT. Trust & Agency will see an increase of insurance premiums of about 5% and the budget will have the employees paying 10% or 11% for non-smoker or smokers. The clinic is looking at finding new renters for the space and will review the Rotary rent for the Haunted Hospital. In the Library building maintenance line is a yearly fee to maintain the heating and cooling system. The Theater hopes to reopen this fall. The EMS is receiving GEMT payment but would like to know when will the payments end. The council discussed setting up a Cemetery Board to help restore some headstones. If one falls over now, the City just sets it back up in its place. The Street Dept gets its revenue from Road Use Tax, which is based on population. The census will not be out until September or October so the effects on the Street Dept revenue is not known. For the Economic Loan, only one is a secured loan. In the future they should all be secured. The council would like to be more informed on the loans. Water will raise the water rate by 4%, Sewer will raise the sewer rate by 2% and the sewer treatment charge is set to go from \$8.00 to \$10.00 but will only be raised to \$8.50 this year. The Sewer Dept has also raised the professional fees for the recruitment of a grade 3 sewer lab employee. The Storm Water Dept will add .25 cents to the current charge on the water bill.

Mayor Dunn asked for a motion to adjourn. Council member Priske so moved; meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.

David W. Dunn, Mayor

ATTEST:

Chandra Kyte, City Clerk