

The Committee of Whole of the City of Horicon met in regular session on October 26, 2016. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Neitzel at 6:02 p.m.

Alders present: Hady, Anfinson, Miller, Frami, and Fausett.

Alders absent: Marschke.

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The purpose of the Committee of Whole was to conduct a review of the 2017 Preliminary Budget and to formulate a budget for publication.

Kristen Jacobson, Clerk-Treasurer, stated the proposed General Fund levy for 2017 increased \$184,466 and the Debt Service levy decreased \$3,475, resulting in an overall levy increase of 9.088%. The proposed levy for 2017 is the maximum allowed underneath current levy requirements.

Jacobson announced the preliminary budget had a deficit of \$296,843.

Jacobson noted the preliminary budget contained a 7.07% (\$253,043) increase in expenditures over 2016. She announced the State had not yet released the percentage allowed to comply with the Expenditure Restraint Program but she anticipates it will be 1.8%, it was 1.4% last year. She further announced the Committee will need to trim an estimated \$193,000 to qualify for the Expenditure Restraint Program.

Jacobson distributed Preliminary Budget Notes which reviewed areas of the budget and listed outlay items. This was utilized in reviewing the Preliminary Budget.

Anfinson conducted a review of the City Council budget which included the purchase of new chairs for the Council Chambers and the purchase of electronic notebooks for all the alderpersons.

Jacobson conducted a review of the Municipal Court budget. It was noted the Court is purchasing new software to aid in the collection of citations.

The Municipal Building and City Clerk budgets were reviewed with Clerk-Treasurer Kristen Jacobson. Replacement of the concrete at the rear entrance of the Municipal Building in the amount of \$2,000 was removed from the budget.

The Safety Building and Police Department budgets were reviewed with Police Lieutenant Russ Saunders. Items removed from the budget included: removal of obsolete radio console in the amount of \$5,500, painting of the Fire Department bay walls and storage room in the amount of \$10,484, and a speed board in the amount of \$5,245.

A review of the Fire Department budget was held with Fire Chief, Jim Bandsma.

A review of the EMS budget was held. It was noted EMS wages increased due to a proposed new pay structure. The pay structure was changed to reduce the on-call rate to \$1.00/hour thus reducing EMS wages and social security by \$7,073.

The Public Works and Aquatic Center budgets were reviewed with DPW/Utilities Supervisor, Dave Magnussen. The following items were removed from the budget: blacktopping of the City Garage driveway in the amount of \$16,000, reduction in contractor tree trimming in the amount of \$5,000, a \$2,000 reduction in ash tree removal, and a scoreboard at River Bend ball diamond in the amount of \$6,000.

A discussion was held relating to resurfacing at the Aquatic Center. It was decided to pull the \$89,000 expense from the General Fund budget and fund it from the Capital Project Fund in a lesser dollar amount in the hopes of finding a better quote.

A review of the Cemetery budget was held. Mayor Neitzel announced he recommended removing \$7,095 to asphalt the south exit road and instead encouraged it to be included in the \$100,000 milling and overlay budgeted for 2017.

A review of the Library budget was held.

A review of the Cable T.V. budget was held. Wages and social security were reduced by \$2,153.

The Economic Development budget was reviewed with Director of Economic Development, Jim Schaefer. Funding for consultant fees were reduced \$5,000.

At this point Jacobson totaled the amounts removed from the budget as well as adjustments made after the budget was printed and informed the Committee the proposed budget still would not qualify for the Expenditure Restraint Program.

The Committee further reviewed the budget and made the following recommendations:

- Remove chairs for the Clerk's office in the amount of \$3,400.
- Remove purchase of electronic notebooks for the alderpersons in the amount of \$4,760.
- Remove resurfacing of the tennis courts at River Bend Park in the amount of \$19,044.
- Remove purchase of ice rink liner in the amount of \$600.
- Remove funding for Mayor's conferences in the amount of \$400.
- Reduce Clerk meetings and conferences in the amount of \$450.

Jacobson announced the Committee had now reduced the 2017 proposed expenditures by \$193,045 which should qualify the City for the Expenditure Restraint Program. The reductions have also reduced 2017 deficit budget to \$103,798.

Jacobson reviewed funds 210, 220, 230, 240, 300, 404, and 405.

Requested purchases in Fund 410 – Capital Equipment Fund were reviewed with Saunders, Bandsma, and Magnussen. No items were removed.

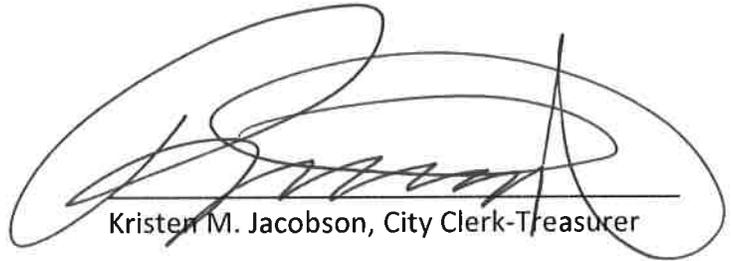
Projects in Fund 425 were discussed. The South Wind Trail Reconstruction Project was removed from the budget, only design costs remain.

A review of the Utilities budget was held with Dave Magnussen. Items discussed included outlay purchases. The only item removed from both the Water and the Wastewater budgets was the South Wind Trail Reconstruction Project. Funding for design of the South Wind Trail Reconstruction Project remained.

Motion by Anfinson, second by Miller, to approve the Preliminary Budget for publication as modified with a deficit of \$103,800 and to apply fund balance to balance the budget. All voting AYE. Motion carried.

The Public Hearing for the 2017 City of Horicon Proposed Budget was set for November 22, 2016 at 6 p.m. There were no objections.

Motion by Miller, second by Hady, to adjourn. All voting AYE. Meeting adjourned at 12:10 a.m.



Kristen M. Jacobson, City Clerk-Treasurer