

CITY OF DEWITT  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
January 13, 2020

The special meeting of the DeWitt City Council was held on January 13, 2020. Mayor Donald J. Thiltgen, presiding. Council members present Smith, Chrones, Hasenmiller, Ketelsen. Marcus absent.

**Budget Workshop:** Deanna stated that the city expense history for past 10 years was emailed to all council. Council confirmed their preference is to wait to do the new max levy notice until we know the actual numbers rather than do now with estimates. Taxable values were discussed. Our total taxable value did not decrease but with the combination of 1) taking more for TIF, 2) decrease in residential rollback, 3) decrease in multi-residential rollback and 4) a state ordered 30% reduction in ag for Clinton County our taxable value available for our general fund decreased. This is equivalent to over \$35,000 less dollar next year than this year. Garbage budget was discussed first. Council has discussed the last few years the decision to keep the rate the same despite the contract rate changing. The intent is to make money for a few years then lose money for a few years to keep the rate constant. Storm water utility budget was discussed next. This shows no rate change and results in net income. Items included are 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue/4<sup>th</sup> Street storm sewer repairs, \$1,000 in minor equipment, new hard hats, \$2,500 for ½ of a grapple bucket, continuing the intake program, and transfer for future sweeper and mower. Water utility budget was discussed next. It is showing an net income of \$12,692 with no rate change. Included are expenses related to retirement/replacement of staff, \$3,000 for parking lot, \$35,000 for well pull, \$20,000 for ½ the costs of meter/ert replacements, and increase in utility costs. Net income is to be transferred into equipment replacement fund. Sewer utility budget was discussed next. It includes a 5% rate increase as we have talked about for the last couple of years in order to cover costs related to the upcoming disinfection project and future nutrient reduction project. This proposal is showing a net income however due to higher than anticipated project bids our debt service schedule will need to be modified. This budget includes replacement of lab furnace/AC, \$24,000 in lift station improvements, \$62,000 for pulling south digester, \$13,500 for bar screen, increases to utility cost for new UV disinfection process, \$40,000 generator, and \$10,000 mower. Debt service numbers will be adjusted when revised payment schedule is received. Part of the disinfection project expenses are budgeted for as this should be complete by August/September 2020. The sewer studies is continuing with the metals study expenses.

Chrones moved to adjourn 6:47 p.m.

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Donald J. Thiltgen, Mayor

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Deanna Rekemeyer, acting City Clerk