

CITY OF DEWITT
COUNCIL MEETING
January 27, 2020

The special meeting of the DeWitt City Council was held on January 27, 2020. Mayor Donald J. Thiltgen, presiding. Council members present Ketelsen, Marcus, Hasenmiller, Chrones, Smith.

Budget Workshop. Council continued with general fund budget discussion. Library budget includes new revenue and matching expense for ebooks. Also included are several increases expected due to the larger facility under construction such as wages, advertising, utilities, office and janitorial supply expenses. Library county reserve expenses may deplete this reserve by the end of next year. Library open access and enrich Iowa are budgeted to spend the expected state revenues for these. Parks department budget includes increased chemical costs and \$25,000 restroom at Paarmann Park. It was noted that Kevin wanted recreation supervisor position increased to full-time. Those expenses are not included in the numbers presented. This would cost just under \$40,000. Recreation department expenses include ½ the cost of new softball/baseball field at Ekstrand. Aquatic center expenses include \$10,000 in miscellaneous repairs and updates. Cemetery budget includes expenses for weed control and tree trimming. It was noted that Kevin would like to shift community center responsibility to the library. Community center expense include purchase of 15 circular tables and rack. Fitness center expenses include new phone system maintenance, and \$10,000 for aerobic equipment. DCDC request is the same as last 2 years. Peanut Butter college loan repayment program is budgeted for 15 participants. General housing is budgeted for income survey for grant application. Zoning expense remain very similar to current year. Hotel/motel expense include Hausbarn maintenance and tourism request from DCDC. The mayor/administrator budget includes cuts to membership dues and one less conference. Council budget is very similar to current year less tablets purchased this year. City clerk/finance budget includes minor increase for additional budget public hearing notice. City hall budget includes adding air conditioning to basement for safe records storage and cleaning up front landscaping. Tax revenues are budgeted at same tax rate. Steve has prepared a list of potential cuts that council can consider rather than raise tax rate. Several questions were asked about reserve balances. After discussion several transfers to reserve and SSMID were reduced or eliminated. Reductions were made in police, library, fitness and administrative departments. Both the Paarmann Park restroom and new softball/baseball field at Ekstrand were eliminated.

Chrones moved to adjourn 7:08 p.m.

Donald J. Thiltgen, Mayor

Deanna Rekemeyer, acting City Clerk