

CITY OF DEWITT
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 30, 2012

The special meeting of the DeWitt City Council was held on January 30, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Donald J. Thiltgen presiding. Council members present Smith, Scheckel, Hasenmiller, Ketelsen. Marcus absent.

Discussion future TIF financing. Council discussed recommendations and opinions from Tim Oswald, financial advisor, and John Danos, bond attorney. Council felt the City should move forward with these suggestions. They will be on future agendas for action.

LED Street Light Grant. Notification of successful funding was received Friday. Funds are available for match. Council wants to move forward. Grant contract will be on next council agenda for approval.

Budget Workshop. Special revenue fund budgets were continued with from last meeting. Currently the trust and agency levy is set to keep the overall city portion of the tax rate the same as the current year. If the tax rate remains the same it will be the 5th year in a roll that the city's portion of the tax rate will be the same. Municipal fire and police pension (411) contribution rate is increasing again to 26.12% of wages. No emergency levy is currently proposed. Local option tax street proposed expenses include continuation of new signs for new reflectivity standards, \$25,000 for a pick up with tommy gate, ½ of a \$135,000 plow, and simple signs tracking software. The TIF fund has 5 rebates scheduled in next fiscal year and is proposed to spend existing fund balance. A proposed change for the DDID (DeWitt Downtown Improvement District) is to work with the school on plants and hire a part-time employee for plant watering/maintenance rather than contracting for this service. The general fund budget was discussed next. As prepared it shows a \$202,909 net loss. Police budget requests include costs for replacing the captain position due to retirement, upgrading digital cameras, new vehicle including equipment, upfitting a second vehicle, taser replacement and in car computer replacement. Civil service is budgeted assuming we would have two replacements/promotions. Fire department proposal includes siding/roofing garage, a copier/printer combination and a \$4,600 oscillating blitz nozzle. The inspection department budget includes costs for updating codes and replacement of his vehicle. Traffic safety proposal includes a battery back up for 11th Street/11th Avenue traffic light. Library budgets include computer upgrades. Parks department budget includes multiple requests including \$5,000 for tree stump sculpture, shelter roof replacement, \$4,000 for 60" brush and addition of bathrooms at Paarmann Park. Recreation budget includes ½ of new full-time position, \$4,000 for portable pitching mounds, ½ of a printer/copier combination and \$15,000 for sidewalk by soccer fields. The aquatic center budget proposal includes \$10,000 for an ADA compliant lift chair, lily pad replacement and \$50,000 to replace the pool heater. The cemetery budget includes a new mower. Community center budget includes replacement of one furnace, kitchen door replacement, and elimination of phone land line. The fitness center budget includes ½ of new full-time position, increases in instructor pay if certified, \$4,750 for front door replacement, \$15,000 in various exercise equipment pieces, \$10,000 ADA compliant lift chair, and \$54,000 air handling unit replacement. City council budget includes \$3,200 for tablets/readers to go to paperless packets. Transfers are requested for multiple departments and projects. Next meeting council will determine how to balance the general fund budget.

Scheckel moved to adjourn 9:12 p.m.