

CITY OF DEWITT  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
January 30, 2023

A special meeting of the DeWitt City Council was held on January 30, 2023. Mayor Steve Hasenmiller presiding. Council Members present Smith, Chrones, Ketelsen, Goldensoph, Marcus on zoom. The City council meeting will also be open to the public electronically, to join zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85082846089?pwd=YnRCZGlxQUR2L3Z0dVpRV241SEFYUT09>

Meeting ID: 850 8284 6089      Passcode: 794339

**Budget Workshop.** General fund budget discussions continued. There is a request to change the recreation supervisor position from part-time to full-time. Those costs are in the packet of information but not included in the budget figures. It would affect parks, recreation, community center, aquatic center and fitness center budgets. The parks department budget includes \$12,000 for trail repair. It was noted that the City received a \$15,000 donation to be used for parks in June. Recreation revenues are similar to the current year. Recreation expenses include payment for a soccer clinic with donated funds, sale of reversible jerseys, and \$12,000 for shade structures at Westbrook park. Aquatic center rental fees were increased. Aquatic center expenses include \$6,000 for camera system and \$4,000 in miscellaneous upgrades including LED lights. Repainting the aquatic center is budgeted. This is an estimate. The cemetery budget includes software to be purchased with a donation received in June. The community center budget includes 4,000 for floor maintenance and \$10,000 in miscellaneous building upgrades. Fitness center expenses include \$7,000 for LED light upgrades, increases in operational equipment repair/maintenance contracts and a request to upgrade Cogran. It is noted a \$5,000 donation was also received to be used by fitness center. It was noted the existing Peanut Butter Student loan program expires June 30, 2024. The zoning department includes a \$10,000 request for updating the comprehensive plan. Community activities includes an increase of \$4,000 for DCDC request. It also includes new requests for \$10,000 for Tunes in Town and \$3,000 for Tunes in Town band. The Mayor/City Administrator budget includes ICMA conference. The City Council budget includes dropping zoom as teams instead. Liquor license revenue is budgeted to decrease due to changes where the state retains more of the revenue. Director of Finance/City Clerk budget includes office 365 include email set up and migration. An election is budgeted in next year. The City Hall budget includes \$2,500 to clean/paint lintels, rails and trim and replacement of the server, firewall and backup system. The server must be replaced. Insurance premium expense is expected to increase 12%. As briefly discussed last week, the state legislature has a pending bill to decrease the rollback and thus the taxable values this budget is based on. Deanna had emailed estimates of the impact of this proposed legislation on DeWitt. This would decrease tax revenues by just under \$114,000. Steve attended a public hearing on this today and it appears it is likely to pass. Taking this into account, the general fund would be at a net loss of \$124,186. Steve also emailed out samples of the effect of new values on tax bills for several local properties. The percentage vary greatly. Steve had prepared some potential budget cuts. Council agreed to use the parks donation (\$15,000) to pay for the trail repair with the balance to be used to cover other expenses in the parks budget. The \$5,000 fitness center donation towards aerobic equipment instead of cutting that expense. Other cuts

include decrease in HVAC contract for police station, cameras at compost and aquatic center, LED lights at fitness center, reduction to community center updates, and decrease in Tunes in Town support. Set asides for fire apparatus, ball diamond reserve and playground reserves were all decreased. Transfer to SSMID was also decreased. Council was updated on the library's meeting with the County Board of Supervisors. Janette stated they have included the increase to the \$.10 funding level and seemed open to the \$.15 funding if possible. Council agreed to the additional library staff funding. Council agreed to make the change to 411 and employee benefits levy suggested by Deanna. Next week the public hearing for the max levy will be set.

Chrones moved to adjourn 7:25 p.m.

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Steve Hasenmiller, Mayor

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Deanna Rekemeyer, acting City Clerk