

CITY OF DEWITT
COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2010

The special meeting of the DeWitt City Council was held on February 8, 2010 in the City Hall council chambers. Mayor Donald J. Thiltgen presiding. Council members present Ketelsen, Marcus, Scheckel, Dunkin, Hasenmiller.

Public Hearings: A. To Consider the plans, form of contract and estimated cost for the construction of the 12th Street Reconstruction 2010 Project. Ketelsen moved and Scheckel seconded to go out of regular session into public hearing. Motion carried with Ketelsen, Scheckel, Dunkin, Marcus, Hasenmiller voting yes. No comments or questions were received.

Resolution No. 2010-11: Approving the Plans and Specifications, Proposed Form of Contract and Estimate of Cost for the Construction of the 12th Street Reconstruction 2010 Project. Hasenmiller moved and Dunkin seconded to approve **Resolution 2010-11.** Motion carried with Hasenmiller, Dunkin, Ketelsen, Marcus, Scheckel voting yes.

Budget Workshop (General Fund.) The general fund cash flow was discussed first. The analysis shows a decrease in existing fund balance and that at the end of the current fiscal year our general fund balance will be approximately \$330,000 less than what is calculated as needed for cash flow assuming no additional unexpected general fund costs come up. Department heads can try to stagger controllable costs more so they do not all hit in the first few months of the new fiscal year. However some costs are not controllable. Next Deanna stated that she had made a calculation error at a previous meeting. To be at the current tax rate an additional \$24,126 can be levied for general fund or road use fund employee benefits. Council wanted this for general fund benefits. General fund budget discussion began with the police department. Changes include repayment to be received from the county for Clinton Dispatch, more requests for tuition reimbursement and a new 4 wheel drive vehicle. Fire department budget includes new US Cellular lease revenue, high pressure fan, confined space cutter and small jaws pump. The fire department has requested the fire engine reserve be changed to fire apparatus reserve as they have more vehicles that just a fire engine. A request for \$100,000 to be put in that reserve for future purchases. This request was decreased to \$50,000 by council. Building permit revenues projected are down. A new car was requested for the building official. This purchase was cut from the budget with \$3,500 being transferred to the reserve for future purchase of a vehicle. The vehicle repair/maintenance line was increased. The traffic safety budget proposal included 2 battery back ups at \$4,000 each. Council cut one of them out. The proposed compost budget includes barricades, site work and a windrow turner. The windrow turner was removed as we do not currently have a tractor that can run it. The library county assistance revenue is being increased. Next the parks department was discussed. This budget includes a pay increase for the lead parks maintenance employee, new roof for the Westbrook park maintenance building, an aerator/seed box, flagpole at Westbrook, new restrooms at Paarmann park and a new mower. The flagpole was removed to be completed as part of the ball diamond project. The Paarmann park restroom was also cut. The aquatic center budget includes increases for additional repairs and \$2,500 for canopies. The proposed cemetery budget includes \$2,150 for chapel roof replacement and \$5,970 for a new mower. In the community center budget is \$5,437 for kitchen/office tile which is the last rooms to have tile replaced. Council discussed the tile. They want the final part completed. It was suggested that Lion's Club be contacted to see if they would be willing to help cover this cost. Also requested was \$3,100 for a new PA system. This was deleted from the budget. The budgeted revenues for the fitness center are being increased based on current year actual figures. Several items are included in the fitness center expense requests including resurfacing the track, carpet, lobby windows, front doors, screen projector, pool vacuum and exercise equipment. After much discussion council decided to decrease the building/grounds repair/maintenance line item from \$43,350 to \$30,000. Specific items were not deleted. It will be left to Kevin's choice for which items are more important. The request from DeWitt Development is for a 10% increase. Money is budgeted in general housing with the expectation that the city will hold pre-application meetings next fall for an owner-occupied housing grant application. Zoning revenues budgeted are decreased with the assumption that fewer subdivisions will occur next year. Hotel/motel tax fund was discussed next. The projected revenue is down. Both Autumn Fest and Santa's arrival funding requests are asking for more money. These result in fewer funds available to but put towards aquatic center and recreation expenses. The city administrator/mayor budget includes an increase for meeting and travel and a

new request for phone reimbursement for the city administrator. There is a request for use of the new tuition reimbursement policy in the director of finance/city clerk budget. The \$60,000 payment proposed from the library board for the purchase of the Theil building is listed under city hall revenues for lack of a better place. The city hall expenses include software to allow customers to check account history online and to allow for electronic utility billing. The safety department association dues is increasing as a few cities have dropped from the program.

Scheckel moved to adjourn at 9:25 p.m.

Donald J. Thiltgen, Mayor

Deanna Rodriguez, acting City Clerk