

REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in a budget workshop at 5:30 PM and regular session following at 6:00 PM on Monday February 22, 2021. Members present: R. Woods, Vorwald, T. Woods, Williams, and Erickson. Absent: None. Also, present at City Hall: Heather Prendergast, Attorney; Brian Delagardelle, Wastewater Operator; Dave Jergens, Public Works; Mike Everding, Part-Time Police Chief; Brittany Fuller, City Clerk; and Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk.

The budget for FY2022 was discussed during the budget workshop. The Council discussed the tax rate and levy possibilities.

Mayor Harter called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Williams, second by Vorwald to approve the agenda after moving the closed session (agenda item number six) down to the last item since Attorney Prendergast was able to attend the meeting in person. Roll call vote- Ayes: R. Woods, Erickson, T. Woods, Vorwald, and Williams. Nays: None.

Motion by Vorwald, second by R. Woods to approve the minutes from February 8th Regular Meeting. Roll call vote- Ayes: T. Woods, Erickson, Williams, R. Woods, and Vorwald. Nays: None.

There were no public comments.

Motion by T. Woods, second by Williams to open the public hearing on Maximum Tax Dollars for Budget Year 2021-2022. Roll call vote- Ayes: R. Woods, Vorwald, Erickson, Williams, and T. Woods. Nays: None. The max property tax levy was published at \$10.29241. The tax rate cannot be set at more than that. No other oral or written comments were received. Motion by Vorwald, second by T. Woods to close the public hearing. Roll call vote- Ayes: R. Woods, Williams, Erickson, T. Woods, and Vorwald. Nays: None.

Motion by Williams, second by T. Woods to approve **RESOLUTION 2021-02 – RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAXIMUM PROPERTY TAX DOLLARS FOR BUDGET YEAR JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022**. Roll call vote – Ayes: Erickson, R. Woods, Vorwald, T. Woods, and Williams. Nays: None.

There were quite a few people present to hear discussions on the amendment to Chapter 74 – All-Terrain Vehicles. At the meeting on February 8th the first reading was passed with changing the allowed travel time from sunrise to sunset to allow travel between 5 AM and 9 PM. JJ Little, who was present, brought up the question of why not just make it 10 PM then. Police Chief Everding said they would enforce whatever the council decided. The second reading of Ordinance 350 – Amending Provisions to All-Terrain Vehicles failed for lack of a motion. It will be presented at the next council meeting for possible approval with another update to allowed driving times from 5 AM to 10 PM.

The possible waive of third reading of Ordinance 350 – Amending Provisions Pertaining to All-Terrain Vehicles failed for lack of a motion.

Approving Ordinance 350 – Amending Provisions Pertaining to All-Terrain Vehicles failed for lack of a motion.

Time was spent discussing the budget for FY22 and the different levy options. Motion by Vorwald, second by Erickson to submit the FY22 budget for publication with a rate of \$9.9692. Roll call vote- Ayes: Vorwald and Erickson. Nays: T. Woods, R. Woods, and Williams. Motion failed. Motion by R. Woods, second by Williams to submit the FY22 budget for publication with decreasing the liability, property & self-insurance costs by \$8,950 which made the rate \$9.72802. That rate made a 24-cent decrease from the levy rate set for FY21. Roll call vote- Ayes: T. Woods, Williams, and R. Woods. Nays: Vorwald and Erickson.

Motion by T. Woods, second by Vorwald to approve **RESOLUTION 2021-03 – RESOLUTION SETTING TIME AND PLACE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE CITY'S PROPOSED FY 2021-2022 BUDGET**. Roll call vote- Ayes: Erickson, Williams, R. Woods, Vorwald, and T. Woods. Nays: None. The budget hearing will be held at City Hall on March 8, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

Police Chief Everding presented the council with quotes on a new police vehicle from multiple different dealerships. He said that Ford and Chevy had about the same warranty options. The council asked that he investigate what could be transferred out of the current car as far as equipment. Motion by T. Woods to approve the Police Department to purchase a police car within the prices presented. Motion failed for lack of second. Discussion on what the actual numbers could be on moving equipment from one vehicle to the next was brought up again. The council wanted more actual numbers on how much that could save. Motion by R. Woods, second by T. Woods to revisit at next meeting with that information presented. Roll call vote- Ayes: Erickson, Williams, Vorwald, T. woods, and R. Woods. Nays: None.

There was no new discussion on the personnel manual updates. It was encouraged to everyone to read the draft and it will be on for upcoming meetings.

During a five day stretch from February 13-17, 2021 the City of Fairbank was hit by a record breaking “spot gas” price surge. The council was updated with the known facts on the event thus far. Estimated numbers on gas costs came in at around \$175,000 during that period. The council thought we needed to know the exact impact first before they would know how to handle the situation. Attorney Prendergast noted that citizens would see an impact due to this disaster but that the council didn’t know what that impact would be yet. More information will be obtained to discuss this in further detail at the meeting on March 8th.

Delagardelle informed the council that Jon Biederman with Fehr Graham started reaching out for bids on televising the storm sewer for the Main Street project. He will get the estimates to them but also wanted to know if there were any other areas that they felt needed televised. Delagardelle also stated that sewer plant survived the cold weather and that finally that day he was able to switch everything back to automatic without any issues. He also thanked the council for the pump that was purchased a few weeks back. He said that it worked great during a water main break that last Friday morning. Jergens stated that he would be at CPO pool class the next two days. Police Chief Everding said the car was back from repairs and that he was looking into getting tires put on since two of them were very bad. Mayor Harter told the council that he was meeting with two of the CAPS program students on Wednesday to talk about future Fairbank walking/biking paths.

Motion by Williams, second by T. Woods to enter into closed session at 7:01 PM pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5 (1) (j) – to discuss the purchase or sale of particular real estate only where premature disclosure could be reasonably expected to increase the price the governmental body would have to pay for that property or reduce the price the governmental body would receive for that property. Roll call vote- Ayes: Erickson, Vorwald, R. Woods, T. Woods, and Williams. Nays: None.

Motion by Vorwald, second by R. Woods to come out of closed session at 7:19 PM. Roll call vote- Ayes: T. Woods, Erickson, Williams, R. Woods, and Vorwald. Nays: None. Motion by T. Woods, second by Vorwald to authorize the city attorney to proceed as discussed under closed session. Roll call vote- Ayes: Erickson, Vorwald, and T. Woods. Nays: None. Abstain: R. Woods and Williams.

Motion by Williams, second by R. Woods to adjourn at 7:23 PM. Roll call vote- Ayes: Vorwald, T. Woods, Erickson, R. Woods, and Williams. Nays: None.

Mike Harter, Mayor

Brittany Fuller, City Clerk