

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE – NOVEMBER 17TH 2016

A meeting of the City of Prairie du Chien Finance Committee was held on Thursday November 17th 2016 at 7:15 PM in City Hall. Chairman Nate Gilberts called the meeting to order.

GENERAL ITEMS TO BE ACTED UPON:

- 1. Call to order/Roll Call** – Nate Gilberts (Chairperson), Ron Leys, Karen Solomon, Jean Titlbach CITY STAFF ALSO PRESENT - Mayor Dave Hemmer, City Administrator Aaron Kramer, Park and Rec Director Mike Ulrich
- 2. Certification of the open meeting law agenda requirements and approval of the agenda** – MOTION: Titlbach SECOND: Solomon VOTE: 4-0
- 3. APPROVAL – Minutes of the November 15th 2016 meeting** – MOTION: Leys SECOND: Solomon VOTE: 4-0

ACTION ITEMS

4. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Proposed 2017 Budget - The Committee continued work on the proposed 2017 budget. A Public Hearing on the budget is scheduled for Thursday December 1st at 7:00 PM, prior to the final adoption of the proposed budget by the Common Council. City Administrator Kramer presented the updated numbers on the 2017 budget, and said the most recent information on the other tax levies impacting the City showed the taxes on a \$100,000 home would go up approximately \$22, but he cautioned that the state has not released the Lottery and First Dollar credit. While the City and County mill rates would be down, the overall increase was being driven by the School District, which has a projected \$31.51 increase on a \$100,000 home. Kramer said the Finance Committee could raise the City's overall tax levy another 0.6 percent over the proposed 2.0 percent to 2.6 percent, and keep the mill rate the same as it was in 2016. He also stated that some other minor budget changes had increased the available Contingency Fund balance to \$29,765.99 over the usual \$100,000 in the Contingency Fund. Discussion was held on the Contingency Fund and the possible increase in the tax levy. At this time, Chairman Gilberts opened the floor to the applicants for funds under the Community Partners portion of the budget, which as proposed in the budget, had no funding. Presentations were made to the Committee by the following:

- Bob Moses (President, Prairie du Chien Area Chamber of Commerce), requesting \$15,000, and (Prairie du Chien Economic Development Corporation), requesting \$10,000
- Mike Ulrich (Park and Rec Director), asking for a \$2.00 an hour raise for the City lifeguards, whereas the proposed budget has a \$1.00 an hour raise
- Chris Mara (Prairie du Chien Main Street), requesting \$15,000
- Mary Antoine (Fort Crawford Museum) requesting \$5,000
- Christine Panka (Prairie du Chien Area School District on behalf of a partnership with Arts Midwest World Fest), requesting \$4,000

Considerable discussion was held on the requests. The following motions were made:

- ACTION: To increase the tax levy from the proposed 2.0 percent to 2.5 percent, increasing the levy \$57,507.50 over the 2016 levy MOTION: Gilbert SECOND: Solomon VOTE: 4-0
- ACTION: To decrease the Contingency Fund from \$100,000 to \$70,000 MOTION: Gilberts SECOND: Leys. Following discussion on this action, Gilberts withdrew his motion.
- ACTION: To decrease the Contingency Fund from \$100,000 to \$70,000 MOTION: Leys. Motion died for lack of a second.
- ACTION: To decrease the Contingency Fund from \$100,000 to \$75,000 MOTION: Solomon SECOND: Gilberts VOTE: 3-1 (Leys opposed). The previous two approved motions created an unallocated balance of \$53,091.69 in the budget.
- ACTION: To allocate \$2,000 toward a City Beautification proposal, specifically aimed at maintaining the roundabouts and the Welcome to Prairie du Chien signs, and to be

directed by Donna Teynor, reducing the unallocated funds to \$51,091.69 MOTION: Titlbach
SECOND: Solomon VOTE: 4-0

- ACTION: To allocated \$10,000 to the Prairie du Chien Economic Development Corporation, reducing the unallocated funds to \$41,091.69 MOTION: Gilberts SECOND: Leys VOTE: 4-0
- ACTION: To allocate \$4,000 to the Prairie du Chien Area School District on behalf of a partnership with Arts Midwest World Fest MOTION: Leys. Motion died for lack of a second.
- ACTION: To allocate \$2,000 to the Prairie du Chien Area School District on behalf of a partnership with Arts Midwest World Fest, reducing the unallocated funds to \$39,091.69 MOTION: Titlbach SECOND: Solomon VOTE: 4-0 Motion died for lack of a second.
- ACTION: To allocate \$2,600 to the St. Feriole Island Ballpark to replace two grinder pumps, reducing the unallocated funds to \$36,491.69 MOTION: Solomon SECOND: Gilberts VOTE: 4-0
- ACTION: To allocate \$5,000 to the Fort Crawford Museum, reducing the unallocated funds to \$31,491.69 MOTION: Gilberts SECOND: Solomon VOTE: 4-0
- ACTION: To increase the pay of the City lifeguards by \$1.25 per hour, which had an estimated \$2,940 fiscal impact on the budget, reducing the unallocated funds to \$29,041.69 MOTION: Solomon SECOND: Titlbach VOTE: 4-0
- ACTION: To allocate \$15,000 to the Prairie du Chien Area Chamber of Commerce reducing the unallocated funds to \$14,041.69 MOTION: Leys SECOND: Gilberts VOTE: 4-0
- ACTION: To allocate \$14,000 to the Prairie du Chien Main Street reducing the unallocated funds to \$41.69 MOTION: Gilberts SECOND: Solomon VOTE: 4-0

At this time, Kramer indicated that the budget remained balanced and would be presented to the Common Council for a public hearing on December 1st, with possible minor changes which may occur over the next two weeks.

5. ADJOURNMENT (8:58 PM) – MOTION: Gilberts SECOND: Solomon VOTE: 4-0

Submitted by City Administrator Aaron Kramer