

**Troy Council Budget Meeting
City Hall Office
August 8, 2012
7:00 pm**

There was discussion regarding the Northern Lights contract prior to opening the meeting.

The meeting came to order at 7:00 pm. Present: Mayor Tony Brown; Council: Fran McCully, Joe Arts, and Crystal Denton, and City Clerk Tracy Rebo. Phil Fisher was absent.

GUESTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

REVENUES: Mayor Brown opened the meeting. City Clerk Tracy Rebo advised council that the City had received the valuations showing an increase of about \$5,000 from last year. There was discussion regarding taxable amounts in comparison between the current year and the previous year. Rebo advised that the number she included for HB124 is correct, it had been frozen for the previous two years.

Discussion on line items in revenue was held:

The billing for Northern Lights was explained.

CTEP numbers were updated. Discussion on when the CTEP funds become available.

Rebo advised that she budgeted \$2,000 for sale of city property in the budget. Discussion followed.

Denton asked questions regarding the court revenues for traffic. She asked with not having an attorney for so long, did it have an effect on what was brought in. Rebo answered when I receive the revenues from the court, it is estimation between the traffic and conduct since it is not separated on the report anymore. Discussion followed.

Rebo explained the levies; sprinkling and oiling, health insurance, 911, and economic development. McCully advised that the school has been talking about coming to the city for the economic development funds. Rebo stated that the intention of the funds were to lend to small businesses that are starting up. The memorandum of understanding states nothing about giving half of it to the school. McCully stated that the school originally went first and asked for the funding, and stated that it had been printed in the Western News about something being voted on then brought back up and voted on again. Discussion followed.

Denton questioned bulk water sales. Rebo explained that it is people that get water at the shop or companies that get water out of our hydrants. She added that individuals are charged a monthly water rate of \$34.50 for getting water at the shop and companies are charged by the gallon.

The sewer rate revenue was increased. Rebo explained that there are more accounts being billed this year. There was discussion regarding a new policy for sewer and water hookups. Discussion followed regarding costs of removing services.

Rebo advised that with the inserted estimates, the General Fund is going to go up \$25,120, Health Insurance is going to go up \$59, Sprinkling is going to go down \$15,536, and Gas Apportionment is going to go down \$843. Rebo explained that the Police Pension and Training funds will not be received any money. There was discussion regarding Troy Area Dispatch having a new contract and a rent increase for the new office space will go from \$100 to \$150 per month. Rebo continued with the Water Utility increasing \$100,000. The sewer utility is going to increase by \$3,000 but will still be in the red. The electric utility is going to go down about \$5,000. Denton asked about the Central Office fund. Rebo advised that this is the account that has been cost allocated and will not have any revenue this year. There is still about \$5,000 in the fund and would like to use it for the purchase of new computers. Discussion followed regarding the Mayor's plan for the computer upgrades.

EXPENDITURES:

Rebo advised that at Denton's request, she had been in contact with the merchant service company that services the State of Idaho with the ability to take credit card payments. Rebo reported that the only customer that this company has is the State of Idaho, so using them is not an option. She advised that she had also been in contact with the town of Conrad Montana and they use Pay.gov. They have no complaints and highly recommend Pay.gov. It is at no cost to the City for the ability to take the card payments and can even put it on the website for no cost.

Rebo advised that she received a quote from Rogers Electric to put the Camp Host meter on its own meter base and requested further instruction as to follow through with it or not.

The janitor requested replacing some items and to have permission to include the items in the budget. Discussion followed. Rebo requested to drop the price charged for the yurt from \$50 to \$35 in the hopes of more interest from customers. Fran McCully agreed.

Rebo advised that she still has training service in the budget.

McCully asked about the wages; are they the 2.7% over last year's. Rebo answered; no, they are figured at 1.5% over last year's. Mayor Brown asked if the wages included the overtime. Rebo answered yes and the sheet that was presented shows how much overtime will be spent for the entire year, about \$89,000 including all the Northern Lights hours that are reimbursable, and the STIP program for the Police Department that is reimbursable. Discussion followed regarding the percentage breakdown for the employees per department.

Rebo asked the Council what their plan was for the water feature in the park. She advised that there is \$7,600 of which \$2,600 is the donated funds. Brown stated spend the donated money on the project and have the volunteers to do it. Arts does not want to spend any city money. Denton asked if anyone has contacted MMIA. Denton gave the reasoning for contacting MMIA because she had to for the changes that Troy Area Dispatch is doing in city hall. She added; things have to be contracted, not just any volunteer can do some things. Discussion followed regarding liability.

Rebo answered questions regarding why the Sprinkling fund had went down. She explained that large road projects are usually done every other year or less in order to save for the expense; however, the Public Works director budgeted \$18,000 for roads again this year. There is also \$4,000 for sidewalks.

ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Anthony E. Brown, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tracy Rebo City Clerk/Treasurer