

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2005, AT 9:07 A.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, ZION, ILLINOIS

Mayor Harrison called the meeting to order.

On call of the roll the following answered present: Commissioners Taylor, Bennett, Flammini and Mayor Harrison. Commissioner DeTienne was absent.

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Commissioner Flammini, seconded by Commissioner Bennett that the Council recess to Closed Session at 9:08 a.m. to discuss probable and pending litigation. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Taylor, aye; Bennett, aye; Flammini, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Flammini to reconvene the special Council meeting at 10:40 a.m. with same members present. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Taylor, aye; Bennett, aye; Flammini, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

2005/06 BUDGET

Based on projected revenue versus projected expenses, Commissioner Bennett stated the budget for May 1, 2005 through April 30, 2006 would start with a deficit of \$2.1 million. During the 2004/05 fiscal year, the budget was under-spent by \$717,000. Mayor Harrison requested suggestions for decreasing the deficit, noting the city has been drawing down on working cash. Commissioner Bennett stated the 2004/05 budget was set a \$1 million over revenue.

Fire/Rescue

- Commissioner Bennett stated the down payment of \$150,000 for the requested pumper fire truck could be included in this budget, as the balance wouldn't come due until the following fiscal year. This would eliminate \$350,000 (14-00-1-05-950).

Police

- Deputy Chief Watkins stated the Police Department could purchase Crown Victorias rather than Tahoes, allowing for a savings of \$51,000, noting the city would have to opt out of the class action suit. Attorney Puma stated he will have the city released from this suit (10-03-1-05-990).
- There is also a total of approximately \$50,000 in assorted items, which can be eliminated.
- The Public Service Supervisor is being paid through workers compensation, therefore \$54,649.49 can be eliminated (10-03-5-01-010).
- The DUI line item can fund the purchase of 4 moving radar units, and the remaining 12 could be eliminated, thereby decreasing the General Fund by \$32,000 (10-03-1-05-960).
- \$30,000 needs to be added to the budget for a consultant for the new dispatch system.

Public Works

- Brian Usher stated the street sweeper could be deferred until next year, eliminating \$165,000 (10-04-1-05-995)
- The replacement cost of \$25,000 for the Director's vehicle could be transferred from the General Fund (10-04-1-05-995) to Water and Sewer.
- One Arrow Board can be eliminated, saving \$12,500 (10-04-1-05-990).
- \$20,000 of the \$120,000 tree planting and removal budget could be eliminated (10-04-1-02-150).
- \$172,000 of the Streets and Alleys projects (10-04-1-02-395) could be transferred from General Fund to Street and Bridge.
- \$104,221 should be added for vehicles ordered last year, which will be delivered in this fiscal year (10-04-1-05-995).
- \$35,000 should be added for a personnel item

Legal

- Based on previous years, attorney fees could be reduced from \$250,000 to \$230,000 (10-01-2-02-150).

Revenue

It was agreed to consider increasing the following revenue sources:

- Various Public Works charges: 10-00-6-00-656 from \$65,000 to \$110,000
- Onyx Host Fees: 10-00-2-00-625 from \$1,600,000 to \$1,660,000
- Hotel/Motel Room Tax: 74-00-0-00-617 from \$15,000 to \$45,000

Hotel/Motel Tax Fund

- It was agreed to consider increasing the grant to the Chamber of Commerce, 74-00-1-02-960, from \$6,000 to an amount based on the same percentage as the increase in the revenue.

Commissioner Bennett agreed to look into possible deductions in each department’s workers compensation deductibles.

Proposed amendments to the General Fund include:

- Total General Fund Expenditure deductions- \$752,149.49
- Total General Fund Expenditure additions - \$169,221.00
- Total General Fund Revenue additions - \$135,000.00

Net decrease in General Fund Expenditures - \$717,928.49

Brian Usher requested direction regarding the pickup of garbage in the central downtown business area to help eliminate existing problems. It was recommended having an enclosed dumpster placed in the parking area west of Fire Station #1 for businesses in the 2700 block of Sheridan Road. The city would be responsible for contracting with one vendor with multiple trash pick-ups per week. Businesses have expressed an interest in this concept. Council agreed for staff to pursue this concept and to bring a proposal back to the Council.

PUBLIC WORKS POSITION

The Council has considered the creation of a new position in Public Works entitled Deputy Director of Public Works and Engineering. The Council agreed to place this position in the budget.

It was moved by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Bennett to approve the creation of the new position of Deputy Director of Public Works and Engineering, to post the position, and for the Personnel Authorization to be amended accordingly. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Taylor, aye; Bennett, aye; Flammini, aye; and Mayor Harrison, aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, it was moved by Commissioner Bennett, seconded by Commissioner Flammini and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 1:11 p.m. Motion carried.

City Clerk