

MINUTE RECORD

No. 729—REDFIELD & COMPANY, INC., OMAHA

LA VISTA CITY COUNCIL MEETING BUDGET WORKSHOP JULY 12, 2010

A meeting of the City Council of the City of La Vista, Nebraska was convened in open and public session at 6:00 p.m. on July 12, 2010. Present were Mayor Kindig and Councilmembers Sell, Ronan, Sheehan, Carlisle, Ellerbeck, Quick, Crawford and Gowan. Absent: None. Also in attendance were City Attorney McKeon, City Administrator Gunn, Assistant City Administrator Ramirez, Police Chief Lausten, Fire Chief Uhl, Public Works Director Soucie, Public Building & Grounds Director Archibald, Finance Director Lindberg, Library Director Barcal, Community Development Director Birch, Recreation Director Stopak, and City Clerk Buethe.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Times on July 1, 2010. Notice was simultaneously given to the Mayor and all members of the City Council and a copy of the acknowledgment of the receipt of notice attached to the minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated to the Mayor and City Council in the advance notice of the meeting. All proceedings shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public. Further, all subjects included in said proceedings were contained in the agenda for said meeting which is kept continuously current and available for public inspection at City Hall during normal business hours.

I. CALL TO ORDER II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Kindig called the meeting to order and led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

III. ANNOUNCEMENT OF LOCATION OF POSTED OPEN MEETINGS ACT

Mayor Kindig made an announcement of the location of the posted copy of the Open Meetings Act for public reference.

IV. BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mayor Kindig stated that City Administrator Gunn and Department Heads would present their recommended budgets to Council and answer questions.

V. GENERAL FUND OVERVIEW – GUNN/LINDBERG

City Administrator Gunn stated that the FY10 revenues have not come in as projected. Overall revenues are lower and with the annexation challenge some anticipated revenues did not come in. Savings has been achieved through limited spending and making 3% cuts to the current budget

Gunn stated that the transfer to the Economic Development fund is not required in FY11 but will help make transfers less in future years.

Gunn stated revenues are flat and operating budgets are at a 0% increase in the base. Staff will continue to watch in the future to avoid any problems with low cash reserve. Delays of purchases will continue as in the current year. In the FY12 budget staff is going to try to back into the cash reserve number. Gunn stated that a tax increase is not being proposed for FY11.

Councilmember Gowan asked if our goal would be to keep cash reserves higher than forecast. Gunn stated that is true and the city will work to keep cash reserves at the optimal level.

Gunn gave an overview of upcoming opportunities with performance measurements.

Councilmember Crawford asked if the budget for capital equipment is \$350,000.00 without the squad that was budgeted in the current year. Gunn stated that was correct.

Finance Director Lindberg addressed Council regarding the assumptions included in the budget forecast. She indicated that the percentage of growth in valuation will be 3.4% over FY 10/11. This increase is mainly due to the annexation of SID 214 although the valuation number may be less in August after protests. Annexations are forecast for future years. The growth rate is 11% over the past 10 years. No increase in valuation is forecast for FY12. Sales tax is forecast to be flat other than some increase upon annexation of areas containing businesses. The city will lose 6% of state aid in FY11 and 20% in FY12.

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Lindberg stated that the expense forecast is based upon 2% annual growth in personnel costs and 0% in operations. (Personnel costs, including insurance are 2% personnel, 20% health insurance and 10% dental insurance).

Lindberg stated that the budgets of Administration, Street Administration, and Human Resources proposed are a 70/30 split as in the current fiscal year. The reserve is at 23% which is where the city wants it to be.

VI. GENERAL FUND BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

City Clerk Buethe reviewed the budget for Mayor and Council, indicating that an increase is being recommended in the Council salary. Consensus of Council was that there will be no increase.

Buethe reviewed the budget for Boards and Commissions, indicating that increases are requested in travel due to the history of previous travel.

Public Building and Grounds Director Archibald reviewed his budget with Council. An increase is proposed in travel and training to facilitate the LEAD training for department heads. The key fob entry system was not recommended for approval and Councilmember Carlisle stated that if Archibald can find grant money for this system it should be brought back to council.

Assistant City Administrator Ramirez reviewed the Administration budget with Council. She stated that money has been budgeted for trash hauling survey. Ramirez stated that an amount was added to the auto allowance for the Communications Coordinator. Ramirez stated that recommended cuts to travel and training are to not eliminate some of the travel and training, but to decrease the number of individuals attending an event. Councilmember Ellerbeck asked if there were plans to change the percentage paid out of Sewer. Finance Director Lindberg stated that the split will eventually get to 75/25 which will be the lowest amount. Ramirez also reviewed the Human Resources budget and the main change was to move some of the money for a part-time salary from the Community Development department to the Human Resource budget. This position will have fewer hours. Although this is an increase to the Human Resources budget it is a decrease to the CD budget and an overall decrease to the total budget.

Police Chief Lausten reviewed his department's budget with Council. Lausten stated the operating budget is flat except for the 911 increase in fees. They are currently absorbing the work of Officer Johnson until his return. They have two records clerk positions open and will fill one now and delay in filling the other.

Chief Lausten reviewed the budget for animal control services stating that the increase is based on cost of living and the addition of legal fees.

Fire Chief Uhl reviewed the Fire Department's budget with Council. Uhl stated that the grant for the paid training officer position has been delayed due to some issues with a prior grant but those issues are being resolved and they will reapply for this money. He stated that a request to replace hose, which no longer meeting NFPA testing standards, is included in his requests. The increase to travel and training will allow him to attend the LEAD training that all department heads have been going to. An increase is requested in other contractual services as Sarpy County is asking for an increase for radio and dispatch services. This contract is still being negotiated. Increases are also requested in other charges and motor vehicles.

At 7:07 p.m., Councilmember Sheehan made a motion to take a five-minute recess. Seconded by Councilmember Quick. Councilmembers voting aye: Sell, Ronan, Quick, Sheehan, Carlisle, Crawford, Ellerbeck, and Gowan. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

At 7:16 p.m. Councilmember Sell made a motion to reconvene the meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Quick. Councilmembers voting aye: Sell, Ronan, Quick, Sheehan, Carlisle, Crawford, Ellerbeck, and Gowan. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Community Development Director Birch reviewed her Department's budget for Council. Birch stated decreases in salaries are due to staff reductions of the code enforcement officer and the part time paid intern position. Increase in legal fees is due to ongoing legal actions. Other charges have been reduced with the completed demolition of Long's.

Mayor Kindig stated that Councilmember Quick would like to talk about the fire budget again stating that the brown bag program is good and she recommends the increase. Councilmember Carlisle is recommending adding another \$5,000.00 for turnout gear. Councilmember Sheehan

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requested that Chief Uhl bring back a number of how much gear is needed to upgrade everyone to current standards.

Public Works Director Soucie presented the Street Administration budget to Council. He stated that a slight increase in dues and subscriptions is requested as this will be the first full year for professional organization memberships for the Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer. The increase in phones is for the phone and data package for the Assist. PW Director/City Engineer. Travel and training has been decreased. The purchase of a vehicle for the Assistant Public Works Director has been recommended.

Soucie reviewed the Street Operating budget with Council. He stated that the purchase of the tires for the loader was not recommended but this loader will not be of use in snow operations for another winter as the tires are smooth and balled. It can still be used for summer operations. The dump truck purchase being recommended will replace #1124 which is no longer able to be repaired and will go to auction this year. After discussion regarding the tires for the loader Councilmember Sell motioned to put the \$7,200.00 in the budget for the tires. Quick seconded. Councilmembers voting aye: Sell, Ronan, Quick, Sheehan, Carlisle, Crawford, Ellerbeck, and Gowan. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Soucie reviewed the Parks Division budget with the Council. Soucie stated that the increase in auto allowance is for the Parks Superintendant who is now located in the Public Buildings and Grounds office area and uses his personal vehicle to come in early and get things ready and gathered for the day before going to the public works facility. Councilmember Sell asked that Soucie bring reasoning for using his personal vehicle as opposed to going to the public works facility first and getting the city truck. Travel and Training monies switch back and forth between parks and the sports complex budgets.

Soucie reviewed the Sports Complex budget with Council. Soucie stated that there is a typo in the book and the recommendation is an increase in Buildings and Grounds of \$7,500.00 for ball field aggregate as needed. The new gator is needed as one of the old ones is in very poor condition and these are very important for field maintenance.

Recreation Director Stopak reviewed his Department's budget with Council. Stopak stated the increase in auto allowance is for the Assistant Director and the increase in travel and training is to send the Assistant Director to the LEAD training.

Stopak reviewed the Pool budget with Council. He stated that there are no additional requests.

Stopak reviewed the Senior Bus Service budget with Council. Stopak stated that the Interlocal with Ralston is in effect for another year. Stopak stated that increases to fees are being recommended. Councilmember Ronan asked if we are making all the stops. Stopak stated that it depends on the day and the requests. Ronan asked if there is a service area. Stopak stated that there are and these were determined with Ralston. Councilmember Quick asked how many people were denied due to lack of drivers/buses. Stopak will provide this information tomorrow. Councilmember Sell asked about the criteria for the people that ride the bus to work. Stopak stated that these are special needs people. Councilmember Quick asked if senior outings include Ralston. Stopak stated that the senior program is not limited so anyone can go on these outings.

Library Director Barcal reviewed her budget with Council. Barcal stated the increase in office supplies is for handheld scanners and the increase in the summer reading program is due to the continued increase in the number of participants. The increases requested in utilities, rentals, and car allowance are due to inflation and higher usage. The increase in travel and training will allow the Director to attend the LEAD training.

Lindberg reviewed the Public Transportation budget with Council. The increase in other charges is in anticipation of increased fuel prices.

VII. GENERAL FUND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES – GUNN

City Administrator Gunn stated that all capital outlay requests are not excessive but there is just limited funding available and asked Council if they have any questions.

Councilmember Crawford asked what the effect on budget would be to change back to the 2.5% base increase in salaries as Council had determined earlier in the year. Finance Director Lindberg stated the total increase would be about \$25,000.00. Councilmember Crawford motioned to leave in the 2.5% base increase in salaries. Seconded by Ellerbeck.

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Councilmembers voting aye: Sell, Ronan, Quick, Crawford, and Ellerbeck. Nays: Sheehan, Carlisle, and Gowan. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Councilmember Crawford asked if there were any changes to the percentage of insurance paid by employees. Ramirez stated there was no change.

VIII. MASTER FEE SCHEDULE – LINDBERG

Finance Director Lindberg gave an overview of proposed changes to the master fee schedule

Councilmember Sell asked if the fee for a solar panel is a one-time fee. Community Development Director Birch stated that it is.

IX. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

X. COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mayor Kindig stated that he attended the Special Olympics Torch run. It gives you a good feeling to see the joy of those athletes participating.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:19 p.m. Councilmember Crawford made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Carlisle. Councilmembers voting aye: Sell, Ronan, Quick, Sheehan, Carlisle, Crawford, Ellerbeck, and Gowan. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 3RD DAY OF AUGUST 2010.

CITY OF LA VISTA

Douglas Kindig, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pamela A. Buethe, CMC
City Clerk

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