

CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP MINUTES
JANUARY 30, 2017, 6:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The City Council of Newton, Iowa met in special session at 6:00 P.M. on the above date in the Council Chambers at 101 West 4th Street South. Mayor Michael L. Hansen presided. Present Council Members: Chapé, Biondi, George, Trotter, Mullan, Kulis. Absent: None.

Mayor Hansen asked everyone present to join him in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Interim City Administrator, Jarrod Wellik presented the 2017-2018 Budget Introduction. The levy rate is down to \$17.14 from last year's \$17.15. All current City positions are being maintained in order to take care of our people. The union negotiated 2.5% wage increase was applied across positions. The undesignated reserve target amount is 25%; this budget came in at 22.7% which is slightly below target but well above the policy limit. It would take a combination of \$168,000 in revenues or a decrease in expenditures to meet the 25% target. In order to reduce expenditures departments have been asked to reduce spending to only those items needed to meet mission, reducing the current budget by 2%. Some reserves have been realigned such as the \$73,000 that was set aside to paint the bridge on First Avenue and \$35,000 for D&D properties which have been pulled back into the budget. Wellik asked for consensus on the 22.7%. Council agreed.

Bryan Friedman, Director of Finance and Development presented that the budget counts on the full backfill from the state. Friedman also confirmed that employee health insurance has seen a significant increase. The negotiated agreement to increase employee contributions and moving to a partially self-funded plan will help to alleviate some of the increase. Friedman presented on the Community Investment Plan and bonding options. Friedman confirmed that D&D would still have funding through the Housing Initiative.

Moved by Chapé, seconded by Biondi to move into closed session in order to Evaluate The Professional Competency Of Individuals Whose Appointment, Hiring, Performance Or Discharge Is Being Considered When Necessary To Prevent Needless And Irreparable Injury To That Individual's Reputation And That Individual Request A Closed Session. Pursuant To The Provisions Of Section 21.5(1)(i), Code of Iowa 2016. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Motion passed. The Mayor asked for a 5 minute recess in order to clear the chambers.

Upon returning to open session at 7:20 with all council present, it was moved by Biondi, seconded by Kulis to adopt the resolution approving the employment agreement hiring a City Administrator for the City of Newton. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2017-009 was adopted.

Moved by Chape', seconded by Kulis, to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.

Michael L. Hansen, Mayor

Katrina Davis, City Clerk