



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Council Session

Item G-2

Approving Minutes of April 19, 2016 City Council Study Session

Staff Contact: RaNae Edwards

CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

April 19, 2016

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Study Session of the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska was conducted in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 100 East First Street, on April 19, 2016. Notice of the meeting was given in the *Grand Island Independent* on April 13, 2016.

Mayor Jeremy L. Jensen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following Councilmembers were present: Mitch Nickerson, Jeremy Jones, Chuck Haase, Julie Hehnke, Linna Dee Donaldson, Michelle Fitzke, Vaughn Minton, Roger Steele, and Mike Paulick. Councilmember Mark Stelk was absent. The following City Officials were present: City Administrator Marlan Ferguson, City Clerk RaNae Edwards, Finance Director Renae Griffiths, City Attorney Jerry Janulewicz, and Public Works Director John Collins.

Mayor Jensen introduced Community Youth Council members Maricela Paramo and Perla Alarcon.

INVOCATION was given by Community Youth Council member Maricela Paramo followed by the PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

SPECIAL ITEMS:

Discussion of Proposed FY 17 Budget Schedule and High Level Review of 5 Year Projection on General Fund. Mayor Jensen stated tonight was the first step in the budget process which would include the next 5 years. Estimates had been compiled as a starting point with the input of Department Directors and future decisions would be made by the Council.

City Administrator Marlan Ferguson commented that tonight's goal was to establish an agenda for the 2017 budget. He stated 40% or \$16 million revenue was from sales tax and 20% from property tax. Personnel costs were the largest part of the budget and would increase over the next 5 years.

Finance Director Renae Griffiths stated as of March 31, 2016 we were at the halfway point of the FY16 budget. This Study Session was for the discussion and instruction to staff on the budget schedule along with a 5 year projection based on the FY16 budget.

The week of May 16th would allow the sub-committee to discuss revenue assumptions and the fee schedule. On May 24 they would provide revenue projections for council discussion and instruction to staff along with approving the fee schedule.

On June 21 there would be a Study Session for the general fund expenses and capital requests in the general fund along with discussion on the 400 fund. July 19 would be a Study Session for cleanup of outstanding items in the general fund and review of the enterprise funds.

The July 26 Council meeting would include approving the BID budgets and setting Board of Equalization meeting date. On August 9 the Council would set September 13, 2016 as the date for the budget public hearing.

August 16 would be a Study Session for outstanding items from the July 19 meeting. August 20 the County would certify the valuation. September 13 the Council would hold the public hearing for the budget and approve the salary ordinance. September 20 the budget would be due to the State and County.

Ms. Griffiths presented a 5 year projection of the General Fund. If everything stayed the same over the next 5 years there would be a \$20 million shortfall. The Food and Beverage Tax, if passed would cover the State Fair match in the amount of \$400,000 otherwise it would come out of the General Fund.

The current figures did not include any new FTE's. Discussion was held regarding restricting the budget, cutting services, and personnel costs. Mayor Jensen commented on the possibility of increasing revenues through sales tax and possible fee increases.

Comments were made regarding the long term picture of both revenues and expenses. Ms. Griffiths stated the department directors had been working on their priority list for projects. Comments were made regarding the importance of the continuance of the Food and Beverage Tax which would impact the budget.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

RaNae Edwards
City Clerk