

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Tuesday, November 3, 2022

7:00 PM

Common Council Chambers

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Steve Hass with the following attending:

Paul Russell – District 1
Michael “Gus” Caylor – District 2
Rick Blake – District 3
LaDonna Fermanich – District 4
Dick Lupton – District 5
Mike Rick – District 6
Mark Weix – District 7
Steve Sabatke – District 8

Other’s present: Mayor Hass, Finance Director Unertl, City Attorney Hayden, City Clerk Anderson-Malm, Fire Chief Klug, Park & Recreation Director Wendorf, Police Chief Bennett, Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey, Street Superintendent Bonack, Facilities Maintenance Manager Wszalek, Utility Operations Steinagel, Transit Director Brummond (remote) and Merrill Productions.

II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IV. Consider placing the minutes from the November 1st meeting on file:

Aldersperson Russell motioned to place the November 1st meeting minutes on file.
Aldersperson Weix seconded and the motion carried.

V. 2023 Budget – General Operations:

Finance Director Unertl asked to start with item #2. Mayor Hass approved the request without objection.

Update on preliminary 2023 tax rate projections – Finance Director Unertl stated all changes reflect the summary that was included in the packet. A 2.5% increase was suggested.

Continued review and consideration of 2023 Capital and Infrastructure Investments, including preliminary borrowing plan. – Finance Director Unertl discussed this item and answered questions from the Mayor and Alderpersons.

Continued review and consideration of 2023 Budget and Tax Levy Ordinance, Appendix A – Finance Director Unertl reviewed the pages in the packet. Page 132 has a revised version of ARPA funds from the November 1st meeting.

Aldersperson Caylor made a motion to implement a hiring freeze for all positions until rescinded by the Council. Requests would go to the Personnel & Finance Committee and then to the Common Council. Aldersperson Sabatke seconded. The motion carried on a 9-0 roll call vote.

Aldersperson Russell made a motion to approve the budget as presented with a 2.5% increase. Aldersperson Weix seconded. The motion carried on a 9-0 roll call vote.

Review of General Fund Tax Levy supported – 2023 Budget – Operating – this was discussed. Finance Director Unertl answered questions.

Discussion and consideration of spending limits for 2023 – Aldersperson Caylor made a motion to set spending limits to \$8,000 for new purchases unless approved by the departments committee; this does not include already budgeted items and maintenance. Aldersperson Rick seconded for discussion.

After discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion failed on 1-8 vote. Aldersperson's Russell, Blake, Fermanich, Lupton, Rick, Weix, Sabatke and Mayor Hass voted no.

VI. Next meeting date and time

There was not another Committee of the Whole scheduled.

VII. Adjournment

Aldersperson Russell motioned to adjourn. Aldersperson Lupton seconded and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lori L. Anderson-Malm – City Clerk