



CITY OF MERRILL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES • TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

Budget Session

City Hall Council Chambers

5:00 PM

I. Call to Order

Mayor Woellner called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Paul Russell	Aldersperson - First District	Present	
Steve Hass	Aldersperson - Second District	Present	
Rick Blake	Aldersperson - Third District	Present	
Steve Osness	Aldersperson - Fourth District	Present	
John M. Van Lieshout	Aldersperson - Fifth District	Present	
Rob Norton	Aldersperson - Seventh District	Present	
Steve Sabatke	Aldersperson - Eighth District	Present	
Derek Woellner	Mayor	Present	

Also in attendance: Public Works Director/City Engineer Rod Akey, Police Chief Corey Bennett, Street Superintendent Dustin Bonack, Transit Director Brad Brummond, City Attorney Tom Hayden, City Administrator Dave Johnson, Fire Chief Josh Klug, Enrichment Center Director Tammie Mrachek, Utility Operations Manager Gabe Steinagel, Library Director Stacy Stevens, Finance Director Kathy Unertl, Park and Recreation Director Dan Wendorf, Facilities Maintenance Nick Wszalek, Brian Reilly, LaDonna Fermanich, Val Mindak, David Graveen, Ryan Schwartzman, Al Wix (arr. 5:40) and City Clerk Bill Heideman. A representative from Merrill Productions was present to videotape the meeting.

II. Agenda Items:

1. Schedule for 2020 Budget Meetings

The proposed schedule was in the meeting packet. Finance Director Unertl provided additional verbal information.

No action was necessary, requested or taken.

2. Overview of City Budgets and Ordinance Adoption Process

Finance Director Unertl reported on the information in the meeting packet, including:

1. Budget Overview

2. Budget Ordinance adopted last year

3. Revenue and Expenses Summary Reports, including reports for utilities

No action was necessary, requested or taken.

3. Review 2019 Equalized Valuations Information (Wisconsin Department of Revenue)

Finance Director Unertl reviewed the information in the meeting packet, including information on net new construction.

No action was necessary, requested or taken.

4. Revenue Overview and 2020 Projections

Finance Director Unertl reviewed the information in the meeting packet. She then provided verbal information on the assessment process and assessment responsibilities.

No action was necessary, requested or taken.

5. Planned \$76,050 Debt Service reduction for 2020 Tax Levy

Information was in the meeting packet.

Finance Director Unertl explained the error made last year related to debt service.

No action was necessary, requested or taken.

6. Review of 2019 Borrowing process and impact on future debt service tax levies

Information was in the meeting packet.

Finance Director Unertl then provided additional verbal background information, including information on Tax Incremental Districts.

Representing Ehlers Associates, Brian Reilly distributed a handout and provided information on the potential upcoming borrowing.

Topics included:

1. General Obligation Borrowing Capacity
2. Levy for Debt Service
3. Projects
4. Preliminary Debt Issues and Sizing
5. Impact Scenarios (two scenarios were presented)
6. Calendar for Borrowing

It appeared that a majority of the Common Council was in favor of scenario #1. This scenario will be discussed in more detail at future meeting(s).

III. Public Comment

Val Mindak and LaDonna Fermanich asked questions related to the pending borrowing. Brian Reilly responded to those questions.

IV. Adjournment

Motion (Woellner/Van Lieshout) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 6:57 P.M.