

**WORKSHOP
OAKDALE CITY COUNCIL
April 23, 2019
5 PM**

Attendance

The City Council held a workshop on Tuesday, April 23, 2019, at Oakdale City Hall, 1584 Hadley Avenue North, Oakdale, Minnesota.

Present: Mayor Paul Reinke

Council Members: Jake Ingebrigtsen
Susan Olson
Colleen Swedberg
Kevin Zabel

Also Present: Brian Bachmeier, Public Works Director / City Engineer
Susan Barry, City Clerk
Bart Fischer, City Administrator
Alyssa MacLeod, Communications Specialist
Dallas Pierson, Planning Commission
Bob Streetar, Community Development Director
Bill Sullivan, Chief of Police
Suzanne Warren, Administrative Services Director

2020 Levy and Capital Financing for Public Buildings

Administrative Services Director Warren provided an overview of debt reductions, different bonding types, and the city's outstanding bonded debt. She talked about working toward achieving a higher bond rating and explained how taxable value is calculated.

Mayor Reinke commented on frustration felt by property owners when assessed value goes up regardless of the city's tax rate.

Administrative Services Director Warren reviewed options for the levy, provided an update on the 2018 budget, and noted the potential future staffing needs for the Police and Public Works departments.

Council Member Ingebrigtsen shared how some developers let undeveloped property go tax forfeit for a period of time, buy it back, and pay taxes owed.

Mayor Reinke responded that the property tax process begins once property is platted and that the former 3M site would likely be platted in phases.

In response to various questions, Administrative Services Director Warren explained that property taxes provide the majority of the city's revenue and that \$9 million in reserve was a good amount to have on hand, particularly should the city ever be faced with a significant emergency, such as the watermain break under I-694, as well as for extraordinary costs relating to weather. She asked the City Council to provide any feedback to City Administrator Fischer or to her and that she could review the audit report at a future work session, and could also provide levy options and debt reports for a number of years for the City Council to review.

Mayor Reinke encouraged the newer members of the council to meet one-on-one with Administrative Services Director Warren to learn about municipal financing

Road Construction

Public Works Director/City Engineer Bachmeier provided an overview of the scheduled road construction projects: Hadley and Highway 36 Interchange and I-94/494/694 Interchange.

Police Chief Sullivan stated that the Fire and Police departments had made the necessary accommodations and will continue to adapt, as needed.

In response to a question from Council Member Zabel, Public Works Director/City Engineer Bachmeier indicated that detour information would be presented at the Minnesota Department of Transportation's April 30 open house.

Mayor Reinke shared his appreciation for the city's annual street reconstruction project and general road maintenance performed by city crews.

Council Member Olson commented on the poor condition of the streets in Twenty Nine Pines.

Mayor Reinke stated that although their streets are private, the city can compel Twenty Nine Pines to address the matter.

Community Development Director Streetar added that the Community Development Department would be presenting a proposal to the City Council relating to Twenty Nine Pines.

In response to a question from Council Member Zabel, Community Development Director Streetar explained that Twenty Nine Pines was required by state law to have a tornado shelter, which the city facilitated.

In response to questions relating to recent police activity, Police Chief Sullivan provided updates. He also noted that the draft tobacco ordinance would be presented to the City Council at a future work session, but that he would be recommending to not adopt the ordinance until the state acts on any tobacco related matters.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Barry,
City Clerk