

**WORKSHOP
OAKDALE CITY COUNCIL
May 13, 2019
5 PM**

Attendance

The City Council held a workshop on Monday, May 13, 2019, at Oakdale City Hall, 1584 Hadley Avenue North, Oakdale, Minnesota.

Present: Mayor Paul Reinke

Council Members: Jake Ingebrigtsen
Susan Olson
Colleen Swedberg

Absent: Council Member Kevin Zabel

Also Present: Susan Barry, City Clerk
Bart Fischer, City Administrator
Linnea Graffunder-Bartels, Senior Community Development Specialist
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 Budget

Administrative Services Director Warren continued her review of the proposed 2020 budget and levy. She noted that a three percent wage adjustment would be recommended for all employees, updated labor contract settlements, and noted an increase in the building inspection budget to coincide with the development of the former 3M Foundation property, an increase in hours for the Community Development intern and an intern for the Engineering Division, and media training for elected officials.

In response to a question from Council Member Ingebrigtsen, Administrative Services Director Warren noted that she would look into whether the former 3M Foundation property is still taxed as agricultural.

The City Council briefly discussed the delay in developing the site.

In response to a comment from Mayor Reinke, City Administrator Fischer noted that an intern for the Administration and Administrative Services departments was also being considered.

In response to a question from Council Member Ingebrigtsen, City Administrator Fischer explained the benefit of paid over unpaid interns.

In discussing media training, Communications Specialist MacLeod commented on the potential training offered through Homeland Security or other resources.

Mayor Reinke asked staff to look into media training that might be provided inhouse by the League of Minnesota Cities or at a future League conference.

In response to a question from Council Member Ingebrigtsen, Administrative Services Director Warren explained that the increase in the city's contract with Metro-Inet related to changes in technology. She noted that the budget request also included ADA compliancy and improvements on the city's online forms to make them easier and consistent.

City Administrator Fischer added that staff's preference would be for Metro-Inet to request incremental increases each year.

Mayor Reinke supported improving the city's online forms.

In response to a question from Council Member Olson, Administrative Services Director Warren indicated that the city's goal has been to maintain a stable tax rate and not impact property taxes; however, she added the city's budget needs to cover more and more services.

In response to a question from Council Member Ingebrigtsen, Administrative Services Director Warren affirmed that tax revenue, as increased when the city is completely developed, will outweigh the city's costs.

In response to a question from Council Member Olson, Administrative Services Director Warren noted that although the levy does not increase every year, careful consideration helps ascertain that funds will be available to cover what is needed.

In response to a comment from Council Member Ingebrigtsen, Administrative Services Director Warren explained that deficits are common this early in the budgeting process.

Administrative Services Director Warren provided a brief overview of the Communication and Broadcasting Fund, which included the potential of conducting a community survey.

Staff was directed to provide the City Council with copies of the most recent community survey results.

Administrative Services Director Warren provided a brief overview of proposed capital projects and in response to questions, she noted that the Community Development Department has requested a portion of the Carlson Road Escrow for economic development and that staff would need to bring back cost information for acquiring the Brockman property.

Fair Housing Policy

Community Development Director Streetar provided an overview of the proposed Fair Housing Policy that will assure equal housing opportunities in the community. He added that there would be no budgetary impacts associated with the policy and further added that staff would review other city documents to identify any conflicts with the new policy.

In response to a question from Council Member Olson, staff was directed to provide the City Council with a list of other communities that have adopted fair housing policies.

Tobacco Ordinance

Police Chief Bill Sullivan provided an overview of proposed modifications to the city's tobacco license ordinance. He recommended holding off on adopting the ordinance until the Legislature adjourns and a determination made whether additional changes are needed, particularly relating to vaping.

Staff was asked to provide the City Council will a redlined version of the ordinance changes.

In response to a question from Council Member Olson, Chief Sullivan noted that nothing in the proposed ordinance goes "above and beyond", however, a license would now be required to sell nicotine delivery systems used for vaping.

In addition, Chief Sullivan asked for input on whether to limit the number of tobacco sales businesses.

Council Member Ingebrigtsen felt that limiting tobacco sales might lead to limiting other types of businesses.

In response to a question from Council Member Olson, Chief Sullivan replied that the city issues 12 to 24 under sale violations per year.

Council Member Olson stated that more regulations require added enforcement.

Whether to Limit the Number of Tobacco Sales Licenses:

Olson: No
Swedberg: Some consideration given to limit
Reinke: No, let market dictate
Ingebrigtsen: No, let market dictate

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Barry,
City Clerk