

City Council Work Session
September 13, 2022

Work Session started at 6:02pm

Councilmembers present: Karla Davis, Kyle Christensen, Steven Dahlager and Cindy Stelten; Alyshea Nelson absent

Others present: Chad Koren and Travis Peterson

Those present reviewed the preliminary budget proposed by each department. The City Clerk explained that public works wages are currently split between general fund (public works), water and sewer; for 2023, she has further split the general fund portion between public works and parks. Currently only seasonal wages are allocated to parks which is not a true reflection of the labor cost related to the City's parks. She does still need to allocate employee insurance costs.

Mayor Davis discussed the area in between the hockey rink and Hwy 15; it's overgrown and filled with thistle. Staff is in agreement, however that is part of the Watershed District project and a natural area managed by them.

In regards to the decorative lighting, the previously used banners are faded and some are torn. The last time holiday lights were purchased, was the year before we could no longer put lights on the Xcel Energy poles. We're down to a few that still work and those are the ones that we've been using on Maus Dr. Hanging baskets will be a new item we'll have to purchase.

Councilmember Christensen discussed the Public Works building; we should consider soliciting bids in February as construction costs will be coming down. We also need to look at moving the City offices into the old library space and finishing that with involvement from the Historical Society.

The City Clerk still needs to add the 2022GO Bond for the TH15 Project to the tax levy figures.

Chad discussed the following sewer fund items with the Council: control panel upgrades for the lift stations and generators for each lift station.

Mayor Davis called for a budget workshop following the regular meeting on September 20th and a Special Meeting on September 28th at 6pm to finalize the 2023 preliminary budget and tax levy.

The work session ended at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted by Nicole Pilarski