

**City of Escanaba
Special Council Meeting
Monday, April 8, 2013**

Pursuant to a meeting notice posted March 15, 2013, the Council of the City of Escanaba convened in special session in Room 101 of City Hall at 8:00 a.m., to begin the review and discussion of the proposed 2013/14 City Budget.

Present: Mayor Leo J. Evans, Council Members Walter A. "Pete" Baker, Patricia A. Baribeau, Ronald J. Beauchamp, and Brady L. Nelson.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager James V. O'Toole, City Controller Dewar, and various City Department Heads, media and public.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – None

Introduction by City Manager O'Toole and City Controller Dewar

The following was reviewed with Council:

- Fund balances, and future projected fund balances;
- General Fund activities proposed in budgets;
- Proposed Capital Improvements;
- Power Plant Sale Update;
- No electric or water/wastewater rate increases proposed;
- Library Budget, ongoing funding issues and proposed revenue projects;
- Reviewed Staffing levels;
- Collective Bargaining contracts;
- Workers Compensation;
- Motor Equipment purchases;
- Other fund activities and proposed projects;
- City Controller Dewar reviewed the 2013/14 Budget Process;
- Pension and Workers' Compensation costs and calculations.

Electric Superintendent, Mike Furmanski – 8:53 a.m.

Mr. Furmanski reviewed the 2013/14 proposed City Electric Budget with Council. The following was discussed:

- Electric Fund Budget Overview and Y-1 agreement;
- Residential and Commercial Sales;
- Nextera Power Purchase Agreement Discussion;
- Power Plant Operations;
- Distribution Projects - Pole replacement, and LED Lighting Project;

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- Energy and Capacity cost discussion;
- Power Plant Sale discussion;
- MISO Y-1 Agreement Payment schedule;
- Miscellaneous line item discussions.

Water/Wastewater Superintendent, Jeff Lampi – 10:01 a.m.

Mr. Lampi reviewed the following 2013/14 proposed Water/Wastewater budget items with Council:

- Overall view of Water/Wastewater Funds;
- Water Rate Discussion. City Water rates one of the lowest in the Upper Peninsula;
- DEQ Emergency Plan training;
- Hydrate Maintenance Program;
- System Water loss Program;
- Proposed Projects;
- Continued Cross Training Program;
- Reviewed Wastewater projects and proposed Capital Expenditures;
- Staffing levels.

The time being 10:50 a.m. the Council recessed.

The Council came back into regular session at 11:13 a.m.

Recreation, Tom Penegor – 11:13 a.m.

Mr. Penegor, via phone conference, reviewed the following Department and budgets he was responsible for with Council:

- Request for Civic Center, Civic Center improvements, and Staffing;
- Request for Fourth of July;
- Request for Administration;
- Request for Summer Sports;
- Request for Wading Pool;
- Request for Winter Sports;
- Request for Beach, and Boat Launches;
- Request for Civic Center Activities.

The time being 11:50 p.m., Council recessed until 12:30 p.m.

The Council came back into regular session at 12:30 p.m. and discussed the following:.

- General Fund Discussion;

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- State Revenue Sharing;
- Request for City Council;
- Michigan Municipal League (MML) annual dues;

After discussion, Nelson moved, Beauchamp seconded, to eliminate MML dues for Fiscal Year 2013/14.

Upon a call of the Roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Nelson, Beauchamp, Baribeau, Evans

Nays: Baker

MOTION CARRIED.

Administration reviewed the following other General Fund Budgets:

- City Manager's Budget;
- Controller's Office;
- Request for Auditors;
- Request for City Attorney;
- Request for City Hall and Grounds;
- Request for Community Promotional;
- Request for Special Celebrations-Flags;
- Request for Crossing Guards;
- Request for Planning/Zoning Commission;
- Request for Community Services;
- Request for Band;
- Request for Historical Museum;
- Request for Tourism Promotion;
- Request for Insurance and Bonds;
- Request for Transfer to Other Funds.

Public Safety Department, Ken Vanderlinden – 1:10 p.m.

Manager O'Toole and Public Safety Director Vanderlinden reviewed the following 2013/14 proposed budget items with Council:

- Training needs for the Department;
- Public Safety Building facility upgrades, windows and new roof;
- Request for 911 Central Dispatch;
- Bomb/Drug Dog;
- UPSET Team and Prescription Drug Disposal Programs;
- Mutual Aide Programs;
- Records Management System;
- Personnel Changes;

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- Proposed Grant applications;
- Ongoing investigations;
- Case clearance rate;
- Request for Act 302-Public Safety Training
- Request for Drug Law Enforcement Fund.

Public Works/Engineer, Bill Farrell – 2:04 p.m.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Bill Farrell reviewed budgets he was responsible for, and the following 2013/14 proposed budget items with Council:

- Reviewed Overall Departmental Programs, Facilities, and proposed Summer Activities;
- Request for Care of Trees and Shrubs;
- Request for Sidewalks;
- General Fund Public Works and Engineering budgets. No seasonal help would be hired;
- Sanitary Landfill, and Landfill Clean-up;
- Solid Waste Collection;
- Composting Activities
- Request for Recycling;
- Snowplowing of Alleys;
- Request for Parks;
- Request for Historical Museum;
- Alley Paving/Maintenance;
- Reviewed proposed Major Street and Projects;
- Snow removal budget;
- Crack/Chip Seal road improvements;
- Request for Storm Sewer and Roadside Drains;
- Request for Sweeping and Flushing;
- Request for Traffic Service;
- Requests for Snow Plowing and Snow Removal;
- Request for Snow Fence;
- Request for Ice Control;
- Request for Administrative and Engineering;
- Reviewed Local Street Projects;
- Reviewed Motor Vehicle and Equipment;
- Request for Parking Maintenance Fund;
- Request for Sanitary Landfill Fund.

Downtown Development Authority (DDA) - Judith Schroeder 3:06 p.m.

Ms. Schroeder reviewed the DDA Budget with Council and discussed the following budget line items:

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- Staff Salaries;
- Reviewed Façade Improvement projects;
- Weatherization Programs;
- Farmer's Market Project;
- Public Relations;
- New Street Sign Project;
- Curb Repair Project;
- Parking Lot Improvements;
- Discussed the possibility of a Joint Council meeting with the DDA in January of each year to discuss Budget Goals:
- Garbage pickup discussion and incentive to control the City Landfill Tipping costs.

Hearing no further public comment and the time being 3:50 p.m., the Council recessed until 8:00 a.m., Tuesday, April 9, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert S. Richards, CMC
City Clerk

Approved: _____
Leo J. Evans, Mayor