City of Escanaba
Special Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Pursuant to a meeting notice posted March 26, 2015, the Council of the City of Escanaba reconvened in special session in Room 101 of City Hall at 8:00 a.m., to continue the review and discussion of the proposed 2015/16 City Budget.

Present: Mayor Marc D. Tall, Council Members Patricia A. Baribeau, Ronald J. Beauchamp, Ralph B. Blasier, and Michael R. Sattem.

Absent: None

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

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – None

The following Department Heads presented their budgets:

Library Director, Carolyn Stacey – 8:00 a.m.

Mrs. Stacey reviewed the 2015/16 proposed Library Budget with Council. The following was reviewed:

- Overview of the Department, Library Strategic Planning process, daily programs, services, and technology's, and strategies the Library provides the community and Delta County;
- Library averaged about 400 visitors daily;
- Reviewed various outreach programs with the Communities and County;
- Reviewed various projected revenues. Council Members suggested, the entire Council should approach the County Board and ask for a County Contribution for the City Library.

Council Members reviewed the following funds:

EBA Fund

- Discussed possible use of Janitorial services;
- Discussed building maintenance issues and possible landscaping of the building.

Capital Improvement Plan

- Reviewed proposed 2015/16 activity for the next fiscal year;
- Reviewed possible future programs. Priorities could change depending on the final outcome of the City Master Plan.

Community Preservation – Blain DeGrave 8:25 a.m.

- Overview of Department and Daily Activities;
- Summarized Code Compliance inspection program;
- Historic District Commission duties;
- Discussed Enhanced Code Enforcement Area, apartments, rehabilitation, sidewalk and grass complaints;
- Building Inspections, which included rentals and nuisance complaints that included winter sidewalk shoveling and grass complaints;
- Facade Improvement Program;
- Rental Rehabilitation Program.

Marina Fund - Larry Gravatt – 8:35 a.m.

Mr. Gravatt reviewed the Marina Budget with Council and discussed the following items:

- Reviewed services, programs and festivals scheduled at the Harbor Marina;
- Summarized State Grant funds and Harbor General Fund Loans;
- Discussed sidewalk repairs and other needed repairs;
- Discussed Yacht Club City relationship and possible special event partnerships. Council Members asked for City Property lease information and Yacht Club Bylaws;
- Marina Weed Treatment Program;
- Transient Boat traffic and fuel pricing.

Council recessed at 9:02 a.m.

Council came back into regular session 9:09 a.m.

Administration reviewed the following City budgets with Council:

- Request for Planning/Zoning Commission;
- Request for Boat Launches;
- Request for Crossing Guards;
- Request for Insurance and Bonds;
- Transfer to other funds.

General Discussions:

After review and discussion of proposed budgets, Blasier moved, Beauchamp seconded, to accept the 2015/16 Budget with the following amendments.

MERS $823 yearly Newsletter subscription be added to the City Manager's Office Budget.

Council Members, based on tax tribunal anticipated expenses, increased the City Assessor Budget $20,000 for attorney fees, $1,200 for travel, and $26,000 for Professional services.

Council Members directed an increase in Local Streets of $33,000, and Major Streets of $150,000.

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

Ayes: Blasier, Beauchamp, Sattem, Baribeau, Tall
Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Discussed funds for a City cleanup. Funds to - Sanitary Landfill. Council asked Administration for a report.

Hearing no further public comment and the time being 9:32 a.m., the Council adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert S. Richards, CMC
City Clerk

Approved: _____
Marc D. Tall, Mayor