

CITY OF NEENAH
2024 OPERATING AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BUDGET
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE WORKSHOP/STUDY SESSION
Monday, November 6, 2023 - 6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, Neenah Administration Building
211 Walnut Street, Neenah, Wisconsin

MINUTES

Present: Aldermen Erickson, Hillstrom, Lendrum, Skyrms, Steiner, Stevenson, Weber, and Borchardt; Mayor Lang, Director of Finance Rasmussen, and City Clerk Nagel.

Also Present: Municipal Court Judge Gunz, Bergstrom Mahler Museum Director Moorefield and Assistant Director Timmer, City Attorney Rashid, Library Director Hardina-Wilhelm, Director of Community Development Haese, Deputy Director of Community Development Schmidt, Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue Chief Kloehn, and Deputy Fire Chief Krueger.

Absent/Excused: Alderman Boyette.

Public Comment: None.

Mayor Lang provided an overview of her 2024 Recommended Executive Budget. There was discussion on proposed pay increase for all non-union employees.

Discussion took place on the following 2024 Executive Budget items:

Municipal Court: Judge Gunz provided an overview of the 2024 Municipal Court budget requests. Items discussed included the Municipal Court deficit and Neenah's continued contribution towards reducing its share of the deficit. With the new high school located in Fox Crossing, truancy court is now in Fox Crossing jurisdiction.

Bergstrom-Mahler Museum: Director Moorefield and Assistant Director Timmer provided an overview of the 2024 Museum budget requests. Items discussed included the addition of a ramp in the rear of the building to allow for guests to get down into the festival area, along with other main building repairs.

Potential Amendment (Alderman Skyrms): Remove or find different funding for the rear ramp.

Mayor: Mayor Lang provided an overview of the 2024 Mayoral budget requests. Items discussed included outside services for the Culture Initiative and the GIS budget moving under Community Development as a whole versus as an internal service fund.

Legal & Administrative Services: City Attorney Rashid and City Clerk Nagel provided an overview of the 2024 Legal and Administrative Services budget requests. Items discussed included process improvement for handling animal complaints, the increase of the election budget with a Presidential election next year, and the possibility of renting two polling locations

adequate to handle the volume of voter turnout that is expected. A potential increase to the Amusement Device Fee, and food truck permitting were also discussed.

Mayor's Recommendation & Summary/Finance/Risk Management/Special Reserves and Escrow/TIF (Noncapital)/ARPA/Debt Service/Liability Insurance Fund/Benefit Accrual Fund: Mayor Lang and Director Rasmussen reminded the Council that ARPA dollars must be allocated by the end of 2024 and spent by 2026. Items discussed included water utility billing, special revenues, health insurance, transient rentals, exempt computer aid, TIF, food trucks, dance halls, and cell towers.

Library: Director Hardina-Wilhelm provided an overview of the 2024 Library budget requests.

Operating: Items discussed included the carry forward balance and the department requests for position increases in the budget.

Capital: Items discussed included the chillers replacement and the addition of four self-checkout machines. The potential uses of the Library trust fund to pay for capital items was also discussed.

Potential Amendment (Alderman Skyrms): Use the trust fund to pay for the replacement of the chillers.

Community Development/Landmarks/Sustainable Neenah/CDAN-Friends/Aging/ Mass Transit/Dial-A-Ride/ Grant/Loan Programs: Community Development Director Haese and Deputy Director Schmidt provided an overview of the 2024 Community Development budget requests. Items discussed included the public health department fund balance, the Dial-a-Ride program, affordable housing, Habitat for Humanity, and the funds available in the Community Development Block Grant.

G.I.S/B.I.D.: Items discussed included the BID's balance of funds available and the relocation of GIS budget under the Community Development budget.

T.I.F. Projects/Redevelopment: Items discussed included the closing of TIFs 5 and 6.

Fire/Rescue: Fire Chief Kloehn provided an overview of the 2024 Fire/Rescue budget requests.

Operating: Items discussed included maintenance and repair costs for the Fire/Rescue vehicle fleet and timing of receiving vehicles that were ordered.

Capital: Items discussed included the review of facilities taken annually by Fire/Rescue, and the upcoming remodel of Station 31 beginning in 2025

Other 2024 Budget Matters: There was discussion on staff salaries, which were historically included in the budget, but were not included in this year's budget. The reason for not including specific salary information was that it wasn't a requirement for the budget book, and it seemed to be a better culture fit not to include salaries.

Adjournment: Motion/Second/Carried Skyrms/Steiner to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m.
All voting aye.

Respectfully submitted,



Charlotte Nagel
Neenah City Clerk