

City of Wabasso  
City Council  
Wednesday, September 23, 2020  
6 pm

The meeting opened with recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was called to order at 6 pm by Mayor Carol Atkins with Council Members Rachel Ingebretson, Steve Burns, and Wade McKittrick present. Carole Remiger was unable to attend. Also present were Clerk Treasurer Administrator Larry Thompson and Library Director Scott Sobocinski

The purpose of the meeting was to consider the 2021 Preliminary Budget and set the 2021 Preliminary Levy.

Mr. Thompson presented the 2021 Preliminary Budget noting:

1. It is a preliminary budget that should be used mainly for early discussion and to set the preliminary levy. The final draft budget will include a more detailed discussion relating to how the numbers were established.
2. It was recommending the preliminary levy be set at \$473, 687 which is a 3.73% increase over 2020. The final levy to be set in December can be decreased but not increased.
3. The Debt levies have been set per the bonding resolutions.
4. General Fund expenditures are down from 2020 mostly due to the \$52,000 COVID Grant in 2020.
5. I have recommended a salary contingency for \$8,279 and operating contingency of \$28,698 in the general fund. It is not recommended this money be earmarked for a specific purpose but will allow flexibility during the budget discussions. Dollars not allocated from the contingency could be used to reduce the levy.
6. Library fund - The city's share of support has been kept at the same level as 2020.
7. The Water budget includes \$10,000 for contracted services, which would include hiring a company that would service the water tower on an annual basis including inside coating and outside painting and repairs. The water and sewer fund include the transfers to debt service for the bond payments. It is not recommended a rate increase at this time but we should discuss this during the process.

It was the consensus of the council that the proposed budget was a good starting point for discussion and were looking forward to more details in the final draft.

The council discussed communications with Library Director Sobocinski. No major issues were noted but it was felt it would be good for the Mr. Sobocinski to attend council meetings from time to time and to include the city in policy discussions. Mr. Sobocinski indicated that it was

his intent to do so. Mr. Thompson indicated he would also be attending Library Board meetings and that he and Mr. Sobocinski meet on a regular basis.

It was noted the preliminary levy needs to be to the County Auditor by September 30. The preliminary levy was approved as presented on a motion by McKittrick, seconded by Burns. Atkins-yes, Burns-yes, McKittrick-yes, Ingebretson-yes.

Motion by Ingebretson, seconded by McKittrick to adjourn at 7:05 pm. Atkins-yes, Burns-yes, McKittrick-yes, Ingebretson-yes

Larry J Thompson  
City Clerk/Treasurer Administrator