

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Budget Workshop of the Brainerd City Council was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Council President Johnson.

Upon roll call, the following members were noted present: Stunek, Pritschet, Bevans, Badeaux, Erickson, Lambert, Johnson, and Mayor Menk. Also present were Interim City Administrator Jim Thoreen, Finance Director Connie Hillman, City Engineer Paul Sandy, Police Chief Corky McQuiston, Fire Chief Tim Holmes, Community Development Director David Chanski, Park Director Tony Sailer, and IT/GIS Director Shawn Strong.

2020 Budget and Levy Discussion

Finance Director Hillman stated the discussion of the workshop focuses on the Working Funds (General, Public Safety, Parks, & Streets), debt and capital which are the funds the City needs to levy for operations. The preliminary levy was set at \$6,131,395 or a 4.0% increase over the 2019 levy.

Finance Director Hillman reviewed the status of the current 2020 budget and highlighted changes that have been made since the preliminary levy was adopted, as well as identified items currently not in the budget or levy such as the Memorial Park redesign, master plan for the Children's Museum at Lum Park, and what was included in the budget for Lakes Media Collaborative. Finance Director Hillman shared that without changes for the aforementioned items, the Council could potentially reduce the levy for 2020 by approximately \$10,000 and still have a balanced budget for 2020. Previous levy history was reviewed and potential levies for 2020 and 2021 were presented to reduce the peaks and valleys of the City's levy. Updated estimated market value information from the County was presented, as well as the estimated tax rates for other percentages of levy increases for 2020 and the estimated impact to a residential and commercial property assuming no change in estimated market value.

Council discussion was held. Council directed staff to use a 4% increase in the levy for the Budget and Levy Public Hearing on Monday, December 9, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Adjourn

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:55 P.M.

James M. Thoreen
Interim City Administrator