

Brainerd, MN
November 22nd, 2021

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Brainerd City Council Budget Workshop was called to order at 6:07 P.M. by Council President Bevans.

Members Johnson, Pritschet, Stenglein, Erickson, O'Day, Stunek, and Bevans were noted as present. Mayor Badeaux was noted as absent. Also noted as present were City Administrator Bergman, Finance Director Hillman, Community Development Director Chanski, HR Director Schubert, Police Chief Bestul, Fire Chief Holmes, and IT/GIS Director Strong.

2022 Levy and Budget

Finance Director Hillman outlined the budget process. The primary focus of discussion to set the levy is the working funds, debt, and capital funds. The preliminary levy set in September was certified to the County at a 2% increase over the 2021 levy. The final levy needs to be certified by December 28th, 2021. Updates to the budget since the preliminary levy was set include updated wages for the police officers' union settlement, market adjustments for Police Chief and Deputy Chief, updated wages for department heads and non-union supervisors for a 2.5% COLA, and updated health insurance elections and rates. Due to the changes made to the budget since the preliminary levy was set, the final levy would need to be just over 2%. The final levy can be lower but cannot be higher than the preliminary levy. Staff also discussed options of how the budget could be adjusted if Council desired to set the final levy lower than the preliminary levy and the cons of those options.

Council Discussion took place. Each member had a chance to express their thoughts on the proposed budget and levy and direction on which the levy should be used for the budget public hearing. The consensus Staff received from Council was to proceed with a 2% levy increase for the budget public hearing.

Adjourn

The Chair adjourned the Budget Workshop at 6:43 p.m.



Jennifer Bergman
City Administrator