

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
JANUARY 29, 2024
4:00 PM

PRESENT: Mayor Sandra Magiera
Council Members: John Hill, Kylee Johnson,
Barry Smith, Michael Reed, Janet Koch
City Clerk: Tracy Chamberlain
City Comptroller: Robert Earley
Police Chief: Jamie Deck
Dog Control Officer: Timothy Haynoski
Empire Animal Rescue Society: Courtney Valent
Youth Bureau Director: Markie Phillips
Grant Administrator: Jay Bartoszek
Rail Museum Director: Jaré Cardinal
City Historian: James Griffith
Library Director: Jennifer Stickles
Library Treasurer: Fred Saradin
Library Board Members: Susan Zaprowski, Patricia Magara
Resident: Kathi Gimbrone

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM. The purpose of the meeting was to continue the review of proposed 2024-2025 City Budget.

Police Chief Jamie Deck reviewed the 2024-2025 Police Department and Juvenile Officer proposed budgets. He has budgeted personnel to include three officers under the grant and one to replace a retiree. He proposed to purchase one new Chevy Tahoe vehicle for a command center which could be used by supervisors. He also included a repeater radio, power source, battery chargers, door locking fobs and bullet proof vests. They have applied for a grant that would purchase radios, tablets (laptops), and cameras.

Dog Control Officer Haynoski reviewed the amounts in the Control of Animals proposed budget. They have been using the Dog Caretakers to assist with many dogs. He will need to work on a plan and grants to build a kennel for long-term. It was requested to increase the Veterinarian expenses line to assist Empire Animal Rescue Society (EARS) with spay and neutering and vaccines.

Youth Bureau Director Markie Phillips reviewed the Youth Program, Playgrounds and Youth Grant proposed budgets. She proposed to increase the staff wages with the 2% increase and a \$3.00 per hour increase for the two full-time and three part-time long-time employees. The playground and Arts-A-Live staff would receive minimum wage. She would like to upgrade the Summit Street and Academy Street basketball courts this summer.

Grant Administrator Bartoszek reviewed the Grant Writer Services budget. He asked to add professional development to his budget.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
JANUARY 29, 2024
PAGE TWO

Rail Museum Director Jaré Cardinal reviewed the progress at the Museum. She noted there was vandalism and new cameras were installed. The Salamanca IDA holds the deed to the property and informed the Museum that they are not able to continue with the upkeep. The IDA has asked to meet with the Rail Museum Board to discuss turning the building over to them. Director Cardinal stated a few entities continue to work on the excursion train to transport passengers to the Buffalo area. She also noted that they rent the freight house for events and would like to hold a farmer's market. The Council thanked Director Cardinal for her work at the Museum.

City Historian Griffith discussed the City Historian budget. He noted he has reduced the Office Expense and Material and Supplies budget lines. They plan to change internet providers, which offers a discounted rate of businesses with a three-year contract. The Historical Society has applied for a grant for security cameras. They were closed to the public for the winter. They have had discussion with the Salamanca School District History teachers regarding a program for student visits. He also asked that the City look into installing a bench in front of the former Dudley Hotel where buses stops frequently.

At this time Council Member Reed left the meeting.

Library Director Stickles and the Library Board reviewed the proposed 2024-2025 Library budget. The total projected budget expenses are \$262,080.00 with \$21,400.00 in revenue, for a total requested of \$240,680.00. The Library proposed a wage increases of 2% and \$.80 per hour for the two full time employees that have been at the library for ten years. Two part-time employees to receive a 1% increase as they recently received minimum wage increases. And one part-time employee and the Manager are to receive a 2% increase. The amount budgeted for the audit in the last budget was not spent and is carried in the revenue balance line.

The Council was not in favor of covering the legal fee budget line and request that an audit be arranged as soon as possible. There was discussion regarding revenue such as more grant funds and possibly renting the Congdon Room.

At this time Council Member Johnson left the meeting.

The Department expenses reviews will continue on Thursday, February 1, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.



Tracy Chamberlain, City Clerk

DATED: March 7, 2024