

AURORA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

*Aurora City Hall, City Council Chambers,
Tuesday, November 12, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.*

I. Call to Order: Mayor Barton called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call:

Mayor Linda Barton
Chairman Pro Tem Ramirez
Councilwoman Rentfro
Councilwoman Colwell
Councilwoman Henderson

All council members were noted present.

III. Agenda: Budget Work Session

Chairman Pro Tem Ramirez started the meeting by saying the budget was not a balanced budget and how could the City Manager and City Clerk bring a budget to council for consideration that was not balanced. Every department head has said they were going to spend more money than they were allotted. He stated he had run a business for twenty-eight years and he knew when a budget was balanced. He directed his comments to the City Manager and stated you're supposed to have a financial background. City Manager Randall replied the budget was balanced as it stood. Options were laid out for council to consider. He continued by reiterating why weren't the overages that department heads needed put in the budget. City Clerk Needham said that we were not going to presume how council felt about certain expenditures. It was council's prevue to either approve or disapprove a request.

City Manager replied that when he started his position the budget originally had a 3% rate increase in it for all employees and he was the one that had backed it out of the budget. City Manager Randall recommended giving employees a 1.5 % cola increase and to freeze the pay plan. Chairman Pro Tem Ramirez said his idea was to get rid of the Lagers Retirement Benefit Plan altogether and give all employees a 2% pay increase.

City Clerk Needham stated that she had been told that once a city joined Lagers they could never back out. Chairman Pro Tem Ramirez said he had never seen any contract that couldn't be broken. He said that if the employees wanted a retirement system they needed to be disciplined enough to save their own money.

City Clerk Needham also informed the council that at the time the previous council had made the decision to go from a contributory plan to a non-contributory plan with Lagers

the city had paid back to each employee their contributions they had put into the system. Chairman Pro Tem Ramirez said who in the world made that decision? No one knew how far that decision dated back. From that time forward the city has been a non-contributory plan and has picked up the entire contribution for each employee.

Mayor Barton wanted to stay with the present plan however she asked to have City Attorney Woodard look into the validity of being able to get out of the contract and/or whether the present plan could be reduced or go back to a contributory level.

Council reviewed the list of items for consideration.

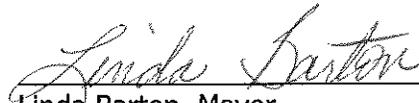
1. Pay Seasonal/Volunteer Employees health insurance benefits – No
2. Council training – Add \$1,500 for new members training
3. Sharing audit costs with all funds – Each dept. will share in the cost of the annual audit. \$2,100 was added to each budget for this expense.
4. Computer ACH Software – Administration Budget already had \$2,000 toward the purchase price of \$2,290. An additional \$290 was added to Administration Budget for the purchase.
5. \$1,500 was added to the Finance Budget for the upgrade of three computers and an additional \$1,000 that was erroneously left out of their budget.
6. Bunker Gear – An additional \$200 was budgeted to complete the cost for four sets of bunker gear.
7. Security Wand - \$300 was added to the Municipal Court to purchase a security wand for court.
8. Capital Improvements – Carpeting – pulled up a corner of the carpeting to find underlayment underneath. A carpeting company had looked at the carpeting and said that the glue had given way and once. They felt that carpet could not be stretched if it had originally been glued down. Council decided to wait on this expenditure until more bids were taken.
9. Demolition - \$40,000 was added to the P&Z budget for demolitions. Mayor Barton did not feel that city employees should be doing the demolitions. Outside vendors with specific equipment could separate dirt from debris thus reducing haul off cost.
10. PFF Fund - \$28,000 was allotted for repeaters and an additional \$25,000 to come from reserves for these additions.

Council discussed the fact that the new Building Inspector had no truck to drive. He was driving an old Explorer from the Fire Department. It was explained that when the Cemetery's truck was stolen there was no building inspector employed so the truck that P&Z originally purchased had been given to the Cemetery. It was determined that the truck needed to be returned to the Building Inspector and the Cemetery would need to purchase their own vehicle.

IV. Adjourn

Councilwoman Rentfro moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. Councilwoman Colwell seconded the motion. Motion passed with all members voting in favor of the motion.

APPROVED:



Linda Barton, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kathie Needham, City Clerk, MMC/MPCC

Posted 11-8-2013 by Kathie Needham, City Clerk