

City of Medora
Minutes of Special Meeting

August 7, 2019

(Subject to Council Review and Approval)

Meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm by Mayor Todd Corneil. Present were Council Members Doug Ellison, John Tczap, Kinley Slauter and Tracy Sexton.

Preliminary Budget Review – Auditor Ridenhower reviewed the progress on preparation of the 2020 Budget. The focus for the meeting is:

Preliminary 2020 Budget Review/Approval

Ambulance Replacement request – Marcia Lamb, Mitch Gilseth, and Kyle Michels reviewed the plans for replacing ambulances. They requested the City approve payment of \$255,000 which is the City's share of the cost, which can be paid to the County in 6 annual installments of \$42,500 beginning 8/8/20. There was consensus that the ambulance replacements are needed and the annual installment payments will be a priority in the budget process.

TRMF Point to Point Park request – a presentation on the Park and related requests from the City were discussed at the August 6 Council Meeting, and it was agreed the budget aspects would be discussed at today's meeting. TRMF projects that the Park will bring more people to town and fill more motel rooms so the Park will be good for Medora and increase City revenue. Sitter commented that supporting the Park might benefit the City more than the current spending on the City Pool, and he clarified that projected income impacts from the Park have not be quantified. Ellison commented that he can see how the Park can benefit the City but he questions if the City can afford to provide financial support at this time. Corneil stated that he feels the Park is a good idea but it isn't a good time for the spending as the City is working to replenish after the investment in the lagoon and we have already cut several significant projects from the budget. Corneil supports partnering with the County and TRMF to see what can be done to obtain grants and funding in the future. The consensus is that the Council supports the Point to Point Park project and will work to find ways to support it. Ellison moved the request from TRMF for \$1 million to support Point to Point Park infrastructure be denied as the spending can't be accommodated in the 2020 Budget, but the City will review options to support the Park project in the future, Sexton seconded. Motion passed 3 to 1.

2019/2020 Revenue Projections were reviewed and discussed. We expect to be on Budget with our 2019 Total Revenues and we project 2020 Revenue to be similar to 2019. Proposed expenditures were reviewed for clarification and input. 2018, 2019 and 2020 Project Lists were discussed. 2019 and 2020 Project Lists were prioritized and updated with projects prioritized for completion in 2019 and designated to be included in the 2020 Preliminary Budget.

The pipeline from the tank to 6th Street will be flow tested next week and an assessment made on its condition. It was requested that Beach have Rural Water review our water and sewer situation and present to the Council on what they feel should be our greatest concerns.

The Ambulance replacement payment will be included in the 2020 Preliminary Budget. The Revenue Budget for Utilities was adjusted to reflect projected increases from rate changes. The Spending Budget was adjusted to include the Ambulance replacement payment and align to the 2020 Projects which were prioritized for inclusion.

By consensus the 2020 Preliminary Revenue Budget was approved at \$1,930,860, the Expense Budget was approved at \$2,265,834, and the mill rate for 2020 was approved to remain the same. The Auditor will provide this information to the County Auditor by August 9.

THERE WILL BE A BUDGET HEARING AND APPROVAL OF THE FINAL BUDGET AT THE COUNCIL MEETING ON OCTOBER 1 AT 6:00 PM.

The next regular City Council Meeting will be September 3 at 7 PM.

Slauter moved to adjourn, Ellison seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Attest: _____ Todd Corneil, Mayor

Attest: _____ Gary Ridenhower, City Auditor