



Creating Our Past by Investing in Our Future

SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD

MARCH 8, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM at Le Roy City Hall with members Rick Kline, Kyle Merkle, Brad Poindexter, Ron Legner and Matt Steffen present at toll call. Dawn Hanafin, Kelly Lay and Greg Steffen were not present at roll call.

Also in attendance were Ryan Miles, Justin Morfey, Sarah Welte and City employees Scott Bryant, Perry Mayer, Chief Williamson, Danny Lush, Samantha Walley and Vicki Moreland.

The meeting was called to discuss the 2021-2022 budget.

Dawn was seated at 6:05 PM.

Motion was made by Kyle and seconded by Matt for approval of the Special Projects Committee Meeting Minutes from February 8, 2021. Roll call: Dawn Hanafin-yes, Rick Kline-abstain, Kyle Merkle-yes, Brad Poindexter-yes, Ron Legner-abstain, Matt Steffen-yes. Motion carried 4 yeas, 0 nays, 2 abstain.

Kelly was seated at 6:08 PM.

Samantha informed the Council and Staff that she had received the estimated numbers for charges for natural gas that had previously been paid for through therms allowed by Nicor. This would affect General Fund Administration as well as Street and Police.

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General Administration budget numbers were discussed including costs associated with the City Farm to be paid from the Business District funds. Samantha stated that City Hall had budgeted for a new printer to replace the old one and that in the next 5 years City Hall would need a roof replacement.

General Fund will receive a transfer in from Hotel Motel Tax fund in the amount of \$10,011. Dawn asked about the delinquent amount owed for the tax, which is about \$180,000.

Street Department part-time and seasonal wages were combined. Funds had been added to the Structure repair and maintenance line item for street department facility for roof repair and new restroom. The equipment line item had been reduced from what was previously added. Dawn asked about the possibility of a rotation program for equipment, similar to the police car rotation. Dan stated that the aging equipment resulted in higher repair costs and the recycle truck and flat bed were seeing increased usage, which would need to be addressed in the next 4 to 5 years. Dan would like to have a revenue stream to use on expenses.

Last year's MFT revenues were higher than expected due to the unplanned Re-Build Illinois funds that can be used on MFT eligible projects.

Greg was seated at 6:43 PM.

The Refuse fund was discussed. Samantha stated that an ordinance would need to be done removing the landfill fee and re-allocating the fee toward the bond payment. The projected revenue would be \$53,192.

The Police Department budget was discussed. Chief Williamson stated that the revenue line item for SRO should go up due to increased wages

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for Officer Spencer. The revenue offsets the cost of the position. Wages for full time officers included their May 1 collective bargaining increase, but did not reflect vacation buyback or holiday pay, which Chief Williamson asked to be changed. The Capital Projects line item reflects the cost of a new squad car purchase.

Chief Williamson asked the council about Officer Facer continuing in a part-time capacity, which they were in agreement with. Contract Services was discussed and Chief stated that he was going to reduce the amount by cutting some of the planned expenses.

Water Department budget was discussed. The projected revenues for penalties in both Water and Sewer were up due to previously waiving them due to the Corona Virus impact. Line item 910, Natural Gas had increased and line item 788, Main Replacement and Extensions was reduced. The Water Plant improvements will be covered by the bond.

Sewer Department budget was discussed. Expense line item 788, Main Replacement & Extensions was reduced and the expense was moved to line item 791, Bond Capital Projects to use the remaining revenues from the Series B bonds. Line item 781 would be expenses associated with costs of garage doors and replacement of the Dixie mowers. Scott stated that he needed to replace two pumps and resume the Inflow and Infiltration study, which would be from line item 791. He stated that his Phosphorous Removal from Exelon would resume.

Hotel/Motel Tax Fund was discussed. The revenues from the tax were conservative due to the lack of payment received. Tourism line item 723 was budgeted in the amount of \$10,000.

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The Le Roy Business District was discussed with projected revenues. Expenditures from line item 999 would be used to cover the expense to implement a TIF district.

In Old and New Business, Mayor Dean stated that he had been working on planned repairs of the Indian Statue in Kiwanis Park. He had spoken with Jeff Whitesell regarding the repairs as well as working on grant opportunities. He had also spoken with a local organization that was interested in helping.

Kelly updated the council on the planned Farmer's Market, which was scheduled to begin May 27 and would continue through October 7. The Chamber of Commerce will assist with insurance costs. The vendor apps will be coming out in the next two weeks, with information on Face Book as well as information posted around the City. She stated that Le Roy residents would be prioritized due to the limited space for vendors, which would be \$120.00 for a seasonal booth or \$20 for a one-day booth. The focus would be on Kiwanis Park with the possibility of restaurants closing sidewalks for outside seating.

Motion was made at 7:28 PM by Rick and seconded by Dawn to adjourn the Committee Meeting.

Vicki Moreland