

Council Proceedings
Special Council Meeting
February 1, 2016

A Special meeting of the Marshalltown City Council was convened on February 1, 2016, at 12:00 PM, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, according to posted notices. Mayor Pro Tempore Wirin called the meeting to order. ROLL CALL: Present – Gowdy, Greer, Hoop, Lamer, Martin, Schubert, Wirin.

Schubert moved to appoint to the Police & Fire Advisory Committee: Jeannine Grady and Fauna Nord, second by Martin. Motion carried 7-0.

Finance Director Diana Steiner was present to answer questions regarding the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. There were no questions.

Budget FY 17. The council discussed the Capital Improvement Plan, regarding including support of \$30,000 for the city portion of the Iowa River Trail project that connects Marshalltown to Hardin County. Hoop and Schubert dissented because Marshall County is not supporting the trail. Lamer dissented to supporting the Iowa River Trail monetarily because the capital improvement plan had been cut due to declining tax revenue, preferring the \$30,000 be spent on other capital improvement needs. Wirin suggested the council should support the trail without regard of support by Marshall County. Greer indicated he had a conflict of interest, being the secretary of the TRAILS, Inc., board, and relayed the grantors need additional local support to be competitive with grant funds. The council directed staff to include \$30,000 in the Capital Improvement Plan to support the Trail improvement, with review in two weeks prior to budget numbers being finalized for the public hearing notice.

The council discussed the tax facts, with the current tax rate proposed at \$15.28157 per \$1,000 taxable valuation, an increase of \$0.519. The increase is attributed to debt service (\$0.249) and library levy (\$0.270).

The increase in the road use tax will allow room in the budget to hire an inspector to save outsourcing service expense. Previously, \$850,000 was transferred to the general fund. The new budget will have \$900,000 of road use tax transferred to the general fund to support a portion of street crew wages.

Outsourcing of payroll services provides a \$5,000 annual savings, utilizing a part time payroll person. The proposed budget provides overtime expense to cover financial software conversion activity. There is currently a police officer vacancy, with a savings of about \$45,000; the position will not be filled due to a concern in the next budget year that if hired, and funds are not available, a layoff would be required.

Chief Tupper informed the council body cameras were included in the capital improvement budget during the next four years, and is researching hardware, storage costs, and is receiving donations. The department already has a vehicle camera storage policy, and the storage policy will be reviewed to include storage of body camera files.

Lamer moved to direct staff to negotiate a financial software contract, second by Greer. The goal is for the majority of the software implementation to be concluded by January 2017. Motion carried 7-0.

With no additional action the meeting adjourned at 12:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Shari L. Coughenour, CMC, City Clerk

CITY OF MARSHALLTOWN

James L. Lowrance, Mayor

ATTEST:

Shari L. Coughenour, City Clerk