

HOMEDALE CITY COUNCIL
Homedale City Hall
31 W. Wyoming Street

June 8th, 2020

4:00pm

Budget Meeting Minutes

Meeting was held at Sundance Park.

Presiding: Mayor Gheen Christoffersen

Council Present: Aaron Tines, Steve Atkins, Jerry Anderson, Mike Aebischer

Guests: See attached

Staff Attending: Alice E. Pegram, Jeff Eidemiller, Bret Smith, Sharla Jensen

Mayor Christoffersen opened the Budget Workshop Meeting;

General Fund: After a conversation with County Clerk; Angie Barkell, the Mayor and Council decided not to take the 3% in property tax increase. Alice will add revenue and expense account numbers for COVID – 19 funds.

The City should receive more money from the State for expenses related to COVID; if we don't take our 3%. Councilman Tines asked about projects that were due to come out of the Economic Development line item; Mayor Christoffersen said they would prioritize the French drain by Bob's (Owyhee Repair).

Police Dept.: Jeff said he left the car item in; but he will not be getting another car this year. He did mention if they put a new motor in Andrew's car; he would keep it; as it is already set up for canine. He added he did increase his Grant line items.

Jeff's budget is down approx. 6.9%.

Councilman Aebischer mentioned he would like to do something to show the employees they are appreciated. Several things were discussed, but nothing was decided.

Library: Sharla said the only change she would like to change is increase the book sale to \$400 and the expense increase will be electric.

Mayor Christoffersen asked to have the reopening of the Library on the next agenda.

Streets & Hwys.: Bret lowered his Misc Projects by \$20,000 due to the our money from the state will be approx.. \$20,000 less. Councilman Tines questioned when he would be doing a seal coating project; Bret said usually in August.

Parks & Rec.: Council agreed not to add additional to the pool this year.

Alice mentioned Kathy Deal might be able to get us tennis nets at a good discount.

Councilman Tines mentioned we need to work on upkeep at the tennis courts; Mayor Christoffersen asked Bret to make the courts a priority next year.

Moving the Disc Golf course was discussed; which would allow for more spaces at the RV Park. Mayor Christoffersen asked Bret to bring his layout for the disc golf at Sundance for the next meeting.

The RV Park was discussed; Councilman Tines wants the RV Park income used just for RV Park expenses and used for the expansion of the RV Park. The Mayor and Council agreed.

Councilman Atkins asked about the Peterson Park; Bret said it was on hold at this time, he needed enclose the pump system. Putting money back for future improvements was discussed. Mayor Christoffersen asked Bret to get a quote to build a well house.

Water:

Councilman Tines talked with the City Engineer and he believes there is a percentage of each water and sewer bill that is supposed to be added to our Capital Improvement each year. Bret said he and Alice would check on it.

Sewer:

Mayor Christoffersen mentioned our master plan has a schedule of projects and some we could do ourselves. He added if we are not going to do the double payments; the City needs to do some projects. He said maybe we will need to add a person; we don't have enough man power to get these projects done.

Council Tines proposed we stop making the additional payment on our Water and Sewer Bonds and put that money into local projects that need to be done. The Council was in agreement to not double up on the Sewer and Water payments.

It was mentioned the budget did not include the annual increase of 2% and 3%.

Sanitation:

The budget was kept the same as the prior year.

Airport:

The budget was kept the same as the prior year. There was discussion on some property at the end of the airport; Bret said if it is a maintenance nightmare; he would like to sell it. Drainage was also discussed; but nothing was settled. Mayor Christoffersen asked Bret if his weed control money was enough; Bret said yes.

Irrigation:

Irrigation rates will be increased.


Payroll:

No raises were given. The money for certifications was approved.

Mayor Christoffersen adjourned the meeting.



Mayor Gheen Christoffersen

Attest: 

Alice E. Pegram, City Clerk