

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
2013 PROPOSED BUDGET AND LEVY
COOK CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 13, 2012 – CITY HALL – 6 PM**

PRESENT: Mayor Harold Johnston, Councilors Jody Bixby and Elizabeth Storm
 ABSENT: Councilors Kim Brunner and Karen Hollanitsch
 OTHERS PRESENT: Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Palm

Mayor Harold Johnston called the meeting to order at 5 PM.

The purpose of this meeting is to propose and adopt a preliminary budget and tax levy for 2013 and set the Truth in Taxation hearing date. The preliminary budget for 2013 has proposed revenues that project taxes to be paid in full and Local Government Aid is certified and will remain the same as 2012. Study sessions will be held at 5 PM prior to the monthly regular council meetings for the remainder of the year to discuss the budget and levy for 2013.

The presented general fund budget primarily covers operating expenses for the city. Major capital projects need further review and grant opportunities considered. Budgeted project funds are designated separately from operating expenses to avoid substantial increases to the tax levy.

The council proposed a preliminary levy increase of 6%. The proposed 2013 levy amount would be \$346,766.

2011 LEVY \$317,610 Final
 2012 LEVY \$327,138 Final
 2013 LEVY \$346,766 Preliminary

Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to approve a preliminary levy increase of 6%. The proposed levy for 2013 would be \$346,766. **MOTION CARRIED**

The Truth in Taxation Public Hearing must be held between November 27 and December 26, 2012. The hearing is held to discuss and approve the final budget and tax levy for 2013. The Council will discuss the amount of property taxes it is proposing to collect to pay for the costs of services the city will provide in 2013. The meeting will be held at 6 PM on December 20, 2012 (regular council meeting date) at the Cook City Hall. The public is encouraged to attend to express their opinions.

Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to set the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing Date as December 20, 2012 at 6 PM at the Cook City Hall whereby the final adoption of the 2013 budget and levy will occur.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to approve the proposed 2013 General Fund budget as follows:

PROPOSED REVENUES	\$459,480
PROPOSED EXPENSES	<u>\$478,422</u>
Deficit	\$(18,942)

PRELIMINARY PROPOSED LEVY INCREASE 6%	\$19,628
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GENERAL FUND	\$ (18,942)
<u>LEVY 6%</u>	<u>\$ 19,628</u>
	\$ 686 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 PM. **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Palm
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer